

4207-01-1B

99 Ashford Ave
Mill Valley CA 94941
March 10, 2002

Re National Park Service's
Advanced Notice of Proposed
Rulemaking
From: LaVonne Blasche

National parks need all the protection they can get and allowing unleashed dogs to leave their unwelcome 'deposits', chase wildlife and trample habitat is a bad plan.

Enforce the law! No on unleashed dogs!

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

COMPLIMENTARY OFFICE

4208-01-1A

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MAR 19 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3-12-02

DEAR SUPERINTENDENT,

My family ADORES THE NEW AND IMPROVED CRUSSY FIELD. IN FACT, WE SPEND AT LEAST ONE MORNING A WEEK WALKING THE PATH, PLAYING IN THE SAND OR VISITING THE PETR OUTSIDE THE WARMING HUT WITH OUR TWO YEAR OLD.

UNFORTUNATELY, MY DAUGHTER HAS BEEN KNOWN DOWN SEVERAL TIMES BY DOGS RUNNING IN PARKS ALONG THE WATER'S EDGE NEAR THE PARKING LOT AT THE EAST END OF CRUSSY FIELD. MOST DOG OWNERS ARE INDIFFERENT TO CHILDREN AND HAVE TRAINED THEIR DOGS SUFFICIENTLY TO RESPOND TO VOICE COMMANDS. SOME HAVE NOT. My REQUEST WOULD BE TO HAVE PART OF THE BEACH AT CRUSSY FIELD A DOG FREE ZONE.

ANY QUESTIONS — LYNN MCCASKE
1620 UNION ST
S.F. 94123
TEL. 415 474 8570

GGNRA013600

4209-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: JOAN SASSO (printed)
Address: 51 WOOL ST. S.F. CA. 94110
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

RECEIVED
MAR 19 2002
SUPERINTENDENT OF GGNRA

I am a dog owner and a tax payer in San Francisco AND the United States which you represent.

I often use Ft. Funston and Ocean Beach as a wonderful area to walk and allow my dogs room to run and socialize with other animals and people. Dogs that are able to do this are less likely to become unpredictable and vicious.

I have found that all the people, even those without dogs, especially children, enjoy seeing and playing with my dogs.

It would definitely be a hardship for me and my dogs if we were not allowed to use these areas. I have lived here for 30 years, and these areas have always been available to the people of San Francisco. I understand that these areas were turned over to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities would continue. If you cannot accommodate the citizens of San Francisco, I am in favor of taking these areas back!!!!

The areas allowed for off-leash has always been a relatively small one. There is no reason why these areas cannot remain as they are.

Signed: Joan Sasso Date 3/13/02 (optional: Age: 56 Sex M F Ethnicity W)
Version 2.0

4210-01-1A

March 12, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Gentlemen,

I respectfully request that dogs be allowed to continue their off leash walking on Crissy Field beach. Truly, most dog owners are courteous and respectful to both the environment and other people. Not only do the dog owners consistently clean up after their dogs, I have seen many dog owners picking up trash on the beach and walkways. The dogs and their owners avoid the wildlife beach protection area.

Please, please, for the sake of all the dogs requiring their daily exercise, socializing, and fun, let's all work to share the beaches at Crissy Field.

Thank you,



Wanda L. Crane
3984 Sacramento St.
San Francisco, CA 94118

Cynthia D. Adam
2721 Pierce Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

4211-01-1A

March 13, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my grave concern over the ANPR document and the situation regarding off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. I am the owner of 2 dogs and we exercise daily in the GGNRA in SF.

The ANPR document does not offer enough reasonable solutions or suggestions of ways to meet the needs of all the diverse constituents involved. It is biased against off-leash recreational use even though the GGNRA has over 75,000 acres and dog use typically occurs on a small fraction, .5%, of this land. For example, the suggestion that the proposed off-leash space in Marin or in the south part of SF will meet the needs of dog owners in SF is absurd. It suggests we should use cars, which also infringe on the environment, to get to a place outside or on the edge of the city where we can walk our dogs. Commuting to walk your dogs is a contradiction in terms.

As I understand it, San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA for recreational open space. In addition, Crissy Field was redesigned with dog use kept in mind, thus the fences to protect native plants. The ANPR seems to ignore the past and the intention of a lot of hard work by many concerned citizens.

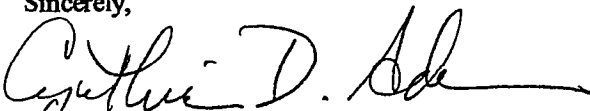
It seems irrational to confine more and more dogs to less and less space and thereby invite problems. In addition, dogs encourage their owners to get outside and move around, which is healthy. In times of too much junk food, national health crises due to over weight and related disease, too much TV, as well as war people need health promoting activities. Dogs and exercise promote health, but not when the dog is on a leash in a confined space. In addition to physical health, the joy and beauty of watching dogs run and play brings infinite joy to owners and spectators. There is nothing like a brisk walk with your dogs, in rain or shine, to lift the spirits and reaffirm life. It is better than any antidepressants! We need to find ways to meet the needs of people as well as plants and birds.

Lastly, applying a single rule to all the National Parks assumes all the parks are the same, which we know they are not. GGNRA is part of an URBAN landscape with lots of traffic, people, pets, cars, bikes, babies in strollers etc. The needs of park users in SF are very different than in Yellowstone or in Great Basin National Park. I understand that Great Basin has fewer than 50,000 visitors a year and Yellowstone has more than 50,000 a day, sometimes in the summer. I'm sure GGNRA is in between, but clearly these 3 parks serve different needs and purposes requiring distinct and appropriate rules and regulations. The SF waterfront, which is now part of the GGNRA, has served San Franciscans and their dogs for many years and should continue to do so.

I suggest having specific hours of the day when off-leash dogs are allowed. That is the way the beaches are managed in San Diego and it seems to work well there. For example, requiring leashes or no dogs from 9:00am-5:00pm on weekends and 10:00am-5:00pm on weekdays could work to meet everyone's needs.

I look forward to seeing an expanded set of suggestions by the GGNRA in a revised ANPR document.

Sincerely,



Cynthia D. Adam

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing this letter in hopes that dogs will be allowed to run off-leash at Crissy Field. Without an area for the dogs to play, their social development will be adversely impaired. It is vital that our dogs be allowed to release their energy and socialize with other dogs. It is necessary not only for the dogs but for the owners as well. If our companions don't get the exercise they need, their pent up energy gets redirected into negative venues such as furniture chewing and incessant barking. As well as aggression. Crissy Field is an ideal place for dogs to swim, run and play. There are few spaces big enough to accommodate play activities for a dog. With the beach and water, Crissy Field offers the necessary ingredients to keep the dogs and the owners both physically and mentally healthy. Dogs and their owners have coexisted at Crissy Field with other recreational users for many years without conflict. I see no reason why we can't continue to do so. Please allow the dogs to run free at Crissy Field.

Sincerely,

Ron Romine
3001 Jackson St.
San Francisco, CA. 94115

RECEIVED

MAR 10 2002

CRISSY FIELD

4213-01-1A

BONNIE LEVINSON AND DONALD KAY
2127 BROADWAY, # 1
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

COMPLIMENTARY OFFICE

My husband and I are writing to express our deep concern about the plan to discontinue the agreement with the City of San Francisco regarding off leash access to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. One of the joys of our living in San Francisco is walking at Crissy Field with our dog. It is a wonderful environment and respectfully used and cherished by dog owners. The physical and emotional benefits from off-leash exercise to dogs and their masters is critical and important on many levels.

Our understanding was that the 1979 Pet Policy (after extensive public hearings) was created and was the guiding principal in the GGNRA for many years. In 1992, the National Park Service Western District Regional Director assured both US senators from California that "At this time, there is no change in the 1979 Pet Policy which provides the visitor the privilege of walking one's dog off leash." Why the change now? NPS promised San Francisco that this recreation would be continued when the land was given to GGNRA. In fact, it was certainly the impression given to us when we financially supported the restoration of Crissy Field. Once the support for Crissy Field was accomplished and the restoration completed, suddenly the privilege was cut off. The prior leash plan at Crissy Field worked. There were areas where dogs were required to be on-leash and areas where dogs could be free to run.

The Federal regulations should not remain in effect in the GGNRA. We should look for alternate regulations. Do not rescind the 1979 Pet Policy. Please ensure that it is incorporated into special regulations for the GGNRA - as it should have been done in 1979.

Don't take away something which has really enhanced the quality of life in San Francisco.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Levinson and Dr. Donald Kay

Bonnie Levinson

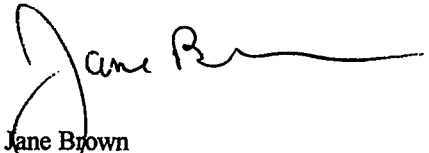
Dr. Donald Kay

4214-01-2

GGNRA
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

March 14, 2002

I believe an exception should be made to the National Park policy that forbids unleashed dogs in regards to Fort Funston. It has been an unleashed haven for decades without significant problems. On my visits there all the dogs were well behaved and few people were there without dogs. People who don't want to be exposed to dogs have plenty of parks & areas where dogs are not allowed.



Jane Brown
P O-Box 214
Moss Beach, CA 94038

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

STATEMENT OF WORKS OFFICE

4215-02-1A

March 13, 2002

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

1462 Union Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

RECEIVED
MAR 19 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I am writing in regard to the leashing of pets at GGNRA. Please keep the regulations the way they are, and start enforcing the leashing of pets there.

I have been visiting the Presidio and Fort Mason for many years. I love to go to Crissy Field or Baker Beach to jog, think, look at the water, and enjoy the beach. Lately most of those things have been difficult if not impossible because of all the unleashed dogs. I can't sit down for 10 minutes without big, wet dogs coming up to me, especially at Crissy Field. Dogs have chased me when I was jogging, peed on my beach chair, and grabbed sandwiches off beach blankets, not to mention barking at each other and at people. Many times the dog owners are standing around talking to each other, ignoring the dogs. They are certainly not picking up after them, because they don't even watch them. The picture in the SF Chronicle on March 8 (enclosed) is a perfect example of the reasons dogs should be leashed. I counted 9 dogs with only one person in sight. There is no way to keep track of that many unleashed dogs, much less pick up after them. And the people who ignore leash laws are the ones least likely to train their dogs.

It seems to me that national park rules should not be ignored for this beautiful place, just because of a small but vocal group of dog-owners. In a place like Yosemite, there is much more room, yet unleashed dogs aren't allowed there. The GGNRA is a heavily used park, and is so valuable for a little piece of mind in a busy city. People that have dogs can still enjoy it along with their dogs, with the dogs on leashes.

Thank you.


Anne Morse

9 DOGS - 1 PERSON

4219-02-1A

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2002



CHRIS STEWART / *The Chronicle*

Fort Funston has attained a special place in the hearts of San Francisco's dogs and people, such as Michelle Jones, who walk them there.

2/2

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4216 - 01 - 1A

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

Name: CELIA SACK - NOE VALLEY PET CO. (printed)
Address: 1451 CHURCH ST. (street) SAN FRANCISCO (city) CA (state) 94131 (zip)

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

As a professional dog walker, I visit Ft. Funston every day with 6-7 dogs. Over the years, I have been conscientious of cleaning up and deterring digging: I want my workplace to be clean + pleasant, + feel great responsibility for maintaining that space. The most damage I've witnessed is ^{from} winter storms, which can change the landscape more in one weekend than dogs can in a year.

2. The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

I see many children with parents out at Ft. Funston every day, + they actively engage with the dogs - it's a great place to teach them not to be afraid. If elderly people avoid Ft. Funston, it's more likely because of the steep hills than the dogs.

3. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

I cannot imagine life without an off-leash Ft. Funston! I have met wonderful dog owners + walkers out there - we stand around and laugh watching our dogs playing, running, + enjoying their freedom so immensely!

4. Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

My company walks 36-40 dogs a day at Ft. Funston, where they are dwarfed by the amount of open space. The on-leash plan is so misguided; these dogs would be crowding city parks (and with less space, fighting more frequently + causing more havoc) every day... dogs NEED exercise, and a windblown stretch of sand dunes + ocean couldn't be a more perfect place. There's room here for EVERYONE!

5. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

No.

Signed: Celia Sack Date 3/14/02 (optional: Age: 32 Sex M Ethnicity W)

MAR 19 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4217-01-1A

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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

Name: Sharon French (printed)
Address: 38 Alalaya Terrace San Francisco CA 94117
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

We adopted a 3 year old black shepherd named Kala this past summer¹. We discovered the wonderful beach at Chrissy Field with our dog - and it is now our favorite place in the city. Kala loves running off-leash up and down the beach. It would be a true shame if she had to be on a leash. I believe a fair compromise would be for dogs to be leashed on the path above the beach - where there are many people strolling and riding bicycles, but

Here are some ideas for your letter: the beach should be off-leash.

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Sharon French Date 2/26/02 (optional: Age: 35 Sex M F Ethnicity Caucasian)
Version 2.0 GGNRA013610

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4218-01-1A

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

Name: Joanna Durr (printed)
Address: 919 Lincoln Way SF CA 94122
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

- My dog, Marley, + I visit Ft. Funston 2-4 times, per week. I can't imagine SF without this heaven-on-earth! Off-leash is a MUST!
- Why would children or other races avoid off-leash areas? Only those owners with well-behaved, obedient dogs bring them to places like Ft. Funston. Children should not be raised to fear animals, nor should race even play into this! It's for culture issues, I don't see 5 acres of land being an issue when over 74,000 acres exist elsewhere for those folks to explore. Let's be fair to our dogs....
- Yes, I feel safe when my dog is off-leash, in case I were attacked by another human -- which is more likely to happen than being attacked by a dog!
- I always bring friends or guests visiting from out of town with me to Ft. Funston. Everyone loves this place and are happy that places still exist for dogs to run freely in a big city of pavement and leashed parks. I've also made friends with other dog owners + non dog owners while spending time there.

Here are some ideas for your letter: • The GGNRA should keep their promise to keep Ft. Funston off-leash!!!

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Version 2.0

Joanna Durr

Date

3/14/02

(optional: Age: 30)

Sex M

(F)

Ethnicity Caucasian

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4219-01-1A

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

Name: Nina Mitina (optional: Age: 41 Sex M F Ethnicity W)
 Address: Trans-Pacific Freight Management
189-B Corbett Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94114 (city) (state) (zip)

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

We visit every day: Golden Gate park near Tea Gardens, Beach, and Stern Grove.
 We walk our dogs.
 My dogs run and play, and enjoy nature.

2. The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

I am completely safe in off-leash areas. All dog owners have very well behaved dogs - never had a problem.

The off-leash area is great for ALL PEOPLE WITH DEISABILITIES AND OTHERWISE, BECAUSE THEY HAVE DOGS TOO.

3. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

Off-leash area is a wonderful place to socialize, for people and dogs. My friends who don't have dogs come with us very often.

Lack of the off-leash area would seriously hurt the health of my dogs, they need to run and be with people.

4. Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

To make it more enjoyable, please put water fountains for people and dogs.

5. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

no opinion



Signed:

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

Date

3/08/2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4220-01-1A

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

Name: Gabriella Lemigi (printed)

Address: 445 Oxford St. SF, CA 94134
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: _____ Date _____ (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)

Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 4221-01-1A

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

Name: Lana Bayse (printed)
Address: 730 Naples St SF CA 94116
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Dear - Mr O'Neil - I have enjoyed walking my dog off leash since the 70's - it is an integral health benefit - mentally & physically for both me & my dog(s) pls don't take this away from us - I pay taxes for schools etc when I don't have children - so I feel some of my tax dollars should go to benefit/maintain off-leash recreation where it directly impacts ~~and~~ many of us as a strong responsible user group - pls don't renege on what is vital to the City of animal saints & what we (Assisi) are all about here!

RECEIVED
MAR 19 2002
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPT

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land? How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: L Bayse Date 3/14/02 (optional: Age: 48 Sex M Ethnicity W)
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4222-01-1A

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

Name: Jennifer H. Pratt (printed)
Address: 253 Ortega St. SF, CA 94122
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

We need off leash areas, we are responsible pet owners! What about fines for those owners who are not?

Thanks -

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

COMPLETION OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: _____ Date _____ (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4223-01-1A

Date: 3-12-02

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

Name: Craig Hammond (optional: Age: 30 Sex: M F Ethnicity: _____)

Address: 610 Clipper SF CA 94114
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

2-3 x / week kite sailing

RECEIVED
MAR 19 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Yes my dog loves it. my friends often join me.

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

Yes it's the best place to take your dog

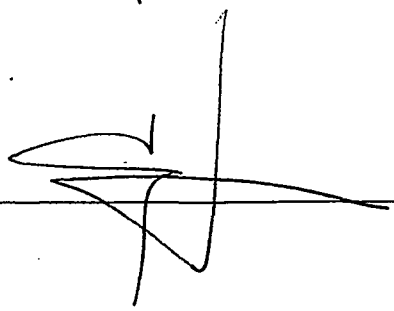
4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

Driving further out of city for it, or else it wouldn't happen

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

Yes. They behave much better off leash

Signed: _____



Date: 3-12-02

4224-01-1B

Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Pet Management In Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Comment Form

All Comments must be received by April 12, 2002

The National Park Service is soliciting comments from all segments of the public interested in appropriate pet management in GGNRA, consistent with protecting national park resources and assuring visitor safety.

Name: MAUREEN METKUF
Address: PO Box 618 City: TIBURON State: CA Zip: 94920

Please write legibly and if you need more space use another Comment Form.

AFTER ATTENDING THE MEETING IN MARIN
LAST NIGHT I WISH TO REINFORCE MY
PREVIOUS COMMENTS TO YOU - I. NO
DOG WALKING OFF LEASH EXCEPT IN SPECIAL
DOG PARKS (DOGS LOVE THEM - VISIT
PT DEARBELLE!) IN SPITE OF WHAT YOU LEARN
TO THE CONTRARY LAST NIGHT & ALSO
THE PROBLEM OF COMMERCIAL DOG-WALKING
WAS NOT ADDRESSED WHY NOT? - THEY
TAKE MANY DOGS AT A TIME OFF LEASH.
- WHEN I DONATE I DO NOT DO IT TO
SUPPORT COMMERCIAL DOG-WALKING!!

RECEIVED

MAR 19 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Page 1 of

Date 3/11/02

Submit by Mail: Superintendent, GGNRA, Attn: ANPR, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX: (415) 561-4355 Email goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov ANPR Information Line - (415) 561-4728

GGNRA015617

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4225-01-1A

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

Name: Matthew Kulis (printed)

Address: 430 Roosevelt Way San Francisco Ca 94114
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

I visit Fort Funston and Crissy Field to play in the water with our dog. Hiking

The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

I have visited many parks and beaches with my Golden Retriever over the years and usually families and especially young children want to pet my dog and have him fetch for them.

Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

I would be far less likely to visit these areas if I could no longer let my dog off-leash.

Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

I think this is a good usage of this area. Make part of the beach for off-leash use and part not.

San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Absolutely not!

Signature: Matthew Q. Kulis Date: 2/28/02 (optional) Age: 47 Sex: M F
Ethnicity: _____

MAR 19 2002

GGNRA013618

COMPLAINTS OFFICE

4226-01-1D

March 19, 2002

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MAR 19 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

John S. Dynis
1643 Grant Street
Berkeley, CA 94703-1375

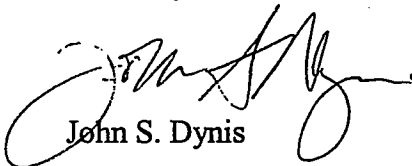
Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to urge you to make provisions for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area so that responsible dog owners can enjoy the GGNRA. I also strongly support efforts to persuade the National Park Service to end aggressive enforcement of leash rules in the areas of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet Policy as allowing off-leash recreation. Instead, I urge that the NPS give citations only for aggressive or destructive dogs.

Dog ownership is an important fact of life for residents of the Bay Area, and responsible dog owners need a place to exercise their pets in open space. Dog owners also have the right – like hikers, bicyclists, frisbee players, hang gliders, kite flyers, and other recreation enthusiasts – to enjoy the GGNRA as long as they behave in a responsible fashion and keep their dogs under control.

Sincerely,



John S. Dynis

cc: SFD OG, PO Box 31071, San Francisco, CA 94131-0071

03/19/2002 10:13

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PAGE 01

Handwritten: 4227-01-3A

KEVIN MCCARTHY
HEATHER MCMANN
122 GRANITE ST.
ROCKPORT, MA 01966
978-546-1326

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Attention: ANPR	FROM: Heather McMann
COMPANY: Golden Gate National Recreation Area	DATE: 3/19/2002
FAX NUMBER: (415) 561-4355	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:
RE: Off-Leash Areas	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:

- URGENT
- FOR REVIEW
- PLEASE COMMENT
- PLEASE REPLY
- PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Off-leash areas are very important to dogs, dog-owners, and non-dog owners. By allowing off-leash areas you will be providing much needed exercise to dogs, which, along with training and consciences owners, is the only way to ensure proper dog behavior. Off-leash activity can be managed in a way that respects the preservation of natural resources and other recreational interests in the GGNRA, while allowing a large segment of the population to socialize and enjoy the area in specific locations. Please continue to allow off-leash areas in the GGNRA.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature: Heather McMann
Handwritten signature: [unclear]

4228-01-1A

3/19/2002

Attention ANPR. Fort Mason Building 201

The managers of parks and open spaces in San Francisco and the bay area have systematically reduced the amount of off-leash space available to dogs and their owners in recent years. This relentless push to ban dogs in the name of conservation is a thinly disguised attempt to push all off-leash areas out of the bay area altogether. The reasons for this elude us.

The fabulous natural resources available to the residents of San Francisco and the bay area are a public resource, there for all of us to enjoy and the dogs owners of the city have shown themselves to be committed to responsible use of those resources. For healthy and happy dogs, they need open space to exercise, run and play with other dogs.

Dogs add to the quality of life in the city; they add to the quality of life for all residents not just dog owners. Quality of life is part of the reason people move here in droves every year and that people who don't live here wish they did. This action is a slap in the face to the many dog groups who promote responsible dog ownership, organize clean ups and educate both dog owners and non-dog owners. On the point of public safety, the reference to the horrible mauling death in the proposal was as predictable as it was offensive and the owners of the dogs involved are being prosecuted right now. Hard cases make bad law. Children and adults have little reason to fear well socialized dogs that are used to being in public, playing and socializing with other strange dogs and people, especially children. Too often, parents' own fear is passed to their children by their actions, a loss for the child. Ask any dog owner, they'll tell you that they've seen a parent freak out when their kid runs towards a dog in the park or at the beach. We make a point of asking those parent if their kid would like to feed a treat to our dogs, it serves several purposes. It calms the parent, shows them that we have control over our dogs, that our dogs are obedient and not a threat and the kids usually love it. It also conditions our dogs to strangers and gives them out-of-the-blue obedience tests and rewards. We am not the exception as dog owners in San Francisco, there are lots of us who do the same thing. It's in everybody's interest to make it work.

GGNRA is approximately 75,000 acres, off leash use has traditionally been on less than 1% of this land. Surely there's room for us all, after all the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb). The dog owners of the bay area will continue to remind whoever tries to take our off leash areas away of the reasons we have such a beautiful place to enjoy with our dogs.

Sincerely

Kevin McCarthy
Heather McMann
2059 Market Street
Apt 38,
San Francisco,
CA 94114

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DAVID C ANDERSON ESQ

PAGE 01

4229-11-13

LAW OFFICE OF
DAVID C. ANDERSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW

222 RUSH LANDING ROAD

P.O. BOX 1177

NOVATO, CA 94948

TELEPHONE:(415) 898-4775

FACSIMILE: (415) 898-9211

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO: (SEE BELOW)
DOCUMENT: PRESS RELEASE
RE: MARIN COUNTY DOG BITE LAWSUIT
DATE: March 12, 2002
PAGES: 10

- The Recorder (415) 749-5549
- Daily Journal (415) 252-0599
- Asbestos Litigation Reporter (610) 225-0501
- Mcaley's Litigation Reports (610) 768-0880
- Jury Verdicts Weekly, Inc. (707) 539-1839
- Trials Digest (510) 420-8006
- Litigation Research Group (415) 258-0764
- San Francisco Chronicle (415) 896-1107
- San Francisco Examiner (415) 777-2525
- Oakland Tribune (510) 208-6477
- Press Democrat (707) 521-5330
- San Jose Mercury News (408) 288-8060
- Daily Journal (L.A.) (213) 617-1029
- Marin Independent Journal (415) 382-0549
- Hayes Law Reports (302) 995-9108
- Sacramento Bee (916) 321-1109
- Vallejo-Times Herald (707) 643-5217
- Fairfield-Daily Republic (707) 425-5924
- Vacaville Reporter (707) 447-7405
- Los Angeles Times (213) 237-4712
- Channel 5 (415) 765-8916
- Channel 7 (415) 956-6402
- Channel 2 (510) 451-2610
- Channel 13 (916) 374-1304
- Channel 36 (408) 953-3630
- Court TV (415) 749-5549
- KSFO (415) 658-5401
- KCBS (415) 765-4080
- KNBR (415) 995-6867
- Confidential Rpt for Attorneys (760) 721-3683

If not receiving properly,

please call us immediately at 415.898-4775

Please Note: The information contained in this facsimile is confidential and is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, do not use or disclose this facsimile. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, and return the original via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

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DAVID C ANDERSON ESQ

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
DAVID C. ANDERSON at (415) 898-4775**

**BITE VICTIM SUES DOG OWNER DOCTORS; GIRL, 14 CITES,
MISCONDUCT IN E.R.**

A fourteen year old high school student from San Rafael who was bitten on the mouth last year at Rodeo Beach filed a lawsuit today against its owners, both physicians who reside in Novato. The suit, filed in Marin County Superior Court, alleges that the Defendants, Aida Bredesen, M.D. and Dale Bredesen, M.D., are strictly liable by California statute as a result of their seven year old Labrador/Golden Retriever biting Tina Phan on the lips and cheek while she was petting the animal during an outing on March 17, 2001. The animal was subsequently quarantined by the Humane Society but not destroyed. The complaint also requests damages resulting from actions occurring afterwards at the hospital where the girl was taken.

Phan was with friends at the beach when the unleashed dog approached and as she bent down to pet the dog, it suddenly and without warning bit her on the mouth. According to her attorney, David Anderson of Novato, California law does not permit a "free first bite" and owners are civilly liable for any injuries and damages suffered by the victim. The incident stirred public interest at the time due to the fact that Rodeo Beach, although a popular recreational spot for many, is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area which does not require that dogs be leashed. However, Bredesen was cited by park rangers for failing to comply with a provision requiring that dogs be kept under voice control at all times.

Phan suffered scarring to both upper and lower lips and surrounding cheek tissue and has lost some sensation in the region. According to her attorney, as appalling as the dog bite itself is, an even more disturbing series of events occurred immediately following the dog bite. According to the suit, Dr. Bredesen's husband, Dr. Dale Bredesen, was also present at the time of the incident but immediately left the scene with the two dogs in order to avoid the possibility of them being taken into custody by animal control authorities. The Bredesens went to Marin General Hospital where the girl was receiving emergency medical care and, without authorization by the medical staff or consent from Phan or her mother, Lehoa Phan, entered the treatment room. The suit further alleges that the Bredesens then interfered with the medical treatment being rendered by asking that photographs be taken of her face, telling medical staff that Phan was on Ecstasy, had provoked the attack by kissing the animal, and requesting that drug testing be performed. Her attorney says that hospital records show that no testing was performed because nothing in Phan's behavior or appearance suggested she was under the influence of any drugs and that she did not kiss the dog, and that the Bredesens were escorted from the emergency room by a security officer, who Dr. Aida Bredesen, at a subsequent Humane Society "Vicious Animal Hearing," testified was drunk.

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DAVID C ANDERSON ESQ

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March 12, 2002

Page 2

According to Anderson, the actions of the defendants at the hospital were "incredibly callous, shocking, and aggressive," particularly in view of the public furor arising from the Diane Whipple fatal dog attack which had occurred recently and the fact that the Bredesens, as physicians, crossed the professional line of appropriate conduct by violating the admonition: "Physician, do no harm." He noted: "This is, like the Whipple case, another situation where the owners of dogs who attack unsuspecting people avoid taking responsibility but instead blame the victim." The defendants' primary concern from the beginning was to protect their dog from possible destruction rather than helping Tina. The dogs were immediately whisked from the scene to avoid quarantine, a story of her kissing the dog was concocted, and then, without any evidence, they leveled the accusation that she was under the influence of drugs. He says that by invading what they, as physicians, knew was the sacrosanct privacy and confidentiality of both the emergency room setting and the physician-patient relationship, the Doctors increased the emotional trauma and suffering already caused by the attack.

The suit seeks damages for the emotional distress caused by the attack and Defendants's behavior as well as for medical treatment, future surgery, permanent disfigurement, and pain and suffering.

3/11

4229-11-1B

FILED

MAR 12 2002

JOHN P. MONTGOMERY,
Court Executive Officer
MARIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
By: M. Galvan, Deputy

1 DAVID C. ANDERSON (SBN 83146)
2 LAW OFFICE OF DAVID C. ANDERSON
3 P.O. Box 1177
4 Novato, CA 94948
5 Telephone: (415) 898-4775
6 Facsimile: (415) 898-9211

7 Attorneys for Plaintiff
8 TINA PHAN, a Minor, by and through
9 LEHOA PHAN, her Guardian Ad Litem,
10 LEHOA PHAN, Individually

11 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
12 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARIN

13 TINA PHAN, a Minor, by and through
14 LEHOA PHAN, her Guardian Ad Litem,
15 LEHOA PHAN, Individually,

16 Plaintiffs,

17 vs.

18 DALE BREDESEN, M.D.; AIDA
19 BREDESEN, M.D.; and DOES 1 through 25,
20 inclusive,

21 Defendants.

Case No. 021249

COMPLAINT FOR:
(1) STRICT LIABILITY OF DOG'S OWNERS FOR INJURIES CAUSED BY DOG TO ANOTHER (CIVIL CODE SECTION 3342);
(2) NEGLIGENCE;
(3) INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; and
(4) INVASION OF PRIVACY

22 COME NOW Plaintiffs, and complaint and allege against Defendants, and each of them, as
23 follows:

PRELIMINARY ALLEGATION

24 1. Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D. are individuals
25 who reside in Novato, California, located in Marin County.

26 2. Plaintiff TINA PHAN is a minor and was a fourteen year old girl at the time of the
27 dog attack alleged herein. Her birthdate is July 17, 1986. Plaintiff TINA PHAN, as a minor, brings

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1 this suit through her natural mother and Guardian Ad Litem, LEHOA PHAN.

2 3. Plaintiffs are presently unaware of the true names and capacities of the Defendants
3 sued herein as DOES 1 through 25, inclusive, and therefore sue said Defendants by such fictitious
4 names. Plaintiffs will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when the same
5 have been ascertained.

6 4. At all times material, DOES 1 through 25, inclusive, were the agents, servants, and
7 employees of the Defendants, and each of them, and in doing the things herein alleged, were acting
8 within the scope or authority of such agency, service, or employment and with the permission and
9 consent of Defendants and each of them.

10 FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
11 FOR STRICT LIABILITY PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 3342
(As to Plaintiff TINA PHAN Only)

12 5. On or about March 17, 2001, Defendants, and each of them, were the owners of a
13 certain dog believed to be a Labrador/Golden Retriever breed named "Copper."

14 6. On or about March 17, 2001, at approximately 2:30 p.m., Plaintiff TINA PHAN was
15 lawfully present at Rodeo Beach, Golden Gate National Recreation Area (hereinafter referred to as
16 "GGNRA"), an unincorporated area of the County of Marin.

17 7. While Plaintiff TINA PHAN was present at Rodeo Beach, she encountered Defendant
18 AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. walking two dogs which she owned, one of them being "Copper."
19 Plaintiff asked Defendant AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. if the dogs were friendly and was told by
20 Defendant that they were. Relying upon this representation, Plaintiff subsequently began to pet
21 "Copper" and was suddenly and without warning attacked and bitten.

22 8. As a proximate result of the actions of Defendants' Dog "Copper," Plaintiff TINA
23 PHAN sustained serious injuries including, but not limited to, torn lips, severed cheek muscle and
24 skin, puncture wounds, and permanent facial scarring, all to her damage in the amount above the
25 minimum jurisdictional limit of this Court, that shall proven at the time of trial. As a direct and legal
26 result of the actions of the Dog, Plaintiff TINA PHAN suffered, was hurt, and injured in her health,

5/n

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1 strength, and activity, sustaining injury to her nervous system and person, all of which injuries have
2 caused and continue to cause Plaintiff TINA PHAN great mental, physical, emotional, and nervous
3 pain and suffering.

4 9. As a further, proximate result of the actions of Defendants' Dog "Copper," Plaintiff
5 and her mother were required to and did employ physicians, surgeons, therapists, and other health
6 care professionals to examine, treat, counsel, and care for Plaintiff TINA PHAN, and incurred
7 additional medical expenses as shall be proven at the time of trial.

8 10. Plaintiff TINA PHAN is informed and believes, and on such information and belief
9 alleges, that she and/or her mother on her behalf will incur additional medical expenses in the future,
10 the exact amount of which is not presently known but shall be proven at the time of trial.

11 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff TINA PHAN prays for judgment against Defendants and each of
12 them as hereinafter alleged.

13 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
14 NEGLIGENCE
(As to Plaintiff TINA PHAN Only)

15 11. Plaintiffs incorporate Paragraphs 1 through 10 above as though set forth in full herein.

16 12. Defendants, and each of them, were the caretakers and keepers of the Dog "Copper"
17 and owed a duty to Plaintiff TINA PHAN to maintain and control the Dog in such a manner that the
18 Dog would not attack, bite, or cause injury to Plaintiff.

19 13. At the time of said dog attack, Defendants' Dog "Copper" was not on a leash of any
20 type or kind.

21 14. At the time of said dog attack, Defendants failed to control their Dog "Copper" as
22 required by Federal and/or GGNRA regulations, despite knowing that Rodeo Beach was a popular
23 recreation area frequented by many persons, including elderly, disabled, and children.

24 15. Defendants negligently and carelessly committed their Dog "Copper" to approach
25 Plaintiff TINA PHAN and failed to warn her not to approach, pet, or place her face near their Dog
26 and knew or should have known that their Dog could bite her.

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1 16. Defendants' negligence was the legal cause of Plaintiff TINA PHAN's injuries when
2 their Dog bit and attacked her as alleged herein.

3 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff TINA PHAN prays for judgment against Defendants and each of
4 them as hereinafter alleged.

5 THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
6 INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS
(As to Plaintiffs TINA PHAN and LEHOA PHAN)

7 17. Plaintiffs incorporate Paragraphs 1 through 16 above as though set forth in full herein.

8 18. At the time of said dog attack, both Defendants were or had been previously licensed
9 medical doctors.

10 19. At the time of said dog attack, but unknown to Plaintiff TINA PHAN, Defendant
11 DALE BREDESEN, M.D., was also present at Rodeo Beach with his wife, Defendant AIDA
12 BREDESEN, M.D., and their children. Immediately following said dog attack and without notifying
13 Plaintiff TINA PHAN, Defendant DALE BREDESEN, M.D., took both Dogs, including "Copper"
14 and immediately departed Rodeo Beach with both dogs and children in the family vehicle.
15 Defendant DALE BREDESEN, M.D. removed said Dogs so that they would not be present when
16 law enforcement authorities and/or GGNRA rangers and/or Humane Society representatives arrived
17 at the scene. His purpose in doing so was to prevent Defendants' Dog "Copper" from being taken,
18 into custody by animal control authorities.

19 20. Despite the fact that both Defendants were medical doctors, neither offered medical
20 assistance to Plaintiff TINA PHAN nor called law enforcement or emergency medical personnel.

21 21. Plaintiff TINA PHAN was taken by ambulance to Marin General Hospital in Marin
22 County, California. Shortly after her arrival, her mother Plaintiff LEHOA PHAN arrived in the
23 emergency room to lend care, comfort, and support to her daughter who had sustained severe
24 physical and emotional injuries, trauma, stress, pain and suffering as a result of dog attack. While
25 both Plaintiffs were together in the treatment area of the emergency room of Marin General Hospital,
26 both Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D. entered the treatment area

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1 without notice to or consent from either of the Plaintiffs or the medical staff. Plaintiffs allege that
2 Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D. were able to do so either
3 because they represented that they were friends of Plaintiffs' family and/or that they were medical
4 doctors who witnessed the dog attack.

5 22. During the time which Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE
6 BREDESEN, M.D. were present without notice to or consent in the treatment area of the emergency
7 room of Marin General Hospital, both interfered with the medical care and attention being rendered
8 to Plaintiff TINA PHAN by asking the medical and nursing staff to take pictures of Plaintiff TINA
9 PHAN's face and by asking the attending physician to examine and to test Plaintiff TINA PHAN for
10 being under the influence of illegal substances, specifically the drug "Ecstasy."

11 23. While in the treatment of the emergency room of Marin General Hospital without
12 authorization or consent by Plaintiffs, Defendants, knowing Plaintiff LEHOA PHAN was present,
13 accused Plaintiff TINA PHAN of being under the influence of the drug "Ecstasy," and provoking the
14 attack by attempting to kiss Defendants' Dog "Copper." Defendants knew or should have known the
15 emotionally traumatized, panic-stricken, fragile, and anxious mental state of both Plaintiffs at the
16 time of these statements.

17 24. Due to the disruptive, inappropriate, and unconsented to conduct and statements by
18 Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D., security personnel were
19 summoned by the medical staff and Defendants were escorted from the treatment area of the
20 emergency room of Marin General Hospital.

21 25. Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D.'s behavior and
22 conduct was appalling, extreme, unwarranted, aggressive, shocking, outrageous, and unprivileged,
23 and was engaged in with reckless disregard of the probability of causing both Plaintiffs TINA PHAN
24 and LEHOA PHAN to suffer emotional distress and done with full knowledge that both Plaintiffs
25 were present at the time.

26 26. Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D. knew or should

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1 have known that by deliberately, intentionally, wantonly, inappropriately, and/or with reckless
2 disregard engaging in the aforementioned conduct and making the aforementioned statements, they
3 would cause injury and damage to the emotional and psychological health, safety, and well-being of
4 Plaintiffs TINA PHAN and LEHOA PHAN.

5 27. As a direct and proximate and legal result of the extreme and outrageous conduct of
6 Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE BREDESEN, M.D., and each of them, Plaintiffs
7 sustained severe mental pain and suffering in a sum according to proof at trial.

8 28. The aforementioned acts and conduct were malicious and despicable and carried out
9 by Defendants with a willful and conscious disregard of the rights and safety of Plaintiffs, thus
10 entitling Plaintiffs to punitive damages to punish or make an example of Defendants, and each of
11 them.

12 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs TINA PHAN and LEHOA PHAN pray for judgment against
13 Defendants and each of them as hereinafter alleged.

14 FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
15 INVASION OF PRIVACY
(As to Plaintiffs TINA PHAN and LEHOA PHAN)

16 29. Plaintiffs incorporate Paragraphs 1 through 28 above as though set forth in full herein.

17 30. On or about March 17, 2001, Defendants AIDA BREDESEN, M.D. and DALE
18 BREDESEN, M.D., without Plaintiffs' consent, invaded Plaintiffs' rights to privacy by physically
19 intruding into Plaintiffs' solitude and right to confidentiality and privacy of the medical condition
20 and affairs of Plaintiff TINA PHAN, minor daughter of Plaintiff LEHOA PHAN, by wrongfully
21 gaining admittance to the area of the hospital emergency room where Plaintiff TINA PHAN was
22 being treated as well as the private examination room where she was placed and by physically
23 trespassing, harassing, and annoying both Plaintiffs in the solitude of an area of the hospital not
24 accessible by the public.

25 31. The intrusion was offensive and objectionable to Plaintiffs and to a reasonable person
26 of ordinary sensibilities in that Plaintiffs wrongfully and deceptively gained admittance to the

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1 treatment area of the hospital emergency room and Plaintiff TINA PHAN's private examination
 2 room, knowingly gave false information regarding Plaintiff TINA PHAN's medical and mental
 3 condition to physicians and medical staff, requested evaluation and testing of her being under the
 4 influence of illegal drugs, and harassed, and annoyed both Plaintiffs TINA PHAN and LEHOA
 5 PHAN.

6 32. The intrusion was into a place and relationship which was private and confidential
 7 and entitled to be private in that it involved an unconsented invasion into both the area of the
 8 hospital emergency room and into a physician-patient relationship to which Plaintiffs had a
 9 reasonable expectation of privacy, confidentiality, and protection from disclosure to Defendants and
 10 to members of the public.

11 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs TINA PHAN and LEHOA PHAN pray for judgment against
 12 Defendants and each of them as follows:

- 13 1. For Plaintiff TINA PHAN:
- 14 a. Non-economic damages according to proof;
 - 15 b. Economic damages according to proof;
 - 16 c. Punitive damages according to proof;
 - 17 d. Cost of suit herein occurred
 - 18 e. Such further and other relief as this Court deems just and proper.
- 19 2. For Plaintiff LEHOA PHAN:
- 20 a. Non-economic damages according to proof;
 - 21 b. Punitive damages according to proof;
 - 22 c. Costs of suit herein occurred;

23 ///

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DAVID C ANDERSON ESG

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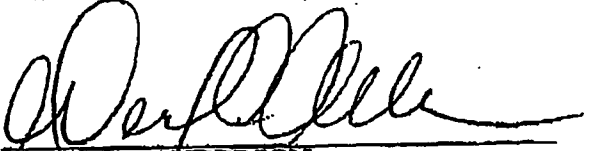
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d. Such further and other relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DATED: March 11, 2002

LAW OFFICE OF DAVID C. ANDERSON

By 
DAVID C. ANDERSON
TINA PHAN, a Minor, by and through
LEHOA PHAN, her Guardian Ad Litem,
LEHOA PHAN, Individually

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11/11

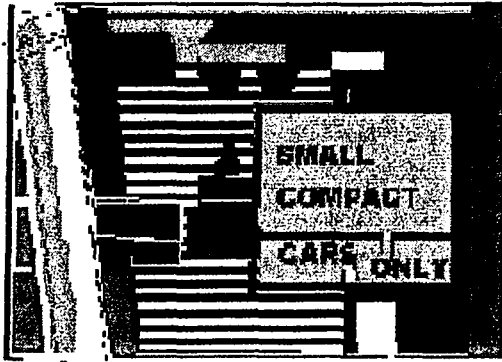
4230-01-3B

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

COMPLAINTS OFFICE

Mar 18 '02



To all concerned —
I may already have
written — but the issue
warrants repetition for
emphasis.

dog walking at ~~Crosser~~ ^{Crosser}
field can work. It will
require people to unleash
dogs only in designated areas,
~~and~~ that ~~the~~ dogs are
socialized and under voice
control, and that their owners
~~watch them~~ are constantly
Alert little dog that gets a
freedom of a Frankie
and better dog.
Thanks,
Shelli Weir

4231-01-1A

Linda Ost
799 Market St.
San Francisco, CA 94103

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

March 19, 2002

GGNRA:ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern:

I walk with my dog on the beach at Ft. Funston all the time, and I have her off the leash because that way she and I are free. She is free to play with other dogs and run into the ocean and catch the tennis balls and Frisbees, I am free to walk without having to hold onto a leash. We both need this.

I know that some people are afraid of dogs and I respect that. However there needs to be a place for both of us. If people know that at the beach below Fort Funston people will be playing with their dogs off leash, they can avoid that area if they fear dogs. People with dogs can keep them on leashes elsewhere so that others who fear dogs can feel safe.

I hope you will allow this little area in the very large GGNRA to be a place where people can walk their dogs off leash.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



4232-01-1A

Sean Kelly
799 Market St.
San Francisco, CA 94103

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2002
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

March 19, 2002

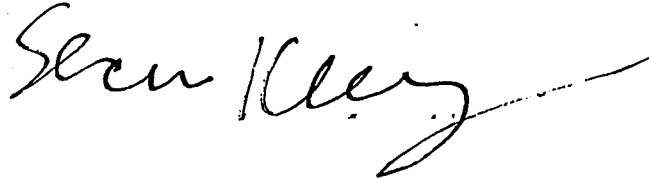
GGNRA:ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern:

I like to walk my dog off leash at the ocean near Fort Funston. I urge you to allow me to continue this activity without having to fear the Park Rangers may come and give me a ticket.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



4233 -01-1A

Michael Tino
799 Market St.
San Francisco, CA 94103

March 19, 2002

GGNRA:ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Dear People:

The only place I like to walk my dog off leash is at the ocean near Fort Funston. I urge you to allow the people who go there to walk their dogs off leash and play with them to be free to do so without being ticketed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 4234-01-1A

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

Name: DANIEL G. GARAVALLI (printed)
Address: 1393 NOE ST. S.F. CA 94131
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

PARKS SHOULD BE SHARED EQUALLY BY ALL
PEOPLE, DOES OFF LEASH UNDER VOICE
COMMAND -
FOOT FOUNDED IS ALREADY BEEN FEARED
ENOUGH, BASICALLY PARKS LEADS ME
OPEN TO WALK OFF LEASH DOGS.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL -

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2002
COMPLAINTS OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: D. Garavalli Date: 3-15-03 (optional: Age: 45 Sex: (M) F Ethnicity: LATINO)
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002 GGNRA013637

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 4235-01-1A

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

Name: FRANKLES G. REEVES (printed)

Address: 724 GRAYTON AVE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94112
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Dear Sirs,

There are many dog owners. It is important that we have space for our needs as well as everyone else. Certain areas could be made for us - others have the rest of the area which is quite a lot. Dogs need to run off leash to get proper exercise.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Frankles G. Reeves Date 3-17-02 (optional: Age: 27 Sex M Ethnicity C)

4236-01-1A

Maurice E. Lee III
1341 Union Street, #12
San Francisco, CA 94109-1950
Voice 415.441.6276
Email MickyLee@earthlink.net

Tuesday, March 19, 2002

GGNRA
Fort Mason
Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly support the proposed special rule to allow off-leash recreation in some portion of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

I urge you to adopt this special rule.

Sincerely,



MAURICE E. LEE III

4237-01-1A

Sally and Jim Shapiro
3880 Washington Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

March 19, 2002

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

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Attention: ANPR

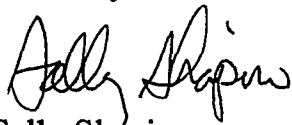
I am a San Francisco resident and a dog owner. My dog and I enjoy San Francisco's parks and beaches responsibly. We enjoy the off-leash recreation in the GGNRA where I can walk along the beach, and my dog can run and socialize with other dogs and with people. Both my dog and I would very much miss this opportunity for lots of exercise and great fun.

I understand that we are in danger of losing the off-leash areas in GGNRA.

This loss would be sad and would really benefit no-one. There is room at Crissy Field and other parts of the GGNRA for both dog and no dog areas. People respect these boundaries as well as the necessity for litter control. I notice that the no dog areas are largely vacant and enjoyed by no-one, whereas the dog beaches are filled with happy people and dogs enjoying our park.

Access to the beaches and other areas designated as off leash is an important part of quality of life in San Francisco. I support the GGNRA with private contributions. My dog deserves her small space in this huge park.

Sincerely,



Sally Shapiro

4238-01-1A

35 Manor Drive
San Francisco, CA 94127
March 20, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

GGNRA
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing in regard to the off-leash dog policy currently under review. My dog and I are frequent visitors to Fort Funston and Crissy Field. Although I am a long-time resident of San Francisco, I did not visit these areas before I got a dog. Regardless of wind or rain, I make use of the opportunity to exercise myself and my dog in these parks.

The steps taken to preserve natural habitat in these parks are commendable. Increasing the pleasure and use by all visitors is also an important goal. My observation is that people with dogs far outnumber other users at Fort Funston. Although some dogs and their owners are not always on their best behavior, the overwhelming majority appreciate having use of such a beautiful facility, and they behave responsibly and conscientiously.

Off-leash dogs may not make sense in many or most national recreation areas, but they are the highest and best use for parts of Fort Funston and Crissy Field. Dog owners represent a broad cross-section of residents—old, young, rich, and modest-income. Having a setting for all of these people to interact promotes understanding and tolerance in our community.

Restricted areas can accommodate special-interest groups, such as hikers, birders, and natural plant enthusiasts. There is even room for specialty sports. Hang-gliders are usually not allowed on federal land, but they have been accommodated at Fort Funston. Para-sailers are at Crissy Field. A similar exception to the general rule can be made for off-leash dogs.

I support the practice of giving citations to owners whose dogs are threatening or destructive. I believe all owners should carry a leash for each of their dogs, so they can comply if a situation calls for it. I hope you will incorporate a policy that allows off-leash dogs in areas where they have traditionally been found. Having national areas that attract the broadest cross-section of the population is just as important as preserving and protecting the land for future generations. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Connie Vickroy

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 4239-01-1A

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

Name: Genevieve Buehler (printed)
Address: 855 45th Ave. SF CA 94121
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Ocean Beach is a few blocks from my home. I am always cheered up by the friendly dogs I see. They are always friendly & so happy to be free - and at the beach. It is not a good idea to keep dogs leashed at all times. They need freedom, just like people. Please give them at least a few places to be unleashed.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Genevieve A. Buehler Date 3/18/02 (optional: Age: 54 Sex M F) Ethnicity White
Version 2.0

MAR 20 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 4240-01-1A

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

Name: GILBERT HERDT, OWNER (printed)
Address: 138 Alpine Terrace, SAN FRAN, CA 94117
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

We strongly support off-leash policies in GGNRA. We have used The Fort Funston area for years to have outings for our family, walks with friends, and dog-walking. We need this area to walk our dog weekly. People enjoy this part of our community - we need the chance for our elderly friends to be there and have their dogs off leash - they have no other area to do this near S.F. As a taxpayer and home owner I strongly endorse this policy and will vigorously oppose a leashing policy.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas? *This letter has been copied to SFDOG.*
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Gilbert Herdt Date 3-16-02 optional: Age: 53 Sex (M) F Ethnicity AA
Version 2.2
March 9, 2002
GGNRA013643

4241-01-1A

March 20, 2002

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

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

The ability to freely walk our dog off-leash in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) is of major importance to my wife & I and many other dog owners.

For more than 30 years, we have enjoyed taking walks with our dogs at Fort Funston and other costal areas previously owned by the city of San Francisco. The GGNRA Citizens Advisory Commission developed a Pet Policy in 1979 which specified certain areas of the park open to off-leash dog walking. The transfer of GGNRA lands to the National Park Service (NPS) was done with the assurance that traditional uses, including off-leash dog walking would continue.

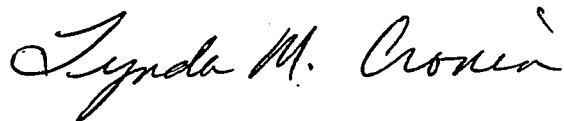
The NPS rule that prohibits off-leash dogs taken literally is absurd. There are exceptions to this rule in more than 40 national parks and there should be an exception for the GGNRA. The areas in question represent 0.5 percent of the total 75,000 acres in the park.

GGNRA is in the middle of an urban area which does not offer alternatives for a dog owner to allow their pet to exercise freely and interact with other dogs and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

The GGNRA can accommodate wildlife and human activity for many recreational uses just as it has prior to acquisition by the NPS. The NPS should honor its commitment to maintain the broad range of recreational use that is appropriate in an urban park.

It is **imperative** that a **Section 7 exemption be granted** creating a special rule for off-leash recreation in the previously used areas in the GGNRA.

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Cronin
Lynda M. Cronin
1706 - 12th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
415-564-7252

MAR 20 2002

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

Name: CHERYL MCKEE (optional: Age: 53 Sex M Ethnicity W)
 Address: 367 FLOOD AVE SF CA 94112
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

I use many of the GGNRA facilities, but primarily go to Fort Funston, Crissy Field, and Golden Gate Park. I like to run in GG Park as well as picnic, and walk my dogs. At Funston & Crissy Field, I go to walk and run my two golden retrievers. This activity is fun for both me & my dogs as well as answering our exercise needs. They get to run and socialize and I do too.

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

I have done both. When my mom & dad visited from Texas I took them along for exercise & to see the ocean. I have met many new friends at Fort Funston and have introduced people to Funston. I have seen many people out there without dogs who stop & ask if they can pet my dogs. It is a fun activity for dog owners & people who like dogs but can't have dogs of their own.

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

Off-leash recreation is certainly appropriate for Funston as well as the beach areas of Crissy Field. It allows dogs to run, exercise and socialize with other dogs as well as learn how to behave in groups of people and around children. It is also an opportunity for children to learn how to behave around dogs to keep from scaring them & provoking barking & as a result fear. (over)

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

There would be no place to exercise my dogs and no where for them to play and meet other dogs. For many sporting dogs or large breed dogs having the ability to run is a necessity for good health.

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

I feel perfectly safe with off-leash dogs. The dog owners who walk their animals off-leash usually know their animals and have them under voice command. On the rare occasion that there is a dog that has not been properly socialized, the other dog owners usually let them know that walking their dog off-leash is unacceptable.

Signed:

Cheryl McKee

Date

3/19/02

GGNRA013645

1/2

4242-02-1A

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

(3) I think providing trash cans for clean up and posting signs on areas that are not conducive to dogs and wild life are a necessity. If cleaned up after, dogs don't make any more of an impact on the environment than some children, if they are well behaved and under voice command.

2/2

ANPR--Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Comment

RECEIVED**MAR 20 2002**

Betty Carman
275 Urbano Drive, San Francisco CA 94127

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

A statement from Lorraine Berry was read at the Marin meeting, saying that all the senior citizens she had spoken to wanted all dogs to be leashed. I disagree with that view. I am 79 years old so qualify as a "senior citizen" and I believe there is a real need for dogs to be allowed OFF leash. I do not now have a dog but frequently walk at Ft. Funston and enjoy watching and being with the happy, free dogs. I have never encountered an aggressive dog and have noticed that nearly all off-leash dogs at Ft. Funston respond promptly to their owners or handlers.

My husband and I took our dog to Ft. Funston often and let him run free, both before and after it became part of GGNRA. We also voted for Proposition F because we were assured that the use of Ft. Funston would remain the same. Perhaps we were naive to believe the claim, and I do recognize that current use of Ft. Funston is now much heavier and there may be good reasons for more management. But I also feel that the National Park Service has committed a breach of faith to San Francisco voters in closing large parts of the property and in threatening to make off-leash dog walking a crime.

I too am concerned about preservation of our natural environment, and this is a legitimate concern in much of GGNRA. However, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to know what Ft. Funston was like before the Army built bunkers and planted ice plant to hold the sand. Probably it was all sand dunes. Had there been much "native" vegetation they wouldn't have needed to plant the ice plant. And the birds come and go for many reasons unrelated to either dog or human use. The claim that pinnipeds are endangered by dogs at Ft. Funston is patently false. It is not a haul-out site for seals.

I can't imagine why it took twenty years to discover that off-leash dog walking in GGNRA violated a National Park Service regulation. I do hope you can succeed in obtaining an exception here!

GGNRA013647

Thank you for providing for this comment period--and for listening.

B. Carman

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4244-01-1A

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

Name: Dora Linetsky
Address: 1251 Turk SF CA 94115
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

RECEIVED
MAR 20 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Dora Linetsky Date 3/18/02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)
Version 2.2
March 9, 2002

4245 - ~~002~~ - 1B
- ~~10/11~~
- 02

Paula Ceder Speaks!



March 20, 2002

Brian O'Neill, General Superintendent
Fort Mason
Suite 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

RE: THOUGHTS ON DOGS ON MT. TAM

I am a Mill Valley resident and frequent hiker on the Oakwood Valley Trail.

I have also had the pleasure of getting to know Al Pond as a result of my frequent hiking, and learned from him of his ongoing efforts to not only maintain Mt. Tam, but to improve it and to return it to a higher pristine or original condition than it now enjoys.

As Al explained it, part of that effort's success is dependent on keeping dogs away from areas in which their scent would disturb the balance of the area. So keeping dogs away from certain areas is not related to the dog's potential of destruction of shrubs or small animals or even how they might annoy hikers; it's related to the leaving of their scent everywhere they go.

This is a concept that I know has not been shared with dog owners, who understandably find it difficult to comprehend why they can't walk their dogs all the way up Alta from Marin City, for instance. So since it looks so harmless they do it and your signs are routinely ignored, as you know.

Then there are the owners who trespass up a steep, narrow, trail such as Oakwood which can't safely accommodate both dogs and humans, do so without leashes, and feel entitled to it.

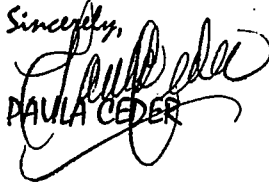
1/2

I think most residents of Marin consider themselves to be in favor of sound ecology and I also think if they were educated as to why the signs are placed on certain parts of the trails, that they might be more inclined to take them seriously. What I'm advocating here is education and repetitive messages to the dog owners through dog owner's associations, block parties, the annual fireman's pancake breakfast-wherever the citizens who are also dog owners gather.

An even more targeted and therefore more useful method would be to place NPS volunteers on the Oakwood trail at the signs and as they notice dogs entering no-dog areas, gently explaining why the signs exist and why they're a necessary thing. NPS has great volunteers who were certainly out in force last summer, and those who are comfortable chatting with the public could do you a great service here.

New rules and more signs are useless without gaining the understanding of the dog owners as to why they're being asked to curtail the hikes they take accompanied by their animals. It's a fit group out here, Brian, and they can easily hike much farther than the Oakwood trail permits them to if they're with their dogs, so they need some motivation to do the right thing.

Good luck with a tough issue.

Sincerely,

PAULA CEDER

4246-01-303



"David Blair"
<davidablair@hotmail.
com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: off-leash GGNRA policy

03/20/2002 06:52 PM
GMT

To Whom It May Concer:

As a concerned bay area resident and dog owner, I strongly believe in the need for the local GGNRA land to have off-leash dog access, specifically Fort Funston and some areas in Marin. Given the past history of off-leash dog use, the proximity to such a large urban area, the limited availability of off-leash areas at State and county parks, and the joy I, my wife and my labrador get at being able to take our dogs for off-leash walks in this beautiful region cause me to ardently urge that Fort Funston and other GGNRA land be kept open for off-leash dogs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely;

David A. Blair

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

4247-01-3B



"Geoff Noakes"
<geoffnoakes@hotmail.com>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Dogs at GGNRA

03/20/2002 10:30 AM
PST

Please add these comments to those being considered under "Pet Management in GGNRA".

I frequently walk my dog off-leash in the GGNRA -- Crissy Field, Ocean Beach, Tennessee Valley, and so on. I know that this is at odds with the NPS's on-leash policy, and I will continue to do so.

Walking dogs off-leash gives dogs more chances to socialize and interact with other dogs (and people) and makes them better pets. Being off-leash also gives them the chance to explore as they choose; sometimes they walk ahead, sometimes behind, sometimes along with their owners.

Almost every time I walk my dog, some small child will call out to him or come to see him. My dog knows to sit, to expect that I will give the child a cookie to give to the dog, and that the child will pet him. It is a good thing for everyone.

At the same time, I understand and accept that not all dogs (or their owners) are as well-tempered or as responsible as I have been. The most notorious (and recent) example of this is the dog mauling of Diane Whipple. Clearly, the owners were irresponsible and the dogs were ill-tempered.

Is there a middle ground between "all dogs must be on leash" and "no dogs are off leash"? Is there a way that the owners and their pets can prove or demonstrate their responsibility and temperament, so that they earn the right to be off-leash? I can imagine a workshop where we learn the "rules of the road" for being off-leash in the GGNRA, what areas are strictly off limits (such as fragile environmental areas, areas with wildlife, etc), and what is expected of the dogs and their owners.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this.

Sincerely,

Geoff Noakes

4248-01-10



Dick Wrenn dsl
<dickw8@pacbell.net>

03/20/2002 09:59 AM

PST

Please respond to
dickw8

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: Dogs in National Recreation Area

We are blessed with large and beautiful National Recreation Areas around the Bay Area. I would like to take my

dog to some parts of these areas. In the last three years that we have had a dog we have not much used National Recreation Areas because of the of the current leash restrictions. Dog owners do not go hiking without taking their dogs.

In three years we have not had one negative incident with our dog in East Bay Reginol Parks.

Sincerely,

Dick Wrenn
139 Hagar Ave.
Piedmont, CA 94611

4249-01-1A



GMELQUIS@aol.com
03/20/2002 12:42 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
CC:
Subject: (no subject)

To Whom it may concern,

I walk and jog at Crissy Field 4-5 times a week and the dogs playing with each other, chasing thrown balls and just being dogs is a great part of my hour-hour and a half I spend there. I sometimes also sit and read the newspaper and drink my coffee for another hour. Making the dogs be on a leash is cruel and unreasonable. I've not seen any dog endangering birds nor plant life. The dogs are fun to watch and should not be leashed. I personally do not have a dog but I do enjoy watching them and their energy.

thanks

Gerald T. Melquist
22 Terra Vista G-16
San Francisco, Ca 94115

4250-01-3B



Lyoshikawa@aol.com
03/20/2002 04:56 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Support of rule to allow off-leash recreation

Dear National Park Service:

I let my dog run off leash at Fort Funston and I get great enjoyment from watching him run freely. He is under the strictest voice control.

The Park Service has paved paths for the disabled, created monuments, allowed dirt bikes, horseback riders, etc., poured concrete for parking lots so that as many people as possible can enjoy our national parks and have easier access to them.

I argue that people with dogs should also have access to parks as long as there are specific rules governing off-leash dog behavior. Restricting access to only those with leashed dogs means a failure to understand that our enjoyment of the park derives from the sheer joy of watching our dogs run freely. Otherwise, why bother? I can walk my dog on a leash on some asphalt sidewalk and you would have one more person indifferent to, at the very least, less appreciative of, the future of our parks.

I am in full support of the creation of a special rule to allow off-leash recreation in some parts of GGNP. Just a few meaningful parts.

Regards,
Linda Yoshikawa
Lyoshikawa@aol.com

4251-01-1D



denise davila
<d2davila@yahoo.com
>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: d2davila@yahoo.com
Subject: Support for Off-leash Recreation in the GGNRA

03/20/2002 12:46 PM
PST

Dear National Park Services,

In the United States, obesity is the leading cause of preventable death, and the aggressive behavior of abused Pit Bulls owned by completely irresponsible persons makes national news. Is it not our nation's responsibility to support a healthy outlet that not only prevents disease and stress-related behaviors, but honors responsible dog ownership?

Medical studies indicate that persons who own pets, exercise, and enjoy the outdoors are healthier and less stressed.

Likewise, dogs that have access to regular off-leash, outdoor activity are healthier, better socialized, and better adjusted to urban life.

Currently, less than 1% of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area parklands is designated for off-leash recreation of dogs and responsible dog owners. The off-leash recreation areas in GGNRA are located amid abandoned military installations and non-California native ice plant that was universally planted as camouflage against the enemy. It is more than appropriate for the National Park Services to continue to permit off-leash recreation in these limited areas of the GGNRA in support the health and well-being of the community.

We support the creation of a special rule to allow off-leash recreation in some portions of the GGNRA.

As responsible dog owners and informed voters, we respect the park lands that our tax dollars maintain and support. Our quality of life is influenced by the ability to take our dogs off-leash in the GGNRA.

Thank you for your responsible leadership in making the Golden Gate National Recreation Area a place that both preserves the beauty of our coastline and supports the health of the of the San Francisco Bay Area in providing off-leash recreation areas for humans and their dogs.

Sincerely Yours,
Denise Davila & Hugo Evans
4150 Rettig Avenue
Oakland, CA 94602

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Sports - live college hoops coverage
<http://sports.yahoo.com/>

4252-01-3B



"julie bell"
<julieannbell@hotmail.
com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: UNleash dogs

03/20/2002 12:11 AM
GMT

Dear you,

I have just heard the ridiculous idea that dogs should not be allowed off the leash in the park.

Who thought that one up?.....

Personally, i go to the park to see the dogs run about. I can't have a pet of my own and I miss it.

It's great to have met so many great dogs and their owners in parks around San Francisco. I

would be very, very sorry to see them all tied up and unable to get the exercise and stimulation

they need to be healthy.....and I too would miss out on those friendly unleashed encounters.

PLEASE REALISE THAT NOT ALLOWING DOGS TO RUN IN THE PARKS IS AN

ABSURD IDEA.....PLEASE DON'T LET IT HAPPEN.

thank you for listening,

loveincircles,

julie

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4253-01-3B



"Sandra Nesbit"
<ssn@qtm.net>
03/20/2002 08:47 AM
EST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Pets off leash

I write you to express my concern over the "all dogs on leash at all times" rule. I cannot state strongly enough how inappropriate this is. If there are dedicated areas where dogs may run free (which they did before humans came into the picture) anyone who has a problem with loose dogs can avoid the area...and those who have (or simply love) dogs can gather there to enjoy canine companionship.

I am a small town parish minister. One of my duties is to visit nursing homes. In virtually every nursing home there are unleashed dogs and/or cats roaming about. The reason for this is the very positive response so many of the people have with the animals. Dogs especially help to keep people happy...they have been known to reduce blood pressure...stress...the list goes on.

Not everyone can afford...or have the physical energy or abilities to own a pet. But...in designated leash free areas they can meet, love and interact with our canine companions.

Older people who desire to own a larger dog NEED such an area so the dog can exercise properly and live longer. They simply cannot run long or fast enough to provide on-leash exercise. Many of us cannot.

Dogs need each other. They were originally pack animals with perpetual interaction with others of their kind. In a leash-free part these animals who are now domesticated and frequently live with other humans and no other dog, have an opportunity to interact in a healthy way with others of their kind. Enact a leash-always law and we have simply taken away another of their freedoms and health-related activities.

These are but a few reasons why I believe that cities...all cities...MUST have specific areas where dogs can run free ..where they can meet each other and interact in healthy ways...where people who cannot have their own dog can interact with these life-enhancing animals...and where older or infirm people can bring their dogs so the dogs can get the exercise they could not get if on leash.

We have taken so much from all the animals of the earth...using them for our own purposes and enjoyment. Certainly it isn't too much to ask to allow our canine friends a few areas where they can fully enjoy being a dog.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. Sandi Nesbit

4254-01-1B



Chasthompson700@aol.com

03/20/2002 12:36 AM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: LoriSommer@aol.com
Subject: Off leash freedom for my doggie

My dog loves to go for a walk anytime, anywhere. He doesn't mind the leash -- I believe he thinks he is obligated to tug me along behind. But there's nothing like the feeling of freedom I see on his "smilin' face" when he runs free of the leash. Please continue to allow off leash exercise for both of us within the GGNRA.

A dog lover.
Charles Thompson

*Charles M. Thompson
700 Albatross Drive
Novato, CA 94945
Phone: 415/897-9281
Fax: 415/897-9280*

4255-01-1A



"Sylvia Jepsen"
<jepsenx4@earthlink.net>

03/20/2002 12:33 AM
EST

To: "Brian O'Neill" <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
CC:
Subject: I Support Alternative A - Keep Dogs Leashed!

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to support Option A in the ANPR and request that the Park Service minimize pet impacts to visitors and park resources. I would further ask that the leash law be actively enforced.

I am a San Franciscan of 22 years, a mother of two girls and a wife of a hard-working man who tries to get in a little exercise on his days off by jogging on the beach.

I no longer take my children to the Crissy Field area because, until this issue came up, I thought that it was a special dog-only park. Many of the dogs run like wild animals and the owners stand too far away calling out, "Bingo, Come here! Don't worry! He likes kids!" I personally don't care if Bingo likes my kids (presumably for his dinner), because my children are terrified of "Bingo" racing towards them. From their point of view, "Bingo" looks like a freight train, and it's been my experience that "Bingo" can't always apply the brakes in time. My eldest daughter hides behind me and my four-year old literally tries to climb up my body in an attempt to get away from "Bingo."

And my husband doesn't try to jog after 6 a.m. because after that, he says it's a dog's world. As he tries to run on the beach, a dog will inevitably come to the conclusion that a running man is to be chased. As the dog yaps along at his heels, the owner yells, "it's okay! it's okay!" and my husband is never sure whom the owner is addressing.

I would encourage you to go to Crissy Field and see for yourself what's happening, especially now that the weather is improving. Many, many dogs are digging up newly-planted areas, defecating in the grass, chasing birds, scaring kids (and moms), and racing around as the owners call helplessly after them.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Jepsen
12A Iris Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118 - 2727
jepsenx4@earthlink.net

4256-01-1C



Kendra L Langer
<kendrahaha@juno.co
m>

To: lmckay@earthlink.net
cc: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
Subject: Please Forward to those who need to know...

03/20/2002 03:43 AM
PST

Dear People,

It has come to my attention that a special rule must now be created to allow off-leash recreation, and that the first step in achieving this exemption is called: ANPR (Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking). After public comments on the ANPR document the Park Service will determine if there is sufficient "public will" to take the next step of formulating a new policy to creating a special rule allowing off-leash recreation in this park. THERE IS ALMOST TOTAL UNANIMITY FOR THIS RULING IN THE GROUP WHO USES FORT FUNSTON... just go out and ask them...I have!!!!

I have also become aware that several national organizations are urging their members to write to the Park Service to OPPOSE a special rule for off-leash recreation.

I am extremely offended that those who are NOT presently in Fort Funston using its facilities, and who do NOT know how idyllic the off leash situation is, are being URGED to complain. I am worried that unwarranted fears are being used as a motive, without there being any understanding of how peaceful and friendly the atmosphere of the park is at this time...dogs do not act in problematic ways off leash in open areas ...AND THEY ARE BEING HANDLED RESPONSIBLY BY THEIR OWNERS!!!

I wrote to one of these organizations to complain about this coercion of those who do not use the park, and do not know how it functions, and got a letter that validated my concerns. They are very active without having an understanding of how well Fort Funston works and how little of a threat the park is to wildlife.

Those who use Fort Funston are very responsible and careful of the environment. There is a critical need to have a special rule to allow off leash recreation at Fort Funston.

The numbers of people who use it testify to its need! I cannot think of a park that is as popular, yet with such concern being demonstrated by those who use it! Can you???

Responsible off-leash recreation CAN be accommodated in the GGNRA effectively and conscientiously.....it is already happening, and just needs to be validated with a special ruling (that formerly was a PROMISE to the city of San Francisco, a promise that needs to be kept!)

Very sincerely,
Kendra Langer
568 Mac Arthur Drive
Colma, CA

4257-01-1A



"Amy Cozamanis"
<amy.cozamanis@db.com>

03/20/2002 09:19 AM
GMT

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Supopt of off-lease recreation in GGNRA

To whom it may concern at GGNRA

I am a San Francisco resident and dog owner. I am in support of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. I see on a daily basis the very effective integration of off-leash dogs and their guardians on the beaches and people walking and biking on the paths and beach. Families who are looking for a less crowded beach use the very large NO DOGS beach at the west end of Crissy Field.

I have noticed that dog owners are very responsible. They keep their dogs on close voice command and often make an effort to leave the beach cleaner than how they found it.

Off-leash recreation is an important part of maintaining a healthy, well-balanced and socialized dog population. It is also important for dog owners to be able to exercise and enjoy the parks with their pets. I am in support of a special rule to allow off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

Amy M. Cozamanis
+44 (0)20 7545 5937

Equity Private Placements Group
Deutsche Bank
Winchester House
1 Great Winchester St.
London EC2N 2DB

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GGNRA013662

4258-01-1A



"Nancy Shelby"
<nancysbelby@hotmail
.com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: DocDMH@aol.com
Subject: off leash laws

03/20/2002 10:44 PM
PST

To whom it may concern, March 20, 2002
I am a responsible dog owner of a 12 year old mut named "Girl." Girl is the second dog I have had in San Francisco. She is voice trained and obedient. We do not go to the beach often but, when we do, I can see the look of pure joy in her eyes. My husband Luke Cole is a member of the San Francisco Bird Observatory, and several other Naturalist groups. We both support the indigenous bird and animal life of our parks and beaches. When we walk Girl on the beach without a leash we are mindful of her not disturbing birds, animals or people. Is there not a way to allow for this loyal canine species we share our lives with to be able to enjoy a free run every now and then, in an area set aside for them? It is the responsibility of owners to control their dogs. I accept that responsibility conscientiously. Please don't take away a free space for dogs. Thank you for your consideration. Nancy Shelby, 561 Hill Street, San Francisco, Ca 94114

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<http://www.hotmail.com>

4259-01-3B



GGG23rdSt@aol.com

03/20/2002 08:44 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: Offleash dog walking

I am writing to protest your decision to prohibit off-leash dog walking on GGNRA property. If indeed there is a GGNRA rule prohibiting dogs off leash, then you would also need to ban dogs off-leash used for hunting in federal parks. Dogs can and do exist peacefully with people other dogs, children, and birds. Banning off-leash dog walking serves no useful purirpose other than to alienate 99%of dog owners, and those others who love to see dogs romp and play. Reconsider your ban. If not, then I shall lobby to have San Francisco City and County retake the park lands. Patti McWilliams.

4260-01-1A



John Barron Wike
<jbw@jbwj.com>
03/20/2002 05:47 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Dog Leashing in GGNRA

GGNRA:

Please allow dogs to continue to be unleashed in the GGNRA.

It is necessary for their health and for the well-being of the people who live with and near them. A well-exercised dog is a good citizen.

Thank You,

--

John Barron Wike

```
*****  
81 Linda Street                      Vox/Fax: 415-431-6084  
San Francisco, CA 94110              Cell: 415-305-8751  
Email: jbw@jbwj.com  
*****
```

4261-01-1B



"Archstone Sausalito"
<MGR-SLT@archstone
smith.com>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: GGNRA Pet Policy Comment

03/20/2002 05:45 PM
MST

Hello- As a long time dog owner of Marin County, I find it ashame that there are less and less places for dogs to run free. I do very much respect the continual efforts to protect the environment, however, I believe the NPS and GGNRA should continue dog leash policies such as what is currently in place at Muir Beach. Since Muir Beach has undergone improvements to the park and to restore the natural environment (that unforunately some irresponsible dog owners did contribute to the deterioration) and provided clear signage of the rules, the park has improved with still allowing dogs to enjoy running free on the waters edge. This has demonstrated that a civil compromise is possible, creating a win/win situation for all concerned. I hope that not only can the parks that now allow dogs off leash in certain areas remain, but additional parks would implement such policies. There is an estimated 70,000 dogs in Marin County alone, many of these dogs owners would visit more parks if policies would be revised, and many of these dog owners would be willing to pay a nominal fee or donation for maintainence costs, dog bags, improvements, etc. if asked.

Thank you for your consideration and extending the time to comment.

Jon & Maggie Kunkel
427 Sherwood Drive #310
Sausalito, CA 94965

415-331-3736
mgr-slt@archstonesmith.com

4262-01-1A



"Striefler, Nikki
(SFO-ME)"
<Nikki.Striefler@mcca
nnsf.com>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc: <fortfunston@hotmail.com>
Subject: Fort Funston Off-leash Policy

03/20/2002 04:42 PM
PST

Dear Golden Gate National Recreation Area:

I've never written a letter for any political purpose before, but I feel so strongly about your off-leash policy at Fort Funston, I feel compelled to write to you.

I'm a young professional female who grew up with dogs and have always had my own dog - now I have a 6 year old St. Bernard named Lucy who is the sweetest dog you'd ever meet. Who has never needed a leash since she was three months old...she stays at my heels in the city and wouldn't stray for a cat, a steak, whatever. But when we go to Fort Funston, she knows she can run and gets excited and energetic and plays like a puppy. It makes her happy, which makes me happy.

I've lived in many places including Frankfurt Germany, London, Minneapolis, and now San Francisco. I've never noticed as many dogs in a city as in San Francisco, and it's remarkable that with so many dogs, and so many dog-lovers, I continually hear about efforts to limit the places where dogs can be free and get exercise. It's astounding.

I've brought many visitors with me to Fort Funston. People are always amazed at how many people and dogs are out there walking, and also remark on the extreme friendliness and kindness of the people there (with their dogs.) In fact, lately I've looked for people who are there without dogs - they are few. And the beach is certainly getting great use. People take care of the beach, clean up after their pets, and respect the nature in general. There's far less garbage, etc. than other beach areas in the city. And I've never once seen a dog-fight, let alone dogs going after people. I guess I don't understand who the public park is "for." If it's already full of happy people (with dogs) what's the problem and why does something need to be changed? I just don't get it. It seems senseless.

Both my dog and I get big pleasure, and de-stress on our walks at Fort Funston. People there are friendlier than anywhere else you could go in the city. The exercise benefits to people and their dogs are tremendous. And in general, I believe that all these people and their off-leash dogs are testament to the fact that all kinds of people and breeds of dogs can get along. For me, that spirit of community is what San Francisco is all about....it's why I choose to pay high rent and live here - instead of anywhere else in the world.

I hope you agree and leave a good thing alone.

Sincerely,
Nikki Striefler
710 Clayton St #1
San Francisco CA

4263-01-3B



"Kevin Gauna"
<sunbrothers@earthlin
k.net>

03/20/2002 04:45 PM

PST

Please respond to
sunbrothers

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: off leash should be allowed

I am not a dog owner but I think its good to have places where people can run their dogs off leash.

There should be a special rule that allows this in some areas of GGNRC.

Must we really regulate, control, and chain every aspect of our lives and our environment?

--- Kevin Gauna
k@sunbrothers.com

4264-01-1B



"Suzanne Harmon"
<sharmon2@mindspring.com>

03/20/2002 03:58 PM
CST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Walking Dogs off-leash in the GGNRA

I have been camping in and visiting National Parks my whole life (my parents thought this the finest form of entertainment). I raised my children camping and hiking in National Parks as well. I currently live right next to the Pt. Reyes National Seashore and portions of the GGNRA (in Inverness).

I am the owner of two dogs and feel that there are appropriate and inappropriate times and places for dogs. I agree that off leash, and in many cases on-leash, dogs do not belong in many park spaces. However, I do feel that there should be an allocation of space(s) which allow dog owners to walk their dogs off-leash - areas which allow for a 30 minute - 2 hour walk in an area which lends itself to walking for people at all levels of physical fitness, and which does not encroach on areas of an extremely sensitive environmental nature.

Many people who walk with dogs will not walk without dogs, so this issue is not just about getting good exercise for your dog (though admittedly that is VERY important), but also about getting exercise for dog owners. Sometimes it is that they just cannot get motivated enough without a dog and sometimes it is because they do not feel safe walking without a dog. Some breeds of dogs can be given perfectly appropriate levels of exercise without ever being off leash and others cannot.

Since there are so very many places where people who do not own dogs, or who do not want to be around dogs, can go, I believe that those of us who do own dogs or want to be around dogs deserve some allocation of space where dogs are welcome off-leash. Many of these places have just evolved. I know there are places near where I live which are considered dog areas and other areas (the majority) which are not. In most of these cases, the area(s) would hardly be used at all if it were not for dog owners.

I pay a very large amount of taxes every year and most of the other dog owners who I associate with do also. Our money helps support the parks just as does the money of non-dog owners. We should all feel we are getting our money's worth.

Suzanne Harmon-Speh

4265-01-1A



Frank Colligan
<Frank.Colligan@oracl
e.com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov, fortfunston@hotmail.com
cc:
Subject: ANPR Comments

03/20/2002 03:38 PM
PST

March 20, 2001

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

Dear Sirs,

We are writing to express our support for a special rule that will allow off-leash dog recreation in the GGNRA, since this is the only apparent avenue to get the GGNRA to continue the historic use of GGNRA areas for off leash recreation. Prior to the NPS receiving lands from the City of San Francisco for inclusion in the GGNRA, said lands were an accepted area for off-leash dog recreation by residents of the City. Both the legislation establishing the GGNRA and the GGNRA Pet Policy of 1979 acknowledged decades of prior off-leash recreational use of GGNRA, and recognized continued off-leash dog recreation as valid. There are currently more than 40 national parks where off-leash recreation of some kind is permitted. We have seen no compelling arguments presented for why the GGNRA cannot continue as one of our national parks that allow off-leash dog recreation.

As pet owners, our biggest concern is the continued use of Fort Funston as an off leash recreation area for our family. We are at Fort Funston almost every day of the week and can personally attest to the fact that the vast majority of Fort Funston users are dog owners like ourselves. These users include many families like ours who enjoy a weekend afternoon at the Fort, running and playing with their canine companions -- something we cannot do at most other locations in the city. If you do not adopt a special rule to allow off-leash recreation, thousands of families will be denied this pleasure - a cherished form of family recreation we've enjoyed for over 40 years. In addition, many dog owners will no longer go to the Fort at all and the only users that will remain at the Fort will be a handful of hang gliders and bicyclists, plus the occasional tourist. This would be a sad waste of San Francisco's open land resources and would be grossly unfair to those who use Fort Funston the most.

We urge the GGNRA and NPS to find ways to continue to allow off-leash dog recreation in the park, especially at Fort Funston.

Sincerely yours,

Frank J Colligan
Joseph F Sasser
215 Evelyn Way
San Francisco, CA 94127



Frank.Colligan.vcl

4266-01-1A



jo leggett
<jo@idiom.com>
03/20/2002 02:53 PM
PST
Please respond to jo

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: off leash recreation areas

Please add my name to the list of persons who passionately believe that there be off leash recreation areas for dogs and their humans for where would we humans be without our dog companions. I am acutely aware that there are some dogs, and humans who are aggressive and irresponsible. However, they are the tiny minority. Should we be able to gather statistics, those irresponsible humans who have and/or harbor aggressive dogs, would not care about their dogs having a recreation area anyway and therefore would not visit them. To deny the well behaved dogs and their humans access to off lease recreation areas would, once again, be heinous and unfair, punishing the majority for the bad behaviour of very few. Please.

Jo Leggett
San Francisco, CA

Mar 20 02 08:11a

IT Corporation

(415) 434-4349

p. 1

4267-01-1A



March 20, 2002

TO: Superintendent, GGNRA
Attn: ANPR

FROM: Alfred R. Mercado
615 John Muir Drive, D504
San Francisco, Ca. 94132

Last year, in the Fort Funston main parking area, as my wife was returning to our car she passed by a dog being attended to by its owner. Suddenly the dog began to growl menacingly at my wife. She stopped walking and stood frozen in panic. I happened to be looking in the rear view mirror of my car at that very moment. I got out of my car, walked several steps towards her and began telling my wife to relax and walk towards me. My wife and I got into our car and drove away relieved that the incident had not escalated to the point of physical harm to us, and bewildered at the dog owner's conduct.

What made this situation more dangerous was the dog owner's attitude toward my wife. Rather than controlling and reprimanding her dog, this woman was telling my wife to "just get away".

It's such a misfortune to have such wonderful parks in San Francisco and for many of us to be concerned for our safety as we step foot on them. My wife and I still go to Fort Funston, but we rarely get out of our car.

I strongly encourage you to prohibit unleashed dogs in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Mar 20 02 10:01a

Madaline Gloria

415-387-9364

p.1

New Text Document

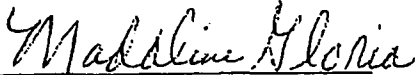
4268-01-1A

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

March 20, 2002

I would like to voice my opinion in regards to Leash Laws.
I feel that a dog if untrained to obey should be on a leash.
I feel if a dog is trained to obey they should not be expected to
be leashed,
If a dog is trained to obey then they do not harm other people or
property.

Thank you for considering my request to not have lease laws for do
gs that obey.



Madaline Gloria
6027 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco, California 94121-1907
415-752-8305
foreigncar@earthlink.net

MAR-20-02 18:08

G. B. MC CAUGHAN

4269-01-1A

TEL: 14157510188

P:01

Bar Superintendent O'Neill:

FAX To: 415 561 4355

Date: March 20, 2002

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

Name: Gregory B. McCaughan (optional: Age: 77 Sex: M F Ethnicity: W)
Address: 506-48th Ave SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

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

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

Yes

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

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

Safer with off-leash dogs presence

Signed: GB McCaughan Date: 3/20/2002
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA, ATTN: ANPR, FORT MASON, BUILDING #201, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123 GGNRA013674

03/20/2002 20:25 6502124606

WALGREENS

PAGE 01/02

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4270-01-1C

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

Name: LISA WONG (printed)
 Address: 1091 VISTA GRANDE MILBURN CA 94030
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

I am a Chinese-American mother who enjoys taking my 9 year old dog & 2 year old son to Fort Funston. Having a young child gives me less time with my dog. So taking ~~me~~^{my dog} to Fort Funston gives my dog much needed time out of the house for exercise and socialization.

My 2 year old son loves seeing all the different size dogs, and all the dogs there, although off-leash, are friendly. We prefer Fort Funston over a dog park because there we play off paths to take a walk and see beautiful views.

I hope you can keep Fort Funston an off-leash park. It is a treasure.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land? How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: [Signature]
Version 2.2Date 3/3/02(optional: Age: 36 Sex M (F) Ethnicity Chinese)

March 9, 2002

03/20/2002 20:25 6502124506

WALGREENS

PAGE 02/02

4271-01-1C

Mike Wong
1041 Vista Grande, Millbrae, CA 94030

I have been enjoying Fort Funston for years. My dog is friendly and loves to socialize with other dogs. We have tried on-leash, but we just end up getting tangled up as he dances around the other dogs and sniffs each bush. Barney responds to voice command and he gets more exercise when he is off leash.

We explore as much of Fort Funston as we can. The trails are varied and the views are spectacular. The highlight for my 2 year old son is the beach off of Fort Funston. He plays in the sand while my dog, Barney, plays with each dog that walks by.

All the dogs that go to Fort Funston are well mannered and friendly. It is cruel to keep a dog penned up in the house. And the pens aren't "walks". Fort Funston encourages dog owners to get out and exercise their dog. Even people without dogs enjoy Fort Funston. It is fun to see the different size and shapes of dogs.

I am amazed how well kept Fort Funston is. It is because the dog owners care. And we care about keeping Fort Funston off-leash.

Sincerely,

Mike Wong
3/15/02
male
Chinese

RECEIVED

MAR 21 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4272-01-2

Wednesday, March 13, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a great park and a unique repository of natural diversity. The continued value of the park requires that users use these resources wisely; in some cases people are informed enough to do this on their own, in other cases we must establish and enforce rules.

Off leash dogs are a difficult stewardship question. A vociferous minority of dog owners are attacking park attempts to wisely manage our shared resources. Rational planning by park personnel and the concerns of other park owners are often overwhelmed by the emotional rhetoric of dog advocates.

We all need to work to help owners find suitable places for canine recreation, but this should be done rationally and carefully, and not at the expense of the priceless and rare natural resources of GGNRA. This should not be done by relaxing or failing to enforce the reasonable rules that are in place. I am requesting that you support dog leash regulations and work to strengthen these protections. This is a matter of common sense. It is a matter of law and order, of public safety. And it will help to chart a reasonable course for agencies and lands facing similar challenges.

I thank you in advance for doing what you know is right.

Sincerely,

Daniel Gluesenkamp
17845 Highland Blvd
Sonoma, CA 95476
danielredheart@yahoo.com

4273-01-1A

To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Cliff Jepsen - sign

Cliff Jepsen - print

12A IRIS AV. San Francisco, CA. - address
94118

RECEIVED

MAR 21 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

FROM : DRdeCASTRO

PHONE NO. : 2925230

MAR. 21 2002 08:01AM P1

4274-01-1A

415-561-4355

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR; Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 9423
Re: Save Off-Leash Dog Walking

March 19, 2002

GGNRA:

As a resident of San Francisco and a responsible dog owner it is imperative that continued off-leash dog walking be allowed at Crissy Field. My dog, Arthur, and the countless other resident dogs in the immediate area need continued access to Crissy Field to run free off leash and swim. For many of our dogs, and their owners their time at Crissy Field is a special daily/weekly outing enabling city dogs a small taste of freedom in an otherwise congested, densely populated city where off leash activity is unavailable or dangerous.

Dog owners sharing a Crissy Field outing with their dog/s is more than merely a necessary act of taking their pets to the beach. Rather it acts as a connecting activity that brings people from the community together creating a bond between otherwise often isolated strangers.

Dog owners are a group of like-minded folks that take their dog ownership seriously. The dog owners that use Crissy field are diligent in enforcing all codes of appropriate behavior by cleaning up after their pets and demanding fun but safe play by all dogs irrelevant of their size, shape, or breed. Pets are not left alone to roam rather they are policed by their owners making it an agreeable atmosphere for all.

Human have unlimited choices where they can go (beaches, trails, reserves) enjoying unrestricted access where dogs are not tolerated. Any outside outing with your dog, let alone an off leash activity is almost an impossible event in the Bay Area. We cannot loose access to Crissy Field—we have no options. We have nowhere to go with our dogs.

For continued good health, Arthur, my dog needs to exercise. For stress relief my husband and I need the freedom to walk, throw Arthur's ball, watch him swim and share stores with other dog owners. Since I'm a dog owner I feel more like San Francisco is my home. San Francisco has always been a dog lover's city—don't take away our greatest gift—our joy—off leash dog walking at Crissy Field.

Sincerely,

Diane deCastro
1274 Filbert Street
San Francisco, CA 94109 drdecastro@hotmail.com 415-292-5230

FROM : University of San Francisco

PHONE NO. : 415 4225356

Mar. 21 2002 04:29PM P1

GGNRA

Attn: ANPR

4275-03-1B

21 March 2002

To Whom it May Concern,

Pets, Dog Leash Issue

First, thank you for your solicitation of public comments concerning this issue. In GGNRA dogs should be on leash. Moreover, there are some times of the year (e.g., when birds are nesting) when dogs should not be allowed, even on leash, and some places in the GGNRA where dogs should not be allowed at all. The GGNRA should establish certain No Dog times of the year and certain No Dogs ever cites. Again, nowhere and at no time of the year in the GGNRA ought dogs be allowed off leash.

I offer a number of reasons. I do so noting first, that although I currently do not own a dog, I grew up owning dogs, I like dogs, and I very well may own a dog in the upcoming years as my children age. (I think caring for a dog is especially character-forming for most children and some adults.) Why, then, do I think the GGNRA should restrict dogs always to a leash, and have some places where they may not go and some places where they may go only at certain times of the year?

First, as you know, there are certain species of bird that nest at certain times on GGNRA lands. One who uses the GGNRA as frequently as I and my family do sees dogs always chasing these birds, even when on leash, the dogs bark and disturb the birds. Dogs cannot help doing this, it is in their nature to do so. Nonetheless, it is harmful to the birds and it is unpleasant for those of us who enjoy seeing the birds and observing them to constantly also hear and see the dogs disturbing the birds. My solution is that when the birds are especially vulnerable during nesting seasons, the dogs would not be allowed in the nesting areas. This compromise accommodates the birds and the dogs.

Second, dogs should not be allowed in certain designated areas ever, as some people simply do not like to have dogs around. Such people must be accommodated. Many people (I have not been but know numerous people who have) have had bad experiences with dogs and have been bit, etc. They do not enjoy dogs and indeed, they are frightened, rightly or wrongly by dogs. Such people deserve places in the GGNRA where they know they will not encounter dogs. When thinking of this matter, one must acknowledge that people, not dogs pay for the GGNRA and people, not dogs, have priority concerning its use. (I am not saying that no one can make claims for the dogs, but that their claims are prioritized after those of people.)

FROM : University of San Francisco

PHONE NO. : 415 4225356

Mar. 21 2002 04:30PM P2

4275-03-1B

Third, dogs ought always to be on leashes whenever and wherever they are allowed in GGNRA. Why?

There are a number of reasons:

A) There is in practice always a certain declination from the rule. If one requires leashes, then dogs go on leash and the owners let the leashes go (the dog runs free on a leash.) If dogs are under voice command, the dog runs anywhere it wants to go, out of sight of owner and out of voice control, earshot. This is simply the way of such rules, they fall into disuse and are not followed or are followed by the next closest behavior (the dog running on a leash that is not in the owner's control) or the dog running free and in a pack). Moreover, there is typically a decline when it comes to enforcement, too. (That is, officers, because of pressures and the understandable desire not to offend, typically give the owner a little latitude, so the rule needs to be more conservative in order to get acceptable behavior.)

B) Voice command does not work as dog owners do not typically even know what it is to have a dog under voice command. When I was a young boy, I and my father trained dogs. During my adolescence, I had two bird dogs, and a beagle. Those dogs were under my command because I took the hours and hours and months and months it takes to train a dog. I could place a piece of cheese on my dogs' nose and they would not eat it unless I snapped my fingers. That is control, and few owners have it because few owners discipline themselves and their dogs sufficiently to get it. If GGNRA insists on a licensing of certain dogs as being voiced controlled, then those dogs and only those dogs should be allowed off leash, but unless this is done, the presumption should be that a dog is not under voice control; until the owner shows it to an unbiased third party, such as a professional dog trainer.

C) Off leash leads dogs to pack and when dogs pack, they behave differently. This is empirically based; a dog that may not be aggressive in the least when alone will act aggressively in a pack, and this is in the nature of the dog to do. (just as a horse (or

FROM : University of San Francisco

PHONE NO. : 415 4225356

Mar. 21 2002 04:30PM P3

4275-03-1B

humans, for that matter) behave differently in groups than when alone.) For this reason, dogs ought not to be allowed off leash in the GGNRA.

D) In the very unfortunate circumstance of a dog biting a person, especially in the case of a dog biting a child (I note that on 17 March 2001 an unleashed dog bit a 15 year old girl at Rodeo beach it sounds as if she will be permanently marred by this tragic event), if your rules say it is okay for the dog to be off leash, this is more likely to lead to such unfortunate events. For a dog off leash is much more difficult to avoid. Indeed, I have been on GGNRA lands with my child throwing a ball and have had dogs go after and take the ball. So, if dogs are allowed off-leash, there will be more dog bites. Also, those who have been bitten will have less of a claim that they have been wronged, as the dogs will not have been in violation of the leash law. It is easy to avoid a dog on a leash held by its owner; it is sometimes impossible to avoid a dog off leash. By allowing dogs off leash on GGNRA, you would be taking away certain rights from those who prefer to avoid the company of dogs and giving those rights to those who have dogs. The burden ought to be placed on the dog owner. Indeed, it is not a great burden to walk a dog on a leash. It is, however, a very unpleasant experience to have dogs chase after the baseball or football one plays with, or to have dogs run up to a child chasing a ball, and so on.

Again, thank you for your thoughtful solicitation and consideration of these comments regarding the GGNRA's leash rules for dogs.

To re-iterate, dogs must always be on leash, there are some places where dogs may not ever be, even on leash and there are some places that dogs may not be at certain times of the year.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Cavanaugh

One Fern Rd.
Kentfield, Ca.

94904-2809

Marin County, Ca

3/3

4276-01-1A



"r"
<rong5@mindspring.com>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Fw: Off leash

03/21/2002 10:54 AM
PST

----- Original Message -----

From: r

To: goga_pets-anpr@nps.gov

Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2002 10:53 AM

Subject: Off leash

I am a San Francisco native, aged 53 years. I have always run my dog on the beach. I see no reason why a dog should not be able to run through the waves. What could the harm possibly be? It is impossible to exercise a dog on a leash!

Since the land was GIVEN to you by the city to maintain as a recreation area, I strongly urge you to provide areas where a dog can run free. The beach is fine with me. How about one mile along the beach? Is that too much to ask?

Thank you.

Ron Giuntini
834 Faxon Ave
San Francisco

4277-01-3B



"Jewers, Shannon"
<SJewers@vicinity.com>

03/21/2002 10:46 AM
PST

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

Hello,

I am writing in regards to the off leash area at Fort Funston.

I moved to the Bay area 3 years ago. I have two dogs (both which are cocker spaniels). Since living here Fort Funston has been their favorite place to spend a weekend day. Not only has it improved their social skills with other dogs, but I also get to meet other people in the Bay area and enjoy myself. Some people believe that dogs should be kept on leash at all times. As a dog owner my whole life, I can tell you that this is not always the case. In most circumstances, dogs react better to people and especially other dogs when they are off leash. They do not feel as restricted. As well, the kind of people who take the time to bring their dogs to a place like Fort Funston, are dog owners who clearly care for and love their animals. Not the kind of owners who have dogs that will harm other people or animals.

Fort Funston has made my pets better around people and other animals. If you take it away, you are just promoting unsocialized pets which will cause more problems down the road. Cases such as the dog mauling incident in SF were caused by unsocialized pets.

Please keep Fort Funston "alive". Let the dogs roam free. Dogs need that kind of space that Fort Funston provides. It is a place where my family asks to go to when they come to visit. It has almost become a tourist attraction a part of San Francisco that is open, liberal and free .

Thank you

Shannon Jewers

Shannon M Jewers
Vicinity Corporation
Applications Consultant
sjewers@vicinity.com
408-543-3208

4278-01-1A



"Howard N. Ellman"
<HEllman@ellman-bur
ke.com>

03/21/2002 10:26 AM
PST

To: "goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov" <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Pet policy

Dogs have been allowed to run off leash at the Crissey Field Beach since long before the area fell under the jurisdiction of the NPS. It happens to be an area where unleashed dogs can cause little or no harm or even inconvenience except perhaps on the most crowded portions of weekend days or on warm, summer afternoons.

Dogs need some free running time for their physical health.

It is an established fact that pets are good for people, particularly seniors. Therefore, an effort should be made to accommodate this use, for the sake of the animals and the people who own them.

I understand that you have a rule -- but I also understand that your rule evolved with places like Yosemite, Grand Teton Yellowstone and Glacier NPSs in mind. It has no relevance to an urban open space, nor should it be allowed to alter traditional patterns of usage that have existed for decades and that are basically beneficial.

I visit the Crissey area twice a day on average during the week, usually at dawn and at dusk. From close, personal observation, I can attest that the wildlife there consists of skunks, raccoons, crows, ravens, pigeons (European Rock Doves or feathered rats, depending upon your point of view) and a few shorebirds that work the margins of the Bay. A flock of about thirty meadowlarks is currently roosting in the big grassy field along with a sparse assortment of blackbirds and small songbirds. A pair of Canada Geese and a few other waterfowl (not many, unfortunately) use the tidal pond that is fenced off and to which no dogs, leashed or otherwise, have access. This is basically the same sampling of wildlife that has always used the area and has not been bothered by dog use. Here again, we are not dealing with a wilderness or the typical national park that harbors bears, deer, elk, wild sheep, ground nesting birds, etc., that do not interact well with dogs.

I could support a leash law that applied from noon to sundown on weekends and holidays. I strongly support enforcement of the litter pickup requirements -- which seem to be working, contrary to my expectations a few years back. A blanket prohibition against unleashed dogs is unnecessary, will prove an enforcement headache and will create destructive friction between NPS and a significant and influential body of citizens. None of us need that turmoil. If your rule needs amendment, so be it. I am sure that it won't be the first or last time that NPS has had to amend its rules to fit a practical reality.

I live at 2637 Broderick Street in the City. My phone number is 931-1961

4279-01-3B



Nancy Weber
<nancy.weber@oracle.com>

03/21/2002 08:53 AM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Support for off-leash recreation in GGNRA

I am writing to strongly support the continuation of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

Since its creation in the 1970's, off-leash recreation that is permitted in specific areas of GGNRA has resulted in a greater quality of life for the dogs and people of the Bay Area. Losing this resource would be a tragedy!

I therefore would like to see a special rule created to continue to allow (and expand) off-leash recreation in GGNRA.

Sincerely - Nancy Weber



nancy.weber.vcf

4280-01-3B



"Elizabeth Fairlee"
<Liz@Fairhavens.com
>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Off-Leash Recreation GGNRA

03/21/2002 08:11 AM
PST

*I support creation of a special rule to
allow off-leash recreation in some portion of the GGNRA.*

Liz Fairlee

4281-01-3A



"Doug Shohan"
<godmetal@aol.com>
03/21/2002 09:46 AM
EST

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

Thursday, March 21, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Doug Shohan
95 Via Maria
Lee, MA 01238 - 9354
godmetal@aol.com

4282-01-1E



"At Liberty"
<At-Liberty@att.net>
03/21/2002 09:09 PM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Support creation of a special rule to Allow off-leash recreation in some portion of the GGNRA.

Increasingly, it has become more and more difficult to enjoy the companionship of "man's best friend", the dog, when visiting local and National park areas, created to be enjoyed by us humans.

Responsible owners understand that there are appropriate places to bring their pets, as well as inappropriate ones. The responsible owners need to have convenient places to bring their companions to share their companionship. A dog is naturally suited to enjoying the outdoors. Though walking on a leash can be fun, it is inhibiting to fully exercise ones pet on leash. Dogs need to be able to "play" in safety, and running on a leash to catch a frisbee or chase other items of play can be dangerous to both dog, owner, and others in close proximity. Leashes can trip up dogs and people, causing serious injury.

We are not asking for unrestricted use of an entire park area for off-leash play/exercise, simply a designated area of sufficient size for pet owners to enjoy the freedom of off-leash movement. City dwellers, especially, need a place nearby of sufficient size for this type of exercise and play.

Though I do not currently have a pet, I did have a Golden Retriever for 17 years that I took everywhere with me. It is sorrowful how few places she was allowed to go, and very sad, too, that environments which looked inviting to both of us, could not be fully enjoyed. She loved being able to run free and introduce herself to everyone she could. People who met her were very happy to give her a few pats and play with her, too, given the chance.

I was particularly dismayed, as a dog owner, to find myself and my dog the only ones on long expansions of beach, yet still unable to let her run unhindered for fear of receiving a ticket and heavy fine for doing so. It is really hard to see the sense of it when you are standing there alone, with no-one else in sight. It's hard to see the sense in it, too, when watching dogs trying to run and play with each other and chase balls and frisbees in the ocean.

We went to a dog park for over three years that was opened in Santa Clara County. It was wonderful. We need more of them, and places to go when traveling with our companions, too.

Thank you.

Sherry & Chica (my little golden angel)
<mailto:at-liberty@att.net>
Sherry Torrey
San Jose, California

4283-01-33



"Sarah Dunmeyer"
<s.dunmeyer@att.net>

03/21/2002 09:17 PM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: leashing of dogs at GGNRA

This area is an urban park which I consider to be different from other parks such as Yosemite, Yellowstone and Grand Canyon. I believe certain areas, especially those which have historically been open to unleashed dogs should remain open. I am referring to Fort Funston and the Crissy Field areas. I can understand the cliffs at Fort Funston being off limits because they are very unstable and a danger for both animals and humans. However, the areas back from the cliffs which are already open for horses should also be open for dogs.

If the GGNRA cannot allow dogs, then I believe it should return certain areas back to San Francisco for administration.

4284-01-3B



"Venegas, Terry"
<Terry.Venegas@Schwab.com>

03/21/2002 09:41 PM
MST

To: "goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov" <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:

Subject: Please - No Exception to National Park policy that forbids unleashed dogs

To whom it may concern,

Please leave the federal regulations currently in effect in the GGNRA in place. As a resident of San Francisco I regularly visit different areas of the GGNRA from San Mateo to the tip of Point Reyes National Seashore and I thoroughly enjoy those moments when I can walk around without being harassed by someone's unleashed pet or smell the stench of the feces it leaves behind with or without the knowledge of it's owner. I have been "greeted" and "investigated" by numerous unleashed pets in the GGNRA over the years, particularly at Fort Funston, Golden Gate Park, Ocean Beach and the Marin headlands, Fort Funston and Golden Gate Park being the most lawless in terms of this issue. In the vast majority of instances (too numerous to count) when someone's unleashed pet has run up and jumped on me, ran over for a sniff or made an aggressive approach, only a handful of people have ever apologized then leashed their pet. The overwhelming majority simply say something to the effect of, "don't worry, he's/she's friendly/won't bite/loves people, etc." Do you ever remember a pet owner saying otherwise? We all know these owner comments are only as accurate as the next encounter. No one can possibly know when a chance encounter might lead to an attack with potentially tragic consequences, especially if the victim is a toddler or infant.

I have owned dogs at various points in my life and I thoroughly enjoy dogs and understand their needs. I also understand that as the owner of a pet I am solely responsible for the care of that animal. That care must be tailored around the rights of individuals who do not own pets and are making use of the same open public space. Owning a pet should not give that person a right to impede on another persons' enjoyment of the same public space. In my experience people who allow their dogs off-leash in area's where this is prohibited are most often the same culprits who don't bother to clean their dogs mess in public places - fouling the air and most lounging spots in all the parks of the City. Anyone who has sight and smell can attest to the fact there are simply too many people who are not responsible enough to properly care for their pet in public space.

Owning a dog should be a licensed privilege, not a right. Rather than allowing the dog lobby to force their will upon a relatively unengaged and docile, but vast majority non-dog owning public, dog owners and potential dog owners need to consider this question, after all it really is the true question in this matter. If there is not enough open space for a persons' dog to roam freely in the few parks were it is already allowed, then those individuals should reconsider owning a pet in the first place, rather than try to bully the public into putting up with their unwillingness to be responsible (by maintaining it on a leash) for the pet they already have.

Sincerely,

Terry Venegas

4285-01-1A



"Laine Barbanell
Schipper"

<Lost-Arts@sbcglobal.
net>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>

cc:

Subject: A consideration: individuals vs professional dog walkers

03/21/2002 08:35 PM
PST

When considering special rules in the GGNRA to allow off-leash walking of dogs, it may be important to consider the differences between tax-paying individuals exercising their personal pets, and professional dog walkers with multiple animals at the same time. It would appear that there are different environmental and safety impacts, and that the latter (professional walkers with packs of dogs) perhaps needing some sort of license/safety/training qualification, and possibly an "impact" fee.

Please understand that we are Sierra Club members, and are in favor of both groups being able to conduct off-leash exercise in the GGNRA.

Joel & Laine Barbanell Schipper
San Francisco, CA

4286-01-3B



Judy Bowman
<jbowman@dnai.com>

03/21/2002 07:14 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: jbowman@dnai.com
Subject: dogs in parks

The East Bay Regional park system manages to have joggers, horses, bikes, recreational walkers and dogs on the trails, and we all get along and enjoy each other. Certain areas forbid dogs or require them to be on leash, but mostly dogs run free. Bikes and horses also have some limitations. Why can't GGNR follow this model? It actually works. There is room for all different kinds of enjoyment of our environment. People who walk with dogs avoid trails advising leashes, just as bicyclists and horseriders stay away from paths signed as not allowing them.

A serious walker, I'm more comfortable with my dog on quiet trails. Most of the people I encounter have dogs. Logging a good 5 miles a day in various locations, I've never seen a dog fight or a person bitten.

Don't close Fort Funston to dogs!

4287-01-2



"bettina lambert"
<bettinall@netzero.net
>

03/21/2002 10:07 PM
EST

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

Thursday, March 21, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

bettina lambert
355 coronado ave #16
long beach, CA 90814
bettinall@netzero.net

4288-01-3B

Chris Powell
03/21/2002 05:04 PM
PST

To: goga_Pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: KEEP DOGS LEASHED!

----- Forwarded by Chris Powell/GOGA/NPS on 03/21/02 04:57 PM -----



George Su
03/21/02 04:25 PM PST

To: Chris Powell/GOGA/NPS@NPS
cc:
Subject: KEEP DOGS LEASHED!

George Su
Media Specialist / Web Coordinator
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4758
george_su@nps.gov
<http://www.nps.gov/goga>

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

----- Forwarded by George Su/GOGA/NPS on 03/21/02 04:38 PM -----



TRieseSF@aol.com
03/21/02 06:51 PM EST

To: George_Su@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: KEEP DOGS LEASHED!

DO NOT BE TERRORIZED BY DOG OWNING THUGS. PROTECT THE MAJORITY FROM PREDATIONS AND INDIGNITIES OF UNLEASHED CANINES. KEEP DOGS LEASHED.

4289-01-1A



"Andrea Webb"
<andrea@sfcapc.org>

03/21/2002 05:17 PM

PST

Please respond to
"Andrea Webb"

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>

cc:

Subject: off leash allowance in GGNRA

I am a responsible pet owner, and I support the off leash allowance in GGNRA

It is a small area, that pet owners are careful to maintain clean and pick up after their pets.....

Please keep this dog loving asset possible for SF residents.

Thank you
Andrea Webb
San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center
1757 Waller St.
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 387-3684

4290-02-1B

Chris Powell
03/21/2002 04:20 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
CC:
Subject: SAY "NO" TO OFF-LEASE DOGS IN OUR GGNRA!!!

----- Forwarded by Chris Powell/GOGA/NPS on 03/21/02 04:13 PM -----



George Su
03/21/02 12:18 PM PST

To: Chris Powell/GOGA/NPS@NPS
CC:
Subject: SAY "NO" TO OFF-LEASE DOGS IN OUR GGNRA!!!

George Su
Media Specialist / Web Coordinator
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4758
george_su@nps.gov
<http://www.nps.gov/goga>

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

----- Forwarded by George Su/GOGA/NPS on 03/21/02 12:11 PM -----



JMBKanga2@aol.com
03/21/02 01:10 PM EST

To: George_Su@nps.gov
CC:
Subject: SAY "NO" TO OFF-LEASE DOGS IN OUR GGNRA!!!

Off lease cogs do NOT belong in our Golden Gate National Recreation Area!
While dog owners whine "all my dog wants to do is run" I counter that:

All I want is go hiking on our many beautiful public hiking areas without having to step through the disgusting piles of dog excrement left on the trail by dog owners who do not clean up after their pets, even while on a leash it'll be worse if these dogs are not on a leash.

All I want to do is hike through our public meadows and woods without fear of being attacked and bitten by large dogs running wild through these areas.

All I want is to take my children to our beautiful parks and public recreation areas where they can run and play without fear of being chased, attacked or bitten by dogs without leashes.

All I want is to enjoy our public recreation areas with my friends and family without being sniffed at inappropriately by large dogs running through the parks without leashes.

All I want is to enjoy these public areas without my rights being infringed upon by dog owners who choose not to obey the leash laws in these areas. We all have many freedoms to do almost whatever we want to do only so long as we are not infringing on the rights of others. If you harbor an animal capable of inflicting injury on your neighbor, you are infringing on the

42

4290-021B

rights of your neighbor.

All I want is for dog owners to understand that while their pet may be cuddly and affectionate toward them (dogs are loyal to whomever feeds them - and they've bonded), dogs are still animals and instinctively will regard persons unknown as threats and will attempt to "protect their turf" by chasing or attacking people they do not know. Dog owners are irrational and illogical when it comes to their pets and cannot comprehend the public point of view.

All I want is for the Humane Society to have no say in this debate. The Society has no interest in protecting people from dangerous animals. Their mission is to protect animals from people and thus they are incapable of offering an unbiased and logical point of view on this subject.

All I want is for some agency or entity to protect the public from dangerous animals. The Humane Society does not do this so who will? Before Diane Whipple's tragic murder by mauling, there were at least 30 complaints against the dogs who ultimately killed her, yet nothing was done to remove them. The most the Humane Society seems willing or able to do is to quarantine dangerous dogs for ten days (a doggie "time out"), and then the dogs are returned to their owners without restriction. Why are they not required to wear a muzzle after just one attack?

All I want is for us as a society to value people more than we value animals.

Please enforce our existing laws to protect and safeguard everyone who uses our Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

J.M.Barbarita
5 Adobe Ct.
Novato, CA 94945
415 897 3948

4291-01-3B



TRieseSF@aol.com
03/21/2002 07:00 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: KEEP DOGS LEASHED!

DO NOT GIVE IN TO THE SHAMEFUL STRONGARM TACTICS OF THE DOG OWNING THUGS.
PROTECT THE PARKLANDS FOR THE MAJORITY OF CITIZENS WHO WISH TO BE ALLOWED TO
ENJOY THEIR RECREATION AREA WITHOUT SUFFERING THE PREDATIONS AND INDIGNITIES OF
UNCONTROLLED CANINES NOR THE SELF-CENTERED INSULTS OF THEIR OWNERS.

4292-01-1D



Scres@aol.com

03/21/2002 05:11 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Offleash Regulations

Please do whatever you can to create special off-leash areas in the GGNRA so that we dog owners have a place to exercise our dogs. Recognizing the valid concerns of protecting snowy plover and other T&E species, in the vast acreage of the GGNRA, there must be areas that could be set aside as off-leash areas. Dog owners have been gradually forced into smaller and fewer locations where they can play with their dogs off-leash. The need for off-leash areas is something that the GGNRA should be able to accomadate.

**Scott Cressey
147 Ashbury Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
510-525-4389**

4293-01-1A



"Roger Williams"
<rogervilliams@mind
spring.com>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc: "Roger Williams" <rogervilliams@mindspring.com>
Subject: Comments on ANPR

03/21/2002 12:11 PM
PST

My input on the ANPR is that, since the GGNRA is an urban not a wilderness park, dog-walking should be allowed in some areas of the park. These should be areas in or near San Francisco. There is no need for dogs to be allowed in the park anywhere north of the Marin Headlands.

If dogs are allowed in urban areas of the park, this should be in designated Dog Recreation Areas, which are located away from high-use paths and areas used by walkers, joggers, cyclists, picnic-ers, etc.

For example, today in Crissy Field, especially at weekends, dog-walkers block the paths around the East Beach car park, with unleashed dogs, littering dogs, long leads, squabbling dogs, etc. This density of dog walkers creates an environment that is not hospitable, and in some cases is hazardous, to other park users. However, the large grass areas of the Historic Airfield are completely empty and unused most of the time. Designating part of the Historic Airfield for dog recreation would keep dogs away from the highly-used pathways by the beach and from children using the beach, and also not threaten wildlife habitats.

Similar problems occur at Fort Funston, where again, certain areas could be designated for dog-walking that left the rest of the park hospitable to other users.

Regards

Roger Williams

440 Davis Court, Apt 704
San Francisco, CA 94111

4294-01-1A



LESLOUIE@aol.com
03/21/2002 02:36 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
CC:
Subject: Off-Leash Walking

I AM WRITING TO SUPPORT OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING IN THE GGNRA.

Thank you,

Lester Louie
857 Dartmouth Street
San Francisco, CA 94134

4295-01-1A



STEPMEEKS@aol.com

03/21/2002 02:31 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Off-Leash Walking

I am writing to let you know of my support for off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA.

Thank you.

Stephen C. Meeks
857 Dartmouth Street
San Francisco, CA 94134

GGNRA013703

To Whom It May Concern: 4296-01-2

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Maiche Bat

Maiche Bat, CA 92012

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern: 4297-01-1D

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Paul A. Cypell

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern: 4298-01-2

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Gary Collier
GARY COLLIER

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

2311 Apple St
IRVINE, CA 92618

To Whom It May Concern: 4299-01-3A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Gary Thompson
Gary Thompson

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA

4300-01-1A

RECEIVED

To Whom It May Concern:

MAR 22 2002

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. Support: Optics Area
proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Laura Silverman

Laura Silverman
2800 Filbert # 10
San Francisco, CA 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

4301-01-3A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Brad Thompson

Brad Thompson

Naples, FL

To Whom It May Concern:

4302-01-3A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Chris Thompson

Chris Thompson

Naples, FL

To Whom It May Concern:

4303-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Carlyn Halde, P.E.D.

63 Park Hill Ave

San Francisco 94117

Ms. Carlyn Halde
63 Park Hill Ave
San Francisco, CA 94117

To Whom It May Concern:

4304-01-2

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Phyllis Collier

2711 Park Hill

IRVINE, CA 92618

4305-02-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

CAROL C. COPSEY
2761 GREENWICH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123

(415) 567-8525
ccc@berkeleylawgroup.com

March 18, 2002

Superintendent Brian O'Neill
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR)
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

In the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's ("GGNRA") Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FR Doc. 02-568, filed January 10, 2002 ("ANPR"), I am part of an enormous public support to create an exemption to continue the long-standing tradition of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. GGNRA should not renege on the 1979 pet policy but should continue offleash activities in those areas previously set aside for offleash use and also expand offleash use.

I know that there is room for offleash activity in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. Off-leash activity can continue while respecting other park uses, including preservation of natural resources and other recreational uses. San Francisco in particular has a history of tolerance and diversity, and has and can continue to carry this tradition to park usage.

It is ridiculous to make this an issue concerning minorities and disabled. I know many women who walk with their dogs offleash while they are pregnant. One friend is currently 7 months pregnant with twins, and she now takes her family dog offleash to Crissy Field so that both she and her dog can get adequate exercise.

I also walk with offleash dogs at Crissy Field with elderly neighbors, especially two good friends who are 65 and 70 years of age. These and other seniors have told me that they enjoy having their dogs offleash, as they otherwise have difficulty getting enough onleash exercise for their energetic dogs. They have also told me that they find offleash walking more comfortable as onleash walking can be uncomfortable due to ailments they have because of their age. I also often walk with offleash dogs with friends who have a variety of disabilities, such as AIDS, and they have told me that they are greatly restored by enjoying the park with offleash dogs.

I make a concerted effort to encourage children to visit with my dog and while they pet her, I try to provide kids some education and confidence about dogs. My dog is less skeptical of loud or rambunctious children when she is offleash. I have noticed that the openness of Bella's offleash attitude in turn causes some children to be able to be more interactive with her when she is offleash than when she is onleash. Parents of these children frequently express great appreciation to me for this interaction. I have walked at Crissy Field and other areas of GGNRA with friends' children, who rejoice in playing with dogs offleash.

GGNRA013707

1/2

Through the Marin Humane Society's SHARE program, I regularly take Bella to visit the Marin Rehabilitation and Convalescent skilled nursing facility in Tiburon. To see the happiness that a little dog brings, interestingly particularly to the male residents in nursing facilities, is one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. Pet therapy is intense work for animals, and after Bella's work at the nursing home, the very best reward for her is off-leash socialization and exercise. While I note the importance of offleash for working dogs, it is important for many other reasons to all dogs.

I pick up my dog's poop. I pick up other people's dogs' poop. If I see a dog owner who has not picked up his dog's poop, I ask him to do so. I observe rules, including related to dog avoidance of areas that are off limits due to sensitive plant or wildlife habitats. I walk in ways that minimize erosion, such as not walking widely around puddles. Partly because my dog has been sick after she ate trash left by other park users, I leave parks clean and do not leave any trash behind.

The ANPR document is terribly biased against off-leash recreation. It purports to recite the "Past Pet Management at GGNRA", but ignores the history of offleash activity on GGNRA that occurred before San Francisco gave the property to GGNRA. As you well know, off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA and when the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 U.S.C., section 460bb).

The lack of notification, especially in the form of adequate signs at trailheads where dogs have historically been offleash also shows the bias of the ANPR process. For example, there are no signs at such locations as the trailheads of Oakwood Valley in Marin (where the sign stating that dogs were permitted offleash under voice control was removed in late July/early August 2001). This is inadequate to inform the large number of park users in these locations who walk their dogs at these locations, which caused the low public attendance at the informational meeting at the Marin Civic Center on March 13, 2002. Also, the fax number that you have published for public comment, 415/561-4355 (which also was incorrectly noted in the San Francisco Chronicle on March 11, 2002), has been busy constantly for the past 10 days. If you are going to accept comment via fax, you should have adequate dedicated lines for that communication to be transmitted to you. Attached are copies of fax cover sheets reflecting busy line last week.

I believe that a recent illustration of strong public support for offleash appears in the March 5, 2002 ballot race for the SF Public Defender. As a board member of the only statewide women lawyers bar dedicated to the advancement of women in the legal profession, I was recruited to support Kimiko Burton for Public Defender. Jeff Adachi defended the recent case of Dennis Tanaka cited at GGNRA for offleash walking. For that reason, and for that reason only, I supported and lobbied for Jeff Adachi, and I know others who did the same. I can only hope and believe that the community of people with offleash dogs contributed to Jeff's success against a politically powerful opponent.

I am 100% confident that people with offleash dogs will retain and expand their rights at GGNRA. Although you have not demonstrated it thusfar, I still hope you will be part of the solution to balancing park users needs. I appreciate your help in this process and thank you for your attention to this.

Very Truly Yours,

Carol C. Copsy

Carol C. Copsy cc:encl.

RECEIVED

4306-01-1A

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Dear Superintendent:

In response to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's ("GGNRA") Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("ANPR") FR Doc. 02-568, filed January 10, 2002, I support the long-standing tradition of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. I don't own a dog myself, but I still feel that they're an important part of city life, and I think it's inhumane to prohibit them from playing and running off leash in appropriate areas. And the GGNRA parks are appropriate areas. I enjoy seeing other people run their dogs off leash—as long as the owners mind the dogs properly. And in my experience they have.

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

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

Thank you for your attention to this.

Gina Judd - 126 Jones St
SAN FRANCISCO, CA - 94109

4307-02-2

March 11, 2002

RECEIVED

Andrea Carlise
2835 Johnson Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501
510/521-9879

MAR 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Via Fax: 415/561-4355

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

Dear Superintendent:

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

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

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

There is room for offleash activity in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. Off-

4367-02-2

leash activity can continue while respecting other park uses, including preservation of natural resources and other recreational uses.

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

Thank you for your attention to this.

Very Truly Yours,

Andrea Carlise

Andrea Carlise

4308-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: _____

R. Michael Lieberman

(printed)

1398 Post Street

Address: _____

San Francisco, CA 94109

415.929-3199

(zip)

(state)

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: _____

Date

3/15/02

(optional: Age: 41

Sex M F

Ethnicity W)

4309-02-2

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

March 11, 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Charles Carlise
2835 Johnson Avenue
Alamdea, CA 94501
510/21-9879

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

Dear Superintendent:

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

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

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

There is room for offleash activity in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. Off-

1/2

leash activity can continue while respecting other park uses, including preservation of natural resources and other recreational uses.

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

Thank you for your attention to this.

Very Truly Yours,

Charles Carlise / AC

Charles Carlise

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4310-01-1D

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

Name: Nancy Merritt (printed)
Address: 1423 Norvell St. El Cerrito CA 94530
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Nancy Merritt Date 03/18/02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity Caucasian)
Version 2.2

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4311-01-1D

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

Name: Douglas L. Merritt (printed)
Address: 1423 Norvell (street) San Francisco (city) CA (state) 94530 (zip)

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Douglas L. Merritt Date March 18, 2002 Optional: Age: _____ Sex M (F) Ethnicity _____
Version 2.2

March 9, 2002
GGNRA013716



4312-01-1A

LYNN PETRA NELSON Fine Art — Illustration — Graphic Design **415-626-5807**

March 18, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Subject: Off-Leash recreation

I moved to San Francisco in 1959, and have enjoyed this wonderful city since then. Our family has always had pets—sometimes dogs. Since the establishment of the GGNRA, I have enjoyed watching children (and adults) play and romp in the park areas with their off-leash dogs, throwing balls and Frisbees, and thoroughly enjoying themselves. I want to thank you for fostering that environment.

At this point in time, I am a single, senior citizen living alone in San Francisco. Since my adult children felt I should not be completely alone, I have a wonderful companion dog—a Wheaten Terrier (mix) adopted from ACC, San Francisco. We socialize and meet with many of our neighbors who also have well-trained dogs. My disabled uncle, in his wheel chair, enjoys tossing a ball for my dog to chase and retrieve. Exercise and companionship are essential ingredients of good health—for humans and canines both.

As I understand it, San Francisco transferred its parks and beaches to the GGNRA with the understanding that all existing activities would continue...off-leash recreation included. The maintenance of recreational open space is tremendously important in our urban setting, and so is the continuation of the use policies so many of us enjoy.

The presence of dog walkers, especially in the late evening, seems to discourage some of the more villainous elements in our city from taking over our neighborhood parks and open spaces. If people are forced to move out of this city seeking communities that allow off-leash recreation, we will have that many less responsible people in our parks.

I ask that you support the needs of the residents of our city who have canine companions, and who contribute so much to the community.

Sincerely,

Lynn Petra Nelson

4313-01-1A

03/04/02

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing this letter in hopes that dogs will be allowed to run off-leash at Crissy Field. Without an area for the dogs to play, their social development will be adversely impaired. It is vital that our dogs be allowed to release their energy and socialize with other dogs. It is necessary not only for the dogs but for the owners as well. If our companions don't get the exercise they need, their pent up energy gets redirected into negative venues such as furniture chewing and incessant barking. As well as aggression. Crissy Field is an ideal place for dogs to swim, run and play. There are few spaces big enough to accommodate play activities for a dog. With the beach and water, Crissy Field offers the necessary ingredients to keep the dogs and the owners both physically and mentally healthy. Dogs and their owners have coexisted at Crissy Field with other recreational users for many years without conflict. I see no reason why we can't continue to do so. Please allow the dogs to run free at Crissy Field.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Heiser
935 Dolores St.
San Francisco, CA. 94110

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

MAR 22 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4314-01-1A

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

Name: LINDA RAMEY (printed)
 Address: 65 GATES ST. S.F. CA. 94110
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

I walk my dogs every day at Fort Funston. I am 60 years old and consider these walks essential for my well-being and the well-being of my dogs. It is important for me to walk one of my dogs off-leash - he is a border collie and has lots of energy. Several people that I see every morning are seniors - some have dogs, some don't. Two ^{older} women in particular mentioned that they felt safe at Fort Funston because of the presence of dogs & dog walkers. I definitely feel safe at Fort Funston in the winter I'm out in the morning while it's still dark - there aren't many other places in the city where I would feel this safe. I think that Fort Funston should continue to operate as an off-leash area - this area was actually a gift from San Francisco to GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash dog walking would continue. This arrangement has worked well for many years. Don't take it away from us.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Linda Ramey Date 3/18/02 (optional: Age: 60 Sex M F Ethnicity)
 Version 2.0

4315-01-1A

Superintendent O'Neill:

FAX To: 415 561 4355

Date: 3/20/02

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

Name: M. DeJani (optional: Age: Sex: M F Ethnicity:)
Address: 18 Seal Rock Dr. S.F. CA 94121
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

I live right in the area... too many dogs off the leash... tons of dog feces... I have been reducing my walking activity over the years because there are too many dogs off the leash

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

I do NOT own any animal at this time -

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

OFF leash and on leash dogs should be prohibited in or around the beach area & the Parks especially when there are huge crowds visiting... They should only be allowed around the southern end of the beach near Pacifica

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

It would be better if we do not allow dogs on these beaches + GGNRA parks altogether. Dogs should only be allowed in designated areas at the southern end of ocean beach nearer to Pacifica

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

No I do not feel safe with the dogs around off leash I have 2 small children who get scared by these dogs... in fact one almost bit my 2 year old daughter.

Signed: M. DeJani

Date: 3/20/02

4316-01-1A

PENELOPE WISNER

.....

20 March 2002

Mr. Brian O'Neill
Superintendent
GGNRA
Att: ANPR
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am very much in favor of off-leash dog/human recreation at Ft. Funston in the GGNRA. Your ANPR document is incorrect when it states that an off-leash policy was put in place "in error." More than twenty years of a policy affirmed by the National Park Service can hardly, at this point, be called an error. It is an established policy.

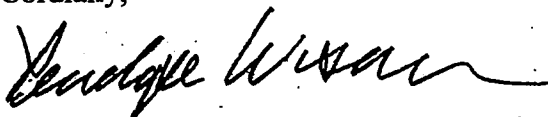
To speak of "preservation" is also misleading. Until ice plant stabilized the landscape, courtesy of the US military, the landscape was one of barren dunes blown back and forth. Ft. Funston is, essentially, an unstable landscape in the process of sinking and eroding. If you were to "restore and preserve" the landscape, then, instead of "native plants" (a myth) should become a military museum of coastal defenses.

As far as wildlife is concerned: In the past I have walked, with my dog off leash, past red tail hawks sitting in the middle of the open field to the south of the parking lot. The bird did not even fly away. Hang gliders and remote-controlled planes disturb birds while, yes, unfortunately, some dogs sometimes chase wildlife. However, they are very rarely successful. Feral cats are successful hunters and the GGNRA supports numbers of feral cat colonies. I was, in fact, bitten by a feral cat at Ft. Funston.

Ft. Funston's climate is cold, windy, foggy, and unpredictable. It is not often used for picnicking because of the weather, not because of off-leash dogs. The old developed picnic areas below the horse stables have long been abandoned except for the piles of garbage left by the homeless campers who make Ft. Funston their home.

If the NPS really cared about the GGNRA, then it would do something about the miles of beaches and the trash that accumulates there. The dog owners who frequent Ft. Funston are, for the most part, homeowners and tax payers. They deserve to be served as well as anyone else in the national parks. And, for the most part, they are more responsible about their use of public property. Do school groups organize monthly clean-ups? Do birders pick up bags of garbage from the beach and haul them up the cliff?

Cordially,



3845 17th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
Fax: 415-552-1928
Telephone: 415-552-6579

GGNRA013721

4317-01-1D

2039 Shattuck Avenue, # 202
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 849-4424
March 18, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Re: Off-Leash in GGNRA

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

I hope you will again permit the use of a portion of the GGNRA for off-leash recreation. We have a traditional family, with a traditional sheep dog, and part of our lifestyle has been outings where our family can have fun with our dog in open areas.

The parklands of our country should be available to all citizens. Active recreation such as we engage in is healthy for families and for the nation, and we believe our government should encourage it.

I hope you will allow dogs off-leash in your park areas. It's part of the American way.

Very truly yours,


Walter K. Pyle

THOMAS L. FRANKEL
214 SPRUCE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94118

3-13-02

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Ladies + Gentlemen:

The attached letter of Louise Frankel echoes my sentiments on the matter of off leash use of portions of the GG NRA.

As a responsible dog owner, I have been making use of the Chissy Field area with my dog off leash for many years. All dogs that I have seen are under total control of their owners, and are carefully picked up after.

Sincerely,

Thomas Frankel

**LOUISE FRANKEL
2710 SCOTT STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123
415/931-2710 (V)
415/931-2730 (F)**

6 March 2002

**Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123**

Att'n: ANPR

Re: Pet management in GGNRA: Need for off-leash recreation areas for dogs

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Park Service rules prohibiting off-leash dog walking in national parks are not written in granite. They are intended to apply primarily to wild areas. There are many good reasons for them not to apply to our unique urban park.

16

1. The legislative policy for such an exception was set forth in U.S.C. 460 bb when the GGNRA was established to maintain "recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning." A plan for Crissy Field some five years ago proposed substantial acreage for dogs off leash, with the lagoon and native plants fenced off. Indeed, since 1979 the Park Service has permitted this use, and thus created a public expectation that dog owners may exercise their dogs off leash in certain areas.
2. Many recreational and park uses should and do exist. Seventy-five thousand acres can surely accommodate them all. The City and the GGNRA are a geographic entity in an urban area; they should be good neighbors and share the privileges and burdens of their beautiful environment. While many residents are concerned about the natural features of the Park, flora and fauna, the Park Service itself has shown they can be readily protected without sacrificing generous off-leash dog walking areas. After all, bicyclists, runners, skaters, other sportspersons, even picnics and parties, harm plants and alarm birds and wild animals too. And many non-dog-owners derive great pleasure from watching dogs frisking and playing on the beach.
3. As a good neighbor, the National Park Service must know that the more restrictive and punitive it is toward the dog-owning community, the more dog owners will have to burden city parks and streets. There is plenty of room for everyone. Indeed, the City's population has decreased in recent decades, whereas the dog population has expanded a lot.
4. The dog owners who use the GGNRA for dog exercise and recreation are responsible people who pick up after their pets (and those few forgetful owners too), and keep them under voice control. While the Park Service has been tracking dog-bite incidents, these

-2-

are rare compared with the number of dogs that are exercised. Surely there are many bicycle-caused injuries, runners' collisions, children's accidents, sports injuries, physical disputes causing harm. Should all these activities be forbidden in the Park? **NO HUMAN OR ANIMAL ACTIVITY IS 100% SAFE.**

5. There is plenty of beach adjacent to Crissy Field for unleashed dog recreation. It is an ideal area for that purpose. Sport dogs can swim in the ocean. The dogs do not interfere with other uses (sports, running, biking, picnicking, etc.) for which there is ample other space unaffected by loose dogs. And there are other beach areas (presently off limits) that are equally ideal for off-leash dog recreation.

6. The National Park Service is often viewed as inflexible and bureaucratic in its dealings with the public (i.e. the taxpayers who support it). While this may be a common attitude toward entrenched officialdom, I am certain the current debate about off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA offers a unique, indeed heaven-sent, opportunity for the Park Service to demonstrate conciliation, good will, and consideration toward all the citizen interests subject to its rule-making. Public lands should open as appropriate to all legitimate varieties of public use, and one of those uses has traditionally included unleashed dog recreation.

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

Respectfully,

Louise Frankel

4319-01-1A

March 20, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Friends,

I strongly support off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. My experience with off-leash has been at Crissy Field and Fort Funston, and it has been overwhelmingly positive for the following reasons:

- The happiness of "man's best friend" as they enjoy the beach, the water, other dogs, and other people
- The pleasure all people express as they see the dogs at play and running free
- The care that people take in cleaning up after their dogs
- The camaraderie and friendships formed among people introduced to each other by their dogs

My experience as a San Francisco police officer for 7 years tells me that many people in our beautiful but crowded city, treasure and need the companionship that they have with their dogs. San Franciscans derive tremendous happiness from the off-leash opportunities at the GGNRA.

I firmly believe that people will be very grateful to the GGNRA if you decide to allow off-leash, and that this will lead to even closer adherence to dog rules throughout the whole GGNRA. To discontinue off-leash in the GGNRA will be a disaster both emotionally and physically for all involved.

Please call me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Michael White

C/O Central Police Station

766 Vallejo Street

San Francisco, CA 94133

MAR 22 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4320-01-1A

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

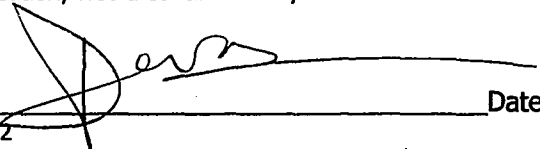
Name: DAVID ASSA (printed)
Address: 71 Glenview SF CA 94131
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Being of cultural minority (Jewish) and racial minority (Black), I represent an example of two groups that do use the off-leash areas and strongly wish to continue to do so.

The agreement between GGNRA and the City should not be broken. The removal of off-leash rights would be an infringement on both human and canine freedom and rights - Sincerely.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed:  Date March 19th 02 (optional: Age: 36 Sex M F Ethnicity Black)
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002
GGNRA013727

4321-01-1 E

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Mark Miller (printed)

Address: 3724 Kirk Rd - San Jose CA 95128
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Please allow dog owners a place to let our dogs exercise off leash. It is a healthy activity for owners and dogs alike.

I know it will take some creativity to write ^{an} ordinance to allow this, but please do it for the animals' sake.

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Mark Miller Date 3/15/02 (optional: Age: 50 Sex (M) F Ethnicity _____)

4322-01-1A

2484 21st Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116

21 March 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

RE: Endangered Plants in Off-Leash Areas?

I attended the panel discussion regarding the restoration of off-leash recreation on less than 1% of GGNRA properties on March 19, 2002. I am writing to respond to some of the concerns expressed by Michele Jespersion, who was speaking for the National Parks Conservation Association.

Ms. Jespersion stated that there are many species of endangered plants on properties managed by the GGNRA. While that may be true, **there are no species of endangered plants on those few areas in which off-leash recreation was permitted** until a few months ago. However, US Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to plant endangered species in many of these areas, including one of the most heavily used parks, Fort Funston. In it's so-called "recovery plan" the US Fish and Wildlife Service states that all trees and shrubs at Fort Funston would have to be destroyed in order to recreate the shifting sand dunes that would support the particular species of endangered plant. If destroying hundreds of trees and shrubs does not constitute "impairment" of the valuable natural resources, which the Park Service claims to be responsible for conserving, one wonders what does!

Ms. Jespersion also claims to be concerned about the precedent that would be set for other National Parks by permitting off-leash recreation in a few small areas of the GGNRA. If there is another National Park in which off-leash recreation has occurred for decades and the people of that community were also promised that their recreational use of the park would be retained by the Park Service, then a precedent would be applied appropriately to that park. If such preconditions do not exist elsewhere, the Park Service and the National Parks Conservation Association need not be concerned about setting a precedent. This is merely another in a long list of red herrings that have been dragged across our well-worn path in the past few years.

Sincerely,


Mary McAllister

4323-01-1A

San Francisco

March 21

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

I wish to comment on dog policy in the park.

Dog owners who use the parks for dog toilets and exercise space are bullies. They will tolerate no interference in their free use of park space, no matter the mess or the bother to others.

But you know that.

When I go to the park I would like to be free of dogs. I would like to walk in an area unsoiled by dogs, rest under a tree that is not a pissoir, lie on grass that is not urine soaked. I cannot do that.

But you know that.

Walking on a paved path in a park the other day, I was passed by a young man and his dog. The dog was very large and very tense and angry. It was so tense and angry that it was walking stiff legged and glowering at me as if I were an intruder. It is rare that I am so afraid of a dog, but the owner was unaware of the dog's threat; he was talking on his phone. Normally I love dogs and am at ease with them, but this dog was vicious. Someday someone will pay.

It infuriates me to see dogs chase the shore birds at Ocean Beach, but I've noticed that the owners are seldom aware of the dog's behavior. They apparently think it is normal for dogs to chase shore birds, but the beach is bird habitat and not the dog's habitat.

I would like to have dog-free parks. The dog owners want dog toilets. The dog owners want nothing to hinder the freedom of their dogs. The dog owners are not too concerned about my freedoms.

Nothing will be done. The dog owners are an irresistible force. Nothing will be done. It's a big shame.

Cecil W. Blank
2691 20th Avenue, Apt. A
San Francisco 94116

Cecil W. Blank

Superintendent O'Neill:

4324-01-1A

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

Name: Elizabeth Do (printed)
Address: 71 Glenview Dr San Fran CA 94131
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I feel that we should ~~be~~ continued to have the privilege to walk our dogs off-leash on all areas presently available as well as some others.

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: EDO Date 3/19/02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)
Version 2.2

March 9, 2002
GGNRA013731
Vietnamese

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4325-01-1A

Date: 3-16-02

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

Name: Cheresh Finer (optional: Age: 32 Sex M Ethnicity)

Address: 279 Bella Vista Way San Francisco CA 94127
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

I visit Fort Funston at least twice a week to play with my dog. I like visiting Fort Funston because there are lots of dogs off leash for my dog to play with.

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

On several occasions I have brought friends and family on my walks to Fort Funston. My parents were so impressed with the place and its dog friendly attitude they want to get a dog and move to San Francisco. Hard to believe but true.

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

I believe there should be off-leash recreation areas. I do not believe dog runs will provide the same recreational experience or are even a reasonable alternative to the current open spaces available. Dogs & their owners run & play together in these areas. Large open spaces are necessary to fulfill these needs. I believe

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

One alternative to the concerns of GGNRA, rather than leash laws, is to police the area to ensure that dog owners keep dogs off prohibited areas, dogs are under voice control & that owners pick-up after their dog. Dog owners want to keep open spaces nice for giving citations to those who don't respect others & the space is the most effective way to balance the needs of owners & non-dog owners.

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

I feel uncomfortable around dogs (whether on a leash or not) if they are not controlled by their owners. I am like people who are afraid of dogs. No off-leash areas would hinder my weekend recreation time and my quality time with my dog. It seems like the most harsh alternative out of all the alternatives available.

NEVER.

RECEIVED

Signed: Cheresh Finer

MAR 22 2002

Date: 3-16-02

GGNRA 012732

4326-02-1A

Courtney Weaver
1646 Lyon Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 921-8230
cfweaver@mindspring.com

RECEIVED

MAR 23 2002

COMPLAINTS OFFICE

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

March 20, 2002

RE: Pet Management in GGNRA

Dear Sir or Madam,

Laws that prohibit off-leash dog walking in national parks are well-meaning, but wrong-headed in this instance. There are many reasons why a relatively tiny section of the GGNRA should allow off-leash recreation – reasons that also can accommodate other uses for the park.

1. The current hysteria about off-leash dog walking is undoubtedly being influenced by the high-profile dog mauling case currently being tried in Los Angeles. The horrible tragedy inflicted upon Diane Whipple should be a wake-up call to everyone: dog owners need to be responsible, and cognizant of the primary rule of dog behavior, which is socialization. No unruly or menacing dog should be off-leash, but the reality is that the overwhelming majority of San Francisco dogs are not by any stretch of the imagination as unsocialized as the infamous Bane and Hera. Dogs need to be exercised in varying degrees, depending upon the breed, but almost all need some off-leash running. An area where a dog can safely frolic with other dogs and people is the first step of training. An unexercised dog is a bored, unhappy dog – leading to bad behavior such as digging, chewing and yes, growling and aggressiveness.
2. Parks and recreation areas should be multi-purpose. I often walk at Crissy Field out to Fort Point, and am “menaced” constantly by bicyclists bearing down the road or blissed-out runners who are completely unaware of the pedestrians around them. Do we ban bicyclists, runners, or even chatting pedestrians who aren’t sensitive to others? Of course not. I don’t necessarily love the cyclists who come within inches of colliding with me, but I respect their right to be there. I walk to the side and hope they are responsible with their machines. I would respectfully submit that there have been far more bicycle/pedestrian collisions than there are dog bites in any give time period at Crissy Field.

4326-02-1A

3. The GGNRA consists of over 75,000 acres of land in the Bay Area. Surely the National Park Service can designate a few acres (.001%) for off-leash dog walking. It does no good to be punitive to the dog community, a vocal and avid minority who by and large are respectful to their non-dog owning neighbors. Our dogs are part of our families: we keep them under voice control, we pick up after them. Those that don't should be cited.
4. The beach area adjacent to Crissy Field is a place where dogs swim and frolic, and children play and wade. On any given day, you may see them peacefully coexist. No one begrudges the children their play area, even though there are acres and acres of beach and picnic areas further west where off-leash dogs are not allowed. Children playing in the off-leash dog area in turn grow up viewing dogs not as hazardous threats but the loving, playful creatures they by and large are. Additionally, it gives children an opportunity to learn unfamiliar dog etiquette in real life, instead of instilling them with fear and paranoia which is solely based on what they might have seen on television and movies.
5. Given all the nasty publicity about the incompetence of the Presidio Trust (in the public's mind, they, the GGNRA and the National Park Service are interchangeable) I would think this is a unique opportunity to demonstrate that these organizations do indeed listen and are cooperative with all segments of the tax-paying population of San Francisco.

In sum, there is room for everyone in the GGNRA. Please do not bend to the sway of short-lived hysteria, pumped up by a hungry media, and instead consider the long term benefits of appropriate off-leash areas in San Francisco's back yard.

Yours sincerely,


Courtney Weaver

2/2

4327 -02- 1A

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

March 20, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to urge you to abide by the 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission's policy and continue to allow off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA.

I consider myself a conscientious dog owner who also happens to be concerned about environmental issues. I adore the GGNRA park system and have even donated money in the past. For the last 15 years, and well before I had a dog, I have enjoyed running, hiking, and bicycling on the trails and beaches from Funston to Bolinas Ridge. Now I enjoy taking my dog to the various GGNRA areas that allow it, and I've been deeply grateful for the opportunity.

Dogs, like people, need exercise. Off-leash areas help to contribute to healthy, socialized, and well-adjusted dogs. Dogs unable to run become unhealthy, depressed, and more inclined to behavior problems and anti-social behavior, which is never good for the community. I live in a small rental apartment without access to a yard, and so I absolutely rely on public spaces to exercise my dog.

Off-leash areas also help to contribute to the health and well-being of dog owners! I'm much more inclined to get out and exercise when I can take my dog with me. And I've built friendships and secured jobs from people I've met in dog-friendly parks. I've become a more social person by interacting with other dog owners, and as a consequence, I feel more connected to and engaged with my community; I'm living better, and I'm happier.

Of course, dog owners must take responsibility for their dogs. It's a shame that a small minority of irresponsible owners or bad dogs can give all of us a bad name. In my experience, often it's the troublemakers themselves who *don't* regularly take their dogs out into the public spaces, where a) their dogs can exercise and socialize; and where b) their owners learn themselves how to deal appropriately with their dogs. There is a dog ownership "code of ethics," a set of unwritten rules of responsible dog ownership that

1/2

4327-02-1A

we learn when we take our dogs out into public spaces; we educate and police each other ("Need a bag?"). Off-leash recreation areas contribute to responsible dog ownership in a very real way.

I'm familiar with the environmental issues facing the Bay Area, and I'm very sympathetic to preservation concerns. I have volunteered my time to the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (including their Snowy Plover Census Project a decade back) and am definitely pro-environment in political matters. And I know ice plant and eucalyptus are not on the list of species of special concern. Rather, Fort Funston and many other areas are so environmentally degraded that natural preservation cannot be a reason to restrict off-leash activity.

In those areas of the park in which natural resources preservation are paramount (e.g., Muir Woods), I respect that dogs are to be kept away, and that, as in all good policy, a balance must be made. But previously designated off-leash areas comprise **only 0.5% of GGNRA lands.**

National parks have historically sought to find a balance between recreational activities and preservation. We've found ways to balance much more destructive and invasive recreational activities on federal lands, such as snowmobiling and hunting. Surely we can find a way to work this one out.

My dog *is* my family. Watching him run on the beach is an incomparably joyous experience for him and me both—and anyone else who happens to be around watching. Dog people are generally happy people; we smile a lot, we laugh out loud in front of strangers when our dogs play. We need more of this joy in the world, not less. Please, let's find a way to keep designated off-leash areas in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Most sincerely,



Lee K. Cline

590 Utah Street

San Francisco, CA 94110

415.626.6948

coydog@mindspring.com

2/2

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4328-01-1A

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

Name: Helene Asa (printed)
Address: 71 Glenview Drive SF California 94131
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

A city without off-leash dogs would be contradictory to many things San Francisco represents. A place of liberty that hasn't become like other metropolises.

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Helene Asa Date March 2002 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity Mixed
Version 2.2 Asa-Race
(Asian)
March 9, 2002
GGNRA013737

4329-01-1C

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Gretchen Irion (printed)
Address: 936 Castle Hill Road Redwood City CA 94061-1106
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I am a mother of 2 small children who enjoys walking my pointers off lead at Fort Funston. Some dog breeds require extensive daily exercise which cannot be acquired while the dog is leashed unless the owner happens to be a marathon runner. I always find the park well populated by people with their dogs. Fort Funston was the best place in the Bay Area to walk your dog. That is until the park service started fencing off areas and harassing the dog walkers.

It is my understanding that the land was given to GGNRA with the prerequisite that it would remain as recreational land for the people. It doesn't really seem fair for the federal government to dictate what type of recreation people should have at Fort Funston, especially since there is a 20 year precedent of off lead dog walking there. I also have a problem with people who do not frequent Fort Funston dictating what type of recreation is appropriate for the people who do frequent the park. If Fort Funston is closed to off lead dog walking, where will I be able to go to walk a few miles with my family so we can exercise together?

Sincerely,
Gretchen Irion, Pharm.D.
Redwood City

Keep Fort Funston OFF-Lead
Shannon Irion 1 1/2 yrs.



Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit?
- The Park Service has stated that child disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash recreation. Is this true – that these groups seek off-leash recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of recreation? Would you visit with visitors with you or meet up with friends if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a good use of this recreation area. Do you think that continuing off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: [Signature] Date 3-18-02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4330-01-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: Sara Witt & Andy Charmatz (printed)
Address: 3769 20th St. San Francisco CA 94110
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

We strongly support off-leash recreation in Dolores Park. We have two dogs -- Dolores Park was a big attraction for us when we purchased our home. We also have an 18-month old baby and enjoy the playground area on many days.

The best of both worlds would be for us to continue enjoying both wonderful aspects of this beautiful park. I was recently told that Duboce Park is rated the safest for young children -- it is lovely and fenced in & no one feels "imprisoned." If Dolores Park updated its large playground space & enclosed it in a similar style as Duboce Park, it would seem that off-leash dog walking/play could continue. This would seem like an ideal solution & we would totally support both.

It would be wonderful to keep community gathering with pets, kids, family & friends as part of our existence as communities have done for years -- hundreds of centuries!

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true -- that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Sara Witt Date 3/18/02 Optional: Age: 40 Sex M Ethnicity White

4331-01-1A

Ruth T. Herring, Attorney at Law

21 Seal Rock Drive, San Francisco, California 94121-1436
E-mail: ruth@herring-sf.com

(415) 751-7734
Fax (415) 751-7487

February 26, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

COMPLAINTS OFFICE

Dear Superintendent, GGNRA:

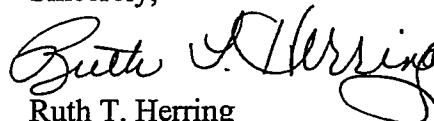
As a resident of the Land's End neighborhood in San Francisco for nearly 14 years, I would like to comment for the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management in Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I think we should all learn to share, and new rules would help!

I have been walking my dog at Land's End almost daily for seven years and even those who don't like or are afraid of dogs have learned that I will keep my dog out of their way unless they invite her for a pat (which she loves). The two miles daily at Land's End has been marvelous for both my dog's and my health - physical and mental. I would not get that from standing around in a pen, nor would my dog get exercise from the end of a 6-foot leash attached to a 55-year-old woman. When we started in 1995 it was legal for her to be off-leash there, yet I kept her on a leash on weekends and summer evenings, when it was crowded. But off-leash mornings were wonderful for both of us, and we have made lasting friends "on the trail" that we wouldn't have met otherwise, including the dear friend who kept me sane and provided comfort during my husband's terminal illness last year. Isn't that the best meaning of "Recreation"? - especially in a big city.

I think that it's the dogs' (and people's) behavior that should be of concern. It's not like all owners with dogs on leash pick up after them, or that dogs on leash don't bite (the Presa Canarios were on leash), or that they don't clothesline passers-by when on leash! In fact most dogs are safer in some ways - less fearful and defensive, for example - when off leash in a familiar area. But I can understand how families or people who have not grown up with dogs as pets can be fearful of dogs running up to them - I am too, sometimes, and so is my dog, even when the owners call out "He's friendly!" Dogs should be under control at all times when in public areas, for the safety and enjoyment of all. But it doesn't have to be only and always with a 6-foot leash. Information and education on dog behavior and people's responsibilities can go a long way to make the parks happy places for everyone

There's also the possibility of hours - like early mornings and evenings weekdays - for off-leash walking. And locations - developed areas should be leash only, I agree. The fact that some areas were officially and legally - and safely - off-leash for years, that San Francisco residents came to rely on this, and that the GGNRA promised to keep it that way when they took it over should count for something. I think I speak for the dozens of people I've met in the GGNRA who enjoy the park with their canine companions but are too busy living their ordinary lives to march on the GGNRA. The GGNRA, located in the middle of an urban area with 3 million residents and thousands of tourists needing healthy recreation, has not been "native" for hundreds of years. Please don't take away our beautiful "front yards" to restore them to a place no one alive can remember or enjoy.

Sincerely,


Ruth T. Herring

GGNRA013740

March 2, 02

Dear Sirs,

This is what I would like as uses in the GGNRA.

I would like horseback riding continued to be allowed in the Phleger Estate, I would like bicycles barred from the Phleger Estate because of the steep terrain + narrow trails,

Horses should be allowed on the bridle trails in Golden Gate Park + along the beach, I hope dogs will continue to be allowed where they are now.

Huddart Park is a county park, I hope horses will be allowed in there + bicycles barred because of the steep terrain, as it is now.

Thank you,

Mrs. Noel Moody

101 Alma #1008

Palo Alto, Ca. 94301

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Doug Moody

4333-01-1D
4334-01-1D

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

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

RE: Sierra Club members support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA

Dear Director O'Neill:

The undersigned Sierra Club members support continued off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. The uncompromising position against off-leash dogs adopted by the Sierra Club does not reflect the diversity of views in the Club.

The GGNRA was established to provide outdoor recreation in a densely populated urban area. Off-leash recreation was acknowledged at the outset as legitimate recreation. The citizenry of San Francisco were told traditional off-leash recreation would continue in the GGNRA when San Francisco gave its public parkland to the GGNRA. The off-leash policy was reaffirmed over the years by GGNRA officials.

The traditional off-leash areas in the GGNRA comprise less than 1% of the GGNRA. Off-leash dogs will continue to be banned from 99% of GGNRA land. The GGNRA is large enough to accommodate many recreational activities as well as protect the diversity of wildlife found there.

As GGNRA brochure said, while listing the off-leash areas for the public, "Remember, people, dogs, and wildlife can enjoy this park together if you follow these rules."

We remain committed to the protection of wildlife and natural resources. With proper land use management, the GGNRA can both protect the wildlife in its charge and continue traditional off-leash recreation on a small portion of its land.

Sincerely,

Jim Martin (of San Leandro CA)

Jane Fyfe (San Leandro, CA)

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4335-01-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

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

Name: Linda Pederson (printed)
Address: 1683 Greenwich Street San Francisco CA 94123
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I understand the need to have areas where dogs are on leashes, but it is very important to have areas where dogs can be off leash.

We have seen a variety of people at Fort Funston. Even though it is across town from our apartment, we go there because our dog Sydney loves it. I've seen elderly people, children, and people of all races enjoy Fort Funston with their dogs off leash. Please do not take our rights away. We live in San Francisco and do not want to see our rights taken away.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Linda Pederson Date 3/18/02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)

4336-01-2

1548 Notre Dame Avenue
Belmont, Ca. 94002
March 20, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent
GGNRA
Ft. Mason
Bldg 201
S.F., Ca. 94123

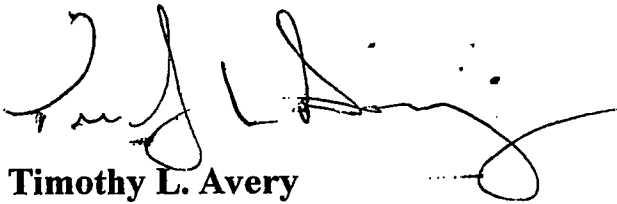
ATTN: ANPR

Please grant an exception to the "no off leash" rule for dogs in the Golden Gate National Recreational Area.

A small fenced area is not sufficient to allow dogs to properly socialize with each other.

Please help us keep all of our dogs civilized, socialized and well exercised by allowing them to be off leash under our close supervision as they are now.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.



**Timothy L. Avery
Owner of Pepe and Printemps
Two Black Standard Poodles who love to be off leash**

4337-01-2

1548 Notre Dame Avenue
Belmont, Ca. 94002
March 20, 2002

Superintendent
GGNRA
Ft. Mason
Bldg 201
S.F., Ca. 94123

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

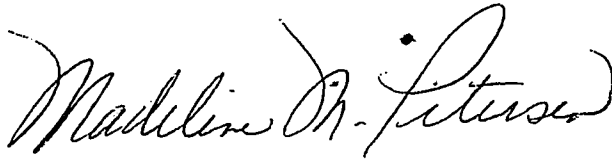
ATTN: ANPR

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A small fenced area is not sufficient to allow dogs to properly socialize with each other.

Please help us keep all of our dogs civilized, socialized and well exercised by allowing them to be off leash under our close supervision as they are now.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.



Madeline M. Petersen
Belmont Planning Commissioner

MAR-22-02 WED 12:52 415431W576

4319957957

P.01

4338-01-1A

"DOGS" to GGNRA Supt O'NEILL
DEAR MR O'NEILL 3-21-03

I REALLY SYMPATHIZE WITH YOU AND
WOULD NOT WANT YOUR JOB AT ALL !!

I HOPE THE GGNRA WILL NOT
CHANGE THE RULES CONCERNING DOGS.

DOG OWNERS GET THINGS DONE THEIR
WAY BY SHOUTING AND RAISING HELL BUT
I'M TOO OLD TO GO TO MEETINGS AND
HEAR ALL THAT. I WILL WRITE THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS TODAY AND MAKE MY VIEWS
KNOWN. THEY REACT TO LOUD NOISES AND
COMPLAINTS. I AM RETIRED FOR QUITE
A WHILE AND MY WIFE AND I LOVE
TO WALK - BUT HAVING DOGS RUNNING ALL
OVER IS NO GOOD.

PLEASE HANG IN THERE AND
KEEP THE DOGS DOWN.

JOHN + KIVONO DAWSON
111 STATES ST
SAN FRANCISCO 94114

EMAIL DIMLACH@WEBTV.NET

4339 - ~~022203~~
02 - ID

Re: Pet Management

3.22

GGNRA

Undoubtedly you've heard many opinions & suggestions. You've learned also how stubborn & single issued people can be. I'd just like to relate an incident from a visit to Rodeo Beach in Marina. There was myself my wife & two toddlers. We hiked down a slope to the beach (often the beach can be difficult to reach as access via gradual slopes are few). At the bottom was an adult couple and a joyful ~~very~~ unleashed dog who barked & leaped & bounded about. The children cried hysterically & I asked the couple to please restrain their dog. "You have the whole beach" the woman replied smiling. Well this exchange was brief, she never restrained her dog, simply had that smile. "What happens to people?" I asked. "What happens to cause you to behave like this?" There are good & bad dog owners in the city, in this whole wide world! I love dogs!

- next pg -

4339-02-1D

p. 2 !

But dogs don't just happen. When one has a dog they need to adhere to certain responsibilities. It's not really so difficult, it's just become so vocal. My three yr. old often talks of not wanting to go to the beach because of the dogs. We love ^{seldom} beach.

Polka (Chronixite) Beach but children are dog leaved. They bond about as happily as my niece & it's often fun to see their spirits so free. But inches beneath the sand is fossilized dog shit my kids dig up. Surfers leave their dogs absolutely unattended. Dogs should be leashed & it should be enforced. There should also be designated dog parks (Pt. Lobella I believe is one). I hope it can be worked out.

~~SEAN VAN FLEET~~
~~MARRIEN VAN FLEET~~
David Lynn

5900 Van Fleet

Richmond CA. 94804

510.526.6817

David Lynn @ mac.net

7-14-1995 0:05AM

FROM

P. 1

4340-02-1B

To: GGNRA
From: Vivian Remer
Re: Dogs at Headlands
Case # 02-2351
Date: March 14, 2002

Dear Superintendent,

I would to bring to your attention a potentially dangerous and unsanitary situation occurring on public lands. The entrance and first several hundred yards of the Headlands National Park (entrance at the top of Donahue Street) is being used and abused by commercial dog walkers. The walkers are walking their dogs unleashed, with packs of five to six per walker or more. Some of the dogs are aggressive, untrained and dangerous to other users of the park.

In addition, the professional walkers are not cleaning up after the dogs and the smell, flies and dog excrement is creating a disgusting public nuisance and probably hurting the natural wildlife and birds.

Here are my observations:

On Thursday, March 14th, 2002 at around 11:15 AM I went for a stroll with my 9-month daughter. We live in one of the Headlands Condos and we are homeowners.

As I approached the top of the hill at the end of Donahue that leads to the beginning of this beautiful path my first encounter was with a pack of dogs (5 or 6 all together) being "supervised" by a professional dog walker by the name of Debbie. At that moment they were all loose at the parking lot and Debbie was trying to get them on their leashes. However, as she started to walk towards the path screaming at one of the dogs and actually hitting one-- she did not realize that one of them was left behind loose and wandering around. It was a big dog --heavy looking-- maybe a mixed lab which came towards me and my baby. It gave my baby's face a full face lick. I had to call for "Debbie" and ask if that was one of her dogs, she said: "yes, come hereis your baby eating? "I said: yes, cookies" She said:" Oh, this dog is crazy for food, he is after your baby's cookies"...

I waited until she was gone with all her dogs; finally, I was able to go in the path for my stroll. During my walk I saw other unleashed, large dogs with what I guess were their owners/walkers walking far behind.

After about 20 minutes I turned back and at the entrance where I had met "Debbie" I saw another pack of 5 or 6 dogs. Their "walkers", two women ignored the fact that I was coming to the curb with a baby and their large dogs were still loose. I saw one of them defecate in the middle of our path, entirely ignored by the walkers.

1/2

7-14-1995 0:05AM

FROM

P. 2

4340-02-1B

I didn't feel it was safe to continue with several large dogs loose and unsupervised, so I called to the women and asked that they put their dogs on a leash. Just then, two big dogs --one a boxer and the other a Labrador ran at us in a threatening way barking as if they would jump on us. I froze as the walker, who didn't move an inch screamed their names. The dogs stopped by each side of my baby's face and for a second I looked at them to calm them down. Luckily they returned to their walker. I would not have been able to control both of them myself if they had not.

I am not a dog hater. I have had my own dogs, I have often noticed lost dogs and gone out of my way to return them to their owners. However, this situation is very dangerous, and possibly life threatening.

It is very unfair that I can't go for a quiet walk with my daughter without being threatened by unleashed dogs and having to dodge their excrement. In addition, most of the dogs, though not all, were being walked as part of a business. It doesn't seem right that someone making money on public lands should be able to make it too dangerous for a normal citizen to take a walk and enjoy nature. Finally, I think that these unleashed animals are most likely scaring the natural wild animals in addition to my baby and me.


Vivian Remer

4 Ridgview Court
Sausalito/Marin City

4341-01-1C



"Maria Crill"
<marcri@jps.net>
03/22/2002 08:47 AM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc: <fortfunston@hotmail.com>
Subject: Support of Off-Leash

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am an arthritic 58 year old Latin woman. My hands are especially painful & deformed. To walk my little mutt, Oskar, on-lease would cause me a great pain of pain and soreness to my hands.

Walking Oskar at Fort Funston off-lease is perfect for me. Since I have weak ankles and have a tendency to fall, I can concentrate on my walking. Oskar & I stay on the path and enjoy the beauty of Fort Funston. I clean up after my dog as well as any other droppings I may find along the way. I am, along with the majority of dog owners, a responsible dog guardian.

Please support off-lease recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request.

Maria Crill
36 Oceanside Drive
Daly City, CA 94015

4342-02713



Mike Arnold
<arnold4@pacbell.net>
03/22/2002 08:15 AM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Leash Laws

To whom it may concern

I am a 48 old resident of Novato and frequent user of GGNRA and Marin's open spaces. I have some observations I would like to share.

1. I do not report dog incidents. It's too much of a hassle and what can officials do? But, here they are:
 - o I regularly pass dogs off leash on the trails of GGNRA. In fact, if dogs are present I rarely see them on leashes.
 - o As a biker, I have been chased by dogs on the fire roads
 - o When confronting dog owners, they are regularly rude and in denial about their responsibilities.
 - o Wherever dogs are allowed there is significant dog feces. Even if not allowed, where dog owners take dogs illegally there is dog feces. (For example, Tennessee Valley Beach.)
 - o At Muir Beach, voice control is a joke. Dog owners don't know what it means and dogs run all over the place.
 - o At Stinson Beach and Limintour Beach dog owners regularly walk their dogs from the area where they are allowed to the areas where they are not.

{ I don't report any of the above. So please factor that into the "incidents" because they are far more than reported.}
2. Signage is critical but often confusing and incomplete, particularly in Tennessee Valley, where dogs are allowed across the valley on the Coastal Trail, but not on the main fire road. Dog owners are confused and don't respond when you tell them their dog is in the area illegally. Also the signs make no reference to the fines.
3. Enforcement patrols are limited, everywhere in GGNRA.

Please please please.

1. There should be no "voice control" beaches. It doesn't work.
2. Signs should be (a) more frequent (b) provide more detailed information (c) note the fines.

4342 - 02 - 1B

3. Fines should be enforced, particularly for off leash dogs and dog feces not picked up. Dog owners talk. If there are periods of high use/strict enforcement, word will get out through the dog owner networks.
4. For the areas where dogs are allowed on leashes, they should be patrolled more frequently to ensure owners follow rules. (Providing brochures for owners at trail heads like Tennessee Valley would be a great help!)
5. Visiter centers should have more information for public on dog policies. (This will lead to more people-people enforcement.)

-- Mike Arnold
15 Fairway Dr.
Novato, CA 94949

4343-01-1A



Ginnelle Elliott
<ginnelleelliott@yahoo.com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: fdsawyer@yahoo.com
Subject: Off leash please!

03/22/2002 07:43 AM
PST

Ginnelle Elliott
3237 Octavia Street #3
San Francisco, Ca
94123

March 22, 2002

To whom it may concern,

I implore you to save the off-leash areas of the GGNRA for use by pet owners. I am a responsible owner of two Bichon Frises who daily allows my dogs to enjoy a run at Crissy Field. It is the highlight of my day and a very social time for not only the dogs but neighbors.

In light of the recent dog mauling trial verdict, I truly hope that you will not use the conviction as fuel for the fire to make the parks leash only. It was a tragic case and one that, in my opinion, makes a perfect case for dog owners to be more responsible and if dogs are behaving out of line---I feel that people would be more prone to file a formal complaint.

The GGNRA is for use by all people and it is used for many purposes; I do not see why pet owners should be denied small pieces of land to enjoy with their pets.

I hope you will keep the existing off-leash areas and recognize that dog owners pay taxes, donate time and money to saving the beauty of the parks as well as ensuring the safety of animals and birds by controlling our dogs.

Thank you for your consideration.
Ginnelle Elliott

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4344-01-3B



"Jamie"
<kaeley@mindspring.com>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Off Leash

03/22/2002 07:48 AM
PST

I am writing to ask that the GGNRA take what ever steps are necessary to reopen traditional off leash areas. I want Ccean and Baker beach back, lands end, Chrissy field and al the other areas that you have closed to us in the past coupe of years. If it takes an act of congress I will support you. Why don't you charge a use fee to offset costs? Charge a annual fee and local dogs should wear a GGNRA tag on their collar. I think it coud look good and put us back on friendly terms.

In short do anything to keep our off leash areas open, reopen the one you closed and expand into new areas.

Thank you

James Draper

4345-01-1D



"Judi Hirsch"
<judih@ousd.k12.ca.us>

03/22/2002 07:24 AM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: support for off leash dog areas

I have had pets all of my life and can attest to the fact that they bring joy into my heart and into the hearts of others. Dogs and cats need space and time for play and exercise, and letting dogs run in parks and on beaches is a way to give back to them some of the pleasure they give us. After all, they are not our slaves; they deserve time to enjoy their world free of restraint.

that said, I agree that owners must be responsible for them, clean up after them, and make sure they respond to voice commands.

Judi Hirsch
Oakland, CA

4346 - 01 - 1A



John Conley
<jhcsf@earthlink.net>
03/22/2002 04:34 AM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Re: GGNRA wants more input on dog rules

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope that GGNRA will maintain and enforce existing policies regarding unleashed dogs. As a weekly park user, I have been charged or threatened by unleashed dogs on many separate occasions. When politely asked to leash their dog (in accordance with regulations), many dog owners that I've encountered have either been non-responsive or hostile to the request.

Please do not weaken or abandon the regulations that require dogs to be leashed in the GGNRA, except for specially designated areas.

Thank you for reviewing these comments.

Sincerely,

John Conley
San Francisco, CA

4347-01-3B



ARJONSEN@cs.com
03/22/2002 12:15 AM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: (no subject)

My wife and I walk at Crissy Field at least three times a week. We appreciate the place very much. Although we are not now dog owners, we have had dogs and appreciate them. We also appreciate that many dog owners are very responsible about their pets. However, we strongly urge a restrictive policy about dogs. We believe that dogs on the main walking path should be on leash. We have seen too many off leash dog to dog encounters and often playful dogs running into the paths of pedestrians. Owners are often at a distance too far to curb them (and often seem uninterested in doing so). We also believe that no dogs should be allowed on the beach in front of the parking lot: too many young mothers bring their babies and children there to tolerate the sanitary, health and danger risks. There are no signs indicating either the restriction on dogs or the dangers to children. We have no objection to allowing dogs to run unleashed on the beach west of the lagoon stream. There is plenty of beach from there up to the rocky portion in front of the Warming Hut and few people seem to use it. We support a policy that would assure that fine public places do not become the exclusive run for animals and that animal and human use should be compatible.

GGNRA013758

4348-01-1C



Acksfo@aol.com
03/22/2002 03:19 PM
EST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: GGNR

I support making a section of GGNR in the SAn Francisco Bay Area into off-leash dog walking. Fort Funston has had off-leash dog walking for decades, to nobody's harm or injury.

Eric Keitel
Daly City, California

4349-01 -1A



William_Ma@logitech.c
om
03/22/2002 12:19 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Dogs at GGNRA

I am writing in support of dog walking rights within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

While lately we have seen increasing incidences involving dogs, we should underscore that dog owners are ultimately responsible for the behavior of their pets. Majority of the dogs are well-behaved and have received social and obedience training. I favor more stringent rules governing the behavior of dogs while using GGNRA instead of the repeal of the dog walking rights, which will result in a blanket penalty to all dog owners.

San Francisco is a pet-loving city - we have the lowest pet euthanasia rate, and one of the highest pet expenditure per capita in the country. It reflects on the city's unique character, all the while this is one of the most urbanized area in the country. In order to maintain the physical and emotional well-being of the pets, it is important that this urban green belt be made available to dogs walking unleashed. As an avid user of the GGNRA, I have observed most of the dogs are well-behaved and well-trained that share the Recreation Area with humans, other dogs and birds alike.

I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion.

Sincerely,

William Ma
27 Shields Street
San Francisco

4350-01-1A



Marie-Christine Mahe
<mcmah@yaho.com
>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: please allow dogs to run free

03/22/2002 11:17 AM
PST

I quite understand that dogs can't run free -everywhere-. Not everyone likes them or wants to be around them, and they're not the best for wildlife. However, like it or not dogs are a major part of many peoples' life, and they too are entitled to run in a natural spot. In fact, I'd guess much of the support parks get around the SF bay area has come from people who have come to appreciate them from the necessity of taking their dogs out regularly. Most dog owners are responsible and do all they can to preserve the spots their dogs are allowed in. SF had reached a good balance where the vast majority of spaces were for dog-less people, and yet dogs could enjoy their life and retain their health (and that of their humans). Why mess with that now? If you're so concerned about a pristine natural state, the bay area is not the place to find it, you'd do better to work on better public transportation (ot to mention do a better job of preserving parks less in the public eye, but that's another story). And yet we have better access to reasonably wild places than most of the world's cities. Can't we all get a bit of the pie?

And no, I don't own a dog. But I'm still mad because you want to cut off any place where I can currently enjoy a bit of lite doggy company.

Marie-Christine Mahe
723 Haight st no 6
San Francisco CA 94117

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MAR-22-2002 07:55

ST.MARY'S CASE MGMT.

415 750 8146

P.01/01

4351-01-3B

LightningRaster Inc.

With Regards Dog Policy:

I was walking up the hill from Aquatic Park to Philip Burton Park.

A man in his fifties was coming down the hill with three unleashed pit bulls. People all stopped in their tracks to avoid this man whose dogs were all over the path.

The dog owner at no point even glanced at the people around him or made any effort to call his dogs to him.

This is why you must require leashes and fine dog owners aggressively.

Gene Rudleton



FROM : GRAVESON/PANDION PRODUCTION

FAX NO. : 415 669 1075

Mar. 22 2002 01:19PM P1

4352-01-1B

Zea Morvitz

PO Box 305 / Inverness, CA 94937

Fax: 415 669 1075

March 21, 2002

Superintendent GGNRA
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
SF 94213
Fax: 561-4355

Dear Superintendent:

I am writing in support of re-assigning areas within the GGNRA for walking unleashed dogs.

As a taxpayer, I feel that I ought to be able to enjoy the park with my dog, just as others can take horses or ride bikes, drive their cars or have picnics in designated areas. All of these activities compromise the park environment to some extent, but sensibly managed, seem acceptable to most people. All of these activities also pose some hazards to other people and children in the park, but the risks also seem acceptable to most people. I feel that dogs are being unfairly restricted in relation to the other activities that are allowed.

Allowing legitimate unleashed dog walking in some areas will insure a supportive segment of the public, and encourage responsible dog control. If you do not allow unleashed dog walking anywhere in the park, people will feel disenfranchised, they will not feel that the park is theirs; and they will let their dogs loose anyway. The result is that the park will have no control over where the unleashed dogs will be; and people wishing to avoid dogs will encounter them.

I suspect that most objections to unleashed dogs boil down to two: that they will cause damage to the environment and that they are frightening and dangerous to people.

As I mentioned above, there are a number of activities in the Park with potential for environmental damage and which do cause damage, but which are deemed acceptable. Areas to be set aside for dogs should be those that have already been disturbed by human use. In addition, to further protect land and wildlife, dog use areas could be rotated so that any given area would have a dog free recovery period of several years before being opened to dogs again.

To help people who want to avoid interacting with unleashed dogs, a warning sign could be posted at each trailhead. Really, this is a no-brainer and would give fair warning to people worried about encountering dogs, just like the dangerous surf and shark warnings currently posted at certain beaches.

I have encountered dogs off leash in West Marin for more than 20 years. During this time, I have never seen any truly vicious dog behavior. Your own statistics as quoted in the Pt. Reyes Light, show "one bite or nip for every 900,000 park visitors." Over those same 20 plus years I have seen destruction of the environment, but, sadly, it was done by off leash human beings.

Please show some sensitivity to the local (Bay Area) population and make an exception to the National Park policy, and show that Big Government can be a good local community member too.

Sincerely yours,



GGNRA013763

MAR-22-02 WED 13:25 415431W576

4319957957

P.01

4353-01-1A

3/22/02

DEAR SUPERVISOR LENO -

I READ IN THE CHRON, THAT
SOME OF OUR SUPES ARE TRYING
VERY HARD - (UNDER GREAT PRESSURE,
I'M SURE, FROM DOG OWNERS) TO ~~LET~~
FORCE THE GGNRA TO PERMIT DOGS
TO RUN OFF LEASH.

(I'LL BET YOU ARE ALL SICK AND
TIRED OF THIS.)

MY WIFE AND I, BOTH RETIRED,
LOVE TO WALK AND HAVING TO PUT
UP WITH DOGS RUNNING ALL OVER
AND EVEN JUMPING ON US AT TIMES
DOES NOT MAKE FOR A GOOD WALK.

PLEASE DONT GIVE IN TO THE
HOWLING DOG OWNERS AND
SUPPORT THE GGNRA IN THIS,

John + Kiyoko Dawson
111 States St 94114

E-MAIL DIMLACH@WEBTV.NET

4354-01-1A



Yogilov@aol.com
03/22/2002 05:36 PM
EST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Pro off-leash

To : GGNRA

Re: ANPR

I am a San Francisco resident and dog owner. I am in support of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. I see on a daily basis the very effective integration of off-leash dogs and their guardians on the beaches and people walking and biking on the paths and beach. Families who are looking for a less crowded beach use the very large NO DOGS beach at the west end of Crissy Field.

I have noticed that dog owners are very responsible. They keep their dogs on close voice command and often make an effort to leave the beach cleaner than how they found it.

Off-leash recreation is an important part of maintaining a healthy, well-balanced and socialized dog population. It is also important for dog owners to be able to exercise and enjoy the parks with their pets. I am in support of a special rule to allow off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

Cindy Stratton
3938 Washington Street
SF, CA

4355-01-3B



Rosemary McBride
<rmcbride@mail.fsu.edu>

03/22/2002 08:25 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_ANPR@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

To Whom It May Concern,
My experience with off-leash dog parks has been nothing but positive. People with "problem" dogs tend not to go because they are afraid something will happen. Off-leash dog parks offer a unique opportunity for dog owners and dogs to come together, to have a wonderful time, and to enjoy the parks! I never write in to support things, usually, but this one is so important I didn't want to let it go by if I had the chance to take some action. Please permit off leash dogs at GGNRA!!

Sincerely,
Rosemary McBride

4356-01-3B



"VS"
<v102071@inreach.co
m>

03/23/2002 09:06 AM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Dogwalking in GGNRA

I would like to commend you for your efforts to restrict the practice of allowing dogs to run loose in GGNRA Recreation Areas and strongly support the enforcement of leash laws in public places. I can tell you that my spouse and I have raised and shown dogs since 1985 and as you probably are aware, show dogs must be fit and have good physical tone. In spite of this, we have never found it necessary to have to allow our dogs to run loose to maintain their physical health. When people argue that dogs need to run loose to stay in shape or to socialize, they are either misinformed, lazy, or both. Dogs can be exercised more than adequately on a leash if they were taken on jogging runs, trotting next to a bicycle, or on hikes. There is absolutely no reason why they need to be off-leash to exercise and socialize. For the real health fanatics, there are even dog treadmills on which dogs can be trotted and exercised.

In short, a dog owner doesn't need to allow the dog to run amok to keep the animal healthy, there are many activities the owner can do with the dog ON LEASH which will physically benefit both, dog and owner. Any arguments to the contrary, are self-serving, selfish, and disingenuous. In view of the recent guilty verdict of the two lawyers who irresponsibly owned and controlled two vicious dogs that ultimately killed the woman, Ms. Whipple, in San Francisco, it would be a prudent and appropriate practice on your part to enforce a zero-tolerance policy for leash law violations and vigorously cite and fine those who choose to thumb their nose at the leash laws of the GGNRA.

Another benefit of requiring dogs to be on leash is to protect the migratory birds, wildlife, and marine mammals who use such places as resting spots, nesting, or for habitat. Loose dogs disturb and harm these animals and destroy their habitat by virtue of their predatory instinct to track and chase "game". I hope I have been of some help and should you wish additional input from me, don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Victor Smith

4357-01-1A



"John Fairfield"
<jfairfield@worldnet.att.net>

03/23/2002 08:58 PM
EST

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

Saturday, March 23, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

John Fairfield
2 Portola Drive
San Francisco, CA 94131 - 1518
jfairfield@worldnet.att.net

4358-01-3A



"william burgess"
<teetee5221@msn.com
>

03/23/2002 11:38 AM
EST

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

Saturday, March 23, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

william burgess
5123 Dunn Drive
Las Cruces, NM 88011
teetee5221@msn.com

4359-01-3B



Steve Loving
<sloving@well.com>

03/23/2002 07:35 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov, fortfunston@hotmail.com,
laura@littlehorses.net, robert@go2bboy.com

cc:
Subject: GGNRA Off Leash Policy

I strongly support a Section 7 Exemption for continuation and further definition of off leash areas in the GGNRA.

I am a regular user of the GGNRA , with and without my dogs.

There is room for everybody in this incredible set of outdoor miracles we call the GGNRA.

As dog owners, we are stewards of animals that remind us of our heritage on the planet; beings who must share, who depend on each other, and who must love and protect our home.

GGNRA will find no better allies than dog owners; we are all striving to protect these incredible natural and wild spaces in and around the bay area urban areas,

We can help you, you can help us, we can all live here together.

There is room for off leash use in GGNRA. We'll work with you. Keep us involved and in the loop.

Help us all find the middle ground, please.

Awaiting your response,

Steven Loving
4247 21

4360-01-3B



SHELAWAT@aol.com

03/23/2002 07:45 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: Support for a Section 7 exemption

As kids my wife and I played at Fort Funston and later walked our dogs there before most people seemed to know it was there (20 - 30 yrs). The community of people who have used the park has grown exponentially, yet the communal sense has remained intact. This is a very special place because of that. Many dog walkers, like ourselves, have families that have used this area for years. My wife and I have been staunch supporters of the National Park Service. The issue you will be deciding will have an impact on us as well as many other park supporters with dogs. We have always abided by the rules in the parks we have visited, but maybe because we know the history of the agreements made when Fort Funston was added to the GGNRA, we feel some promises are being broken. I don't know if the tactics being used are part of a system wide strategy or if some bureaucrat is an autocrat, it doesn't matter.

The scientific arguments used have been questionable and ultimately not supported by the data gathered by the institutions hired to study the disturbance of nesting sites. The California Academy of Sciences has made this clear.

As teachers, my wife and I have had classes participate in preparing areas of the GGNRA for replanting with native species. We pay our taxes, we help to clean the park, we deserve the original promises to be kept. Off leash dog walking has always been a recreational use of Fort Funston. Keep your word. A Section 7 Exemption would allow you to do this.

Thank you,

Shelby and Lisa Watkins, on behalf of our two sons, Decker and Christopher,
our two dogs, Pelo and Tache, and our deceased pets who have loved their time at Fort Funston.

4361-01-1A



candace
<candace@dethstar.net>
↳

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: dogs on beach

03/23/2002 04:05 PM
PST

To whom it may regard:

I am a resident of San Francisco that lives in the Outer Richmond overlooking Great Highway south of the Cliff House. Consequently, I spend a lot of time either on the beach or looking out over it.

I know that there has been a huge controversy over pet management laws and guidelines within the GGNRA. I wanted to contribute my observations from today, a random day of walking on the beach:

1) There are huge dogs running off of leashes after smaller dogs and chasing kitebuggies as if they were chasing cars. I have also witnessed a particular person who rides a horse and buggy on the beach being chased several times, and I've been surprised that the horse hasn't shied from having a dog nipping at its heels.

The sheer number of dogs in this one area brings me to observation...

2) Walk along the high tide line on any sunny day and marvel at the astounding amount of dog shit washed up there. As a surfer, I shudder to think about the amount of dog feces that get washed into the ocean due to careless dog owners, not to mention the degradation of the general beach experience for all visitors (is anywhere in the sand safe to sit??). It seems that San Francisco's dog owners view Ocean Beach as a vast litter box for their pets, and it's disgusting. This reason alone makes me want to ban dogs altogether from the beach, but alas...

3) Dogs are worshipped in this city, and dog-owners would prefer to cater to their pet's "enjoyment" of a day out than any other visitor's, or in my case, resident's. How common is it that I am peaceably reading a book, only to have a smelly wet dog run up to try and greet me, covering me and my possessions in wet sand? While a friendly dog is much more welcome than a vicious dog, it is still a detraction. A friendly leashed dog is by far the best dog, especially if it is cleaned up after.

My fiance and I fell in love with our condo because of its beach view, not because of its view of a dog toilet/kennel. Don't fall prey to the cult of the dog that exists in this city. The wishes and respects of fellow humans should come before those of animals, as much as I love animals.

Thank you for your attention,
Candace Partridge

4362-01-3B



"christine decamp"
<manfredsbooks@hotmail.com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject:

03/23/2002 11:44 PM
GMT

I am writing to express my support of OFF LEASH DOGS IN THE GGNPS!! I have lived in the Bay area since 1981--12 years in San Francisco and 9 years in the Point Reyes National Seashore area. I have always had a dog & would go to Fort Funston, Golden Gate Park & Stern Grove in SF. In West Marin, our favorite places are Kehoe Beach, Bay Ridge Trail and the Inverness trails. The MAJORITY of dog owners are responsible and concerned with their dog's behavior. Please don't let a few "bad apples" spoil it for the many of us who have well-behaved dogs that are in control.

Christine DeCamp
Manfred's Books

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

4363-01-3B



Jbbroude@aol.com
03/23/2002 04:43 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com
Subject: let my doggies go!

keep the doggies free!
keep open spaces available at crissy field, fort funston, etc. for dogs to run!
keep san francisco desirable for families (includes dogs and children)!
keep dogs interacting with people.. there is no better therapy!

jbbroude

4364-01-3B



Karin Leite
<kasleite@yahoo.com>

03/23/2002 01:34 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject:

I strongly support off-leash use in all GGNRA parks.

Sincerely,

Karin Lefranc

Do You Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Movies - coverage of the 74th Academy Awards®
<http://movies.yahoo.com/>

4365-01-1B



Janet Schlitt
<janet@knobhill.com>
03/23/2002 10:12 AM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Off-leash dogs in GGNRA

I would appreciate if if you would give due consideration to providing areas in the GGNRA where dogs can be exercised off the leash. I am sure that you can provide the necessary rules and regulations to make this possible, such as..... dogs must be totally under voice control, only one or two dogs per person etc.

Thank you, Janet Schlitt

--

Janet Schlitt
P.O. Box 1108
Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956
1 415 663-1785
janet@knobhill.com
<http://www.knobhill.com>

4366-01-1A



Christopher Wahlgren
<christopher@nomadrugs.com>

03/24/2002 04:04 PM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: I support off-leash recreation

GGNRA

Attention: ANPR

I would like to strongly state that there is room for off-leash recreation in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. The areas where we walk our dogs are not pristine wilderness zones but former military bases and city parks.

The current dog policy has worked for 23 years. Most importantly, lets remember that the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb). Off-lease dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA.

Recreation and conservation are not mutually exclusive. Off-lease dogs under voice control can and do share the park easily with other users.

I strongly oppose greater restrictions on dog and dog owners in the GGNRA.

--

Sincerely

Christopher Wahlgren

Nomad Rugs
(Open: Daily 11am-6pm)

1195 Church Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

Tel: 415-401-8833 Fax: 415-401-8855

Website: <http://www.nomadrugs.com>

For driving instructions: <http://nomadrugs.com/sfstore.php>

"Trust in God, but tie your camel."

4367-01-3B



Joy Siegel
<joyfree@ix.netcom.co
m>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Off Leash on Beaches

03/24/2002 02:25 PM
PST

I am strongly urging that you NOT implement the proposed plan to further decrease the number of off-leash areas and convert our neighborhood parks to fenced jails.

I am a responsible pet owner (I know, no one admits to being anything else) who enjoys watching my dog romp and play with her "friends" at the parks and at Chrissy Beach. Pet owners DO pick up after their pets and they monitor those who don't. Dogs who are permitted time with other animals in fact ARE better behaved through this socialization. The tragedy in Pacific Heights should not be the reason for penalizing all dogs--after all, the two dogs in question were in a building and were ON A LEASH. They also were certainly NOT the typical pets.

My dog stays inside most of the time--I refuse to place her in a cage while on our walks.

Thank you for any consideration in this matter.

4368-01-3B



"jason urrutia"
<jasonurrutia@msn.com>

03/24/2002 11:28 AM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Dogs off leash

I've been a dog owner for over 25 years and am absolutely horrified about pending enforcement of dogs being kept on leash in the GGNRA. We walk our dog daily at Crissy field, Rodeo Beach, Baker beach, etc. and enjoy having our dog off leash. Most importantly, Cowboy enjoys it! A walk off leash is a walk of freedom. A walk on leash is not "free." The dogs aren't causing damage to the GGNRA. They are enhancing the beauty of the parks with their joy, excitement and spontaneity. Dogs need a place where they can enjoy this. I hope that the GGNRA doesn't allow the political undercurrent of the verdict of the recent dog mauling case to effect all of the dogs and their owners who continually use the beaches and parks of the GGNRA. If need be, designate certain beaches/parks in the Bay Area for dogs off leash. This will strike a nice compromise with those who feel "threatened" by "wandering" dogs. Whatever happens, dogs do have the right to walk in certain places where they can be off leash.

Thank you,
Jason Urrutia

4369-01-1B



Sprinh@aol.com
03/24/2002 01:49 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
CC:
Subject: PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON DOG WALKING IN GGNRA

I am a resident of Mill Valley and use the facilities of the GGNRA at Tennessee Valley, Muir Beach, and Stinson Beach on a frequent basis. I am a dog owner and the GGNRA provides an excellent opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty here with my pet.

I believe we should take this opportunity to implement new guidelines, which would allow all parties to increase their enjoyment of the parks while placing appropriate responsibility on dog owners. I have three suggestions:

1. Enforcement of the leash policy should be increased along the designated trails. Fines should be increased for violations. In that way, all dog owners can truly enjoy the trails without concern for altercations between dogs. In addition, cleaning up after your dog must become an absolute requirement. This can be accomplished by making more "disposal bags" available, or requiring that all owners have disposal bags attached to their leashes. I carry bags attached to my dogs leash, and this makes it easier to clean up after him. Also, to help facilitate compliance, more garbage containers could be placed along the trails.

2. More trails should be opened up for leashed dogs. It is impossible, for example, to walk down Tennessee Valley Road, past the Miwok stables, and continue to the beach, even though the trail is partly paved and this would be the most convenient route. By implementing the strict guidelines mentioned in point #1, dog owners should be allowed to access some of the more convenient trails.

3. Additional open spaces should be opened up for "dog runs" - ie. no leashes. Again, availability of disposal bags and garbage containers is a must, and the area must be specifically designated and contained. Mill Valley has a very attractive and popular "dog run" which operates under these guidelines, as does Sausalito. This would work in the GGNRA if properly managed.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Harlen Springer
407 Tennessee Glen Way
Mill Valley - 94941
(415) 383-1864

sprinh@aol.com

4370-01-1A



DBR13@aol.com
03/24/2002 01:38 AM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: ANPR - Off Leash Proposals

Please preserve off leash dog walking on GGNRA lands, and in particular Crissy Field and Fort Funston. These areas have been used for decades for off leash dog walking, with great success and with the support of the people who use these areas.

I have been taking my dogs to these areas for over 15 years, and I have never, ever, had anyone say a bad thing about them or react in a negative manner. Old people and young people alike regularly approach my dogs and I and routinely ask if they can play with them and pet them. It brings joy to all to see healthy, happy dogs playing off leash.

People who don't want to be in off-leash areas have many, many choices. Please leave these off leash areas in tact for those of us who have only a few areas left in which to enjoy our recreational choice of exercising with our dogs. Well exercised dogs are happy and healthy and friendly dogs. Please do your duty and impliment the will of the people, not that a radical few who never seem to be satisfied. Voice control areas have worked for decades.

David B. Roseman
130 Avila Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

4371-01-1B

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Hei Nonaka
121 Marina Green Ct.
Corte Madera, CA 94925

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

4372-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Helen McKenna
519 Belvedere St.
San Francisco 94117

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

4373-01-1B

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Alan Ridley
519 Belvedere
SF 94117

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

4374-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Richard Lautze
1563 Page St.
San Francisco 94117

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

4375-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (PIX poll) prefer pets on-leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Mark Solberg
1563 Page St
San Francisco, Ca 94115

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4-20-02

4376-01-1A

RECEIVED


Mr. Superintendent:

MAR 25 2002

LET THE DOGS RUN FREE

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

The idea that Fort Funston is some kind of delicate plant habitat is ridiculous — that is nothing but sand dunes and bluffs. It actually said in the paper that the dogs were scaring fish! This is a park in the city and it needs to be enforced with sympathy for the needs of people living here — not Plant Nazis.

 J. C. Warner
2555 Leavenworth St Apt 104
San Francisco, CA 94133

4377-01-1A



RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA

ATTN: ANPR

FORT MASON
BUILDING 201

SAN FRANCISCO

CA. 94123

DEAR GGNRA,

PLEASE KEEP OFF-LEASH
RECREATION IN THE GGNRA.

THAT'S WHAT LIFE IS
ALL ABOUT!

THANK YOU,

J. C. Warner

94123/9888

Dear GGNRA / ANPR

I strongly believe that all dogs need space to run free, off leash. So long as dogs off leash are not hurting natural resources. IF GGNRA is successful in eliminating all off-leash dog walking it will be the city pays that will experience increased pressure.

I also believe that all dog owners have a responsibility to have a leash on them for each of their dogs (dogs in their custody) as well as a good

4378-01-1A

Supply of dog waste bags.

Perhaps one solution would be to have designated off-leash hours throughout the day?

One of the many special things about San Francisco is that people and animals can enjoy their freedom in such a beautiful city.

I vote for the need for the off-leash law.

Warm regards,

Wendy Blake

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4379-01-1A

March 20, 2002
RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

To Whom It May Concerns ^{SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE}

Five mornings each week I walk my border terrier, Zellie, at Crissy Field. It is a beautiful place and I am very grateful to have such a well-maintained and gorgeous place to walk in the City. I find it a peaceful respite in my busy day.

Walkers, bike riders + dog walkers all get along + respect each other as we each enjoy Crissy Field in the morning. Zellie loves to run along the beach and along the grassy field. I respect the signs about not walking dogs on the wildlife beach, and I always put Zellie's leash on near the picnic areas, the parking lots + the road to the Bridge / Ft. Baker. I pick up after the dog and also pick up any litter I find. Please allow responsible dog owners to

walk our dogs off leash in the GGNRA, especially Crissy Field. We are citizens + taxpayers + want to utilize our open spaces every bit as much as any other resident. Early mornings are enhanced by having responsible walkers, joggers, dog owners + bike riders all sharing Crissy Field. Thank you. Sincerely,
Jeanne C. Blamey

March 16, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Greetings:

The GGNRA is a recreational area - meant to both preserve the natural beauty and wildlife of the area and to allow the community access and enjoyment of these beautiful lands through a variety of activities, including off-leash dog walking.

There are many reasons why off-leash recreational areas should be a part of the GGNRA. People who participate are respectful of the wildlife and habitat and are responsible guardians of their dogs. These activities in natural settings renew both human and animal spirits and the positive results, such as the health and well-being of people and pets, are infused back into the community.

Traditional off-leash areas are an extremely small part of the GGNRA, compatible with the continued protection of sensitive habitat and wildlife. San Francisco has always received assurances that GGNRA lands would continue to allow traditional recreational uses, such as off-leash dog walking. It would be a sign of good faith if the GGNRA abided by the Pet Policy implemented in 1979 by the GGNRA Citizens' Advisory Commission allowing off-leash walking in certain areas. The importance of such areas is underscored by the State of California's exploring part of the Candlestick Point area as a potentially off-leash area.

The National Park Service has committed to maintaining a broad range of recreational use appropriate to a recreational area, including off-leash dog walking - a place and space to play, making healthier, happier dogs and their people. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nedalya Boyer

1946 Clement St

57 94121

4381-01-1A

March 16, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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Sincerely,

V. J. Rosado
491 31st Ave #305
S.F. Ca. 94121

4382-01-1A

March 16, 2002

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

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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Sincerely,



491 31st ave #305

S. F. CA 94121

4383-01-38

March 16, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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Sincerely,

Stephania Burpin

3/16/02

4384-01-3B

March 16, 2002

RECEIVED

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

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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Sincerely,

Marise L. Lorenzini

*March 16,
2002*

~~4385-01-1A~~
4385-01-1A

March 6, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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The National Park Service has committed to maintaining a broad range of recreational use appropriate to a recreational area, including off-leash dog walking - a place and space to play, making healthier, happier dogs and their people. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Antonia Smirnow
35 Western Shore #5
S.F. Ca. 94115

I realize my comment is late; better late than never, right?! 4386-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: MARA JACONI (printed)
Address: 300 Pennsylvania Avenue San Francisco, CA 94110,
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

There are few places open to responsible dog owners ~~to~~ in the city to allow pets to run w/o a leash.

Please do not take away what little we have left! We love to run at the beach at Crissy Fields. Both Maisy and I swim in the Bay! We love it!!

Sincerely,

Mara Jaconi + Maisy (Jack Russell Terrier)

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

NO!

Signed: [Signature]

Date 3.17.02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex: M F Ethnicity: _____)

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

4387 - 01 - 4B

Best Friends Animal Sanctuary



KANAB, UTAH 84741

TEL: 435-644-2001

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

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

March 18, 2002

Dear GGNRA:

We at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary acknowledge the need for off-leash areas in urban areas. If the areas are well planned, they help ensure the well being of companion dogs and their guardians; as well as promote the safety of the public and wildlife in the park. We believe individual communities can be trusted to plan wisely.

These principles are relevant to the GGNRA as well as urban areas nationally. Therefore, on behalf of our organization's 250,000 members across the country, we ask that you exempt the GGNRA as well as all national parks established in urban areas from on-leash requirements for dogs in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Mountain'.

Michael Mountain
President
Best Friends Animal Sanctuary

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4388-01-1A

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MAR 25 2002

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: Richard Plombon (printed)
Address: 950 KANSAS St. SF. CA 94107
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Our proximity to Fort Funston Beach WAS AN influencing factor in our choice to acquire the dog we have. He needs the kind of exercise that running free on the beach provides. We have counted on the Funston beach exercise for his health. We might not have taken on the responsibility of dog ownership if we ~~couldn't~~ count on this kind of freedom. Please do not retract this Liberty - for us and our dog Cody.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Mr & Mrs Plombon Date 3/17/02 (optional: Age: 42 Sex (M) F Ethnicity C)
Version 2.0

4389 - 02 - 1B

To: GGNRA
From: Vivian Remer
Re: Dogs at Headlands
Case # 02-2351
Date: March 14, 2002

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MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent,

I would like to bring to your attention a potentially dangerous and unsanitary situation occurring on public lands. The entrance and first several hundred yards of the Headlands National Park (entrance at the top of Donahue Street) is being used and abused by commercial dog walkers. The walkers are walking their dogs unleashed, with packs of five to six per walker or more. Some of the dogs are aggressive, untrained and dangerous to other users of the park.

In addition, the professional walkers are not cleaning up after the dogs and the smell, flies and dog excrement is creating a disgusting public nuisance and probably hurting the natural wildlife and birds.

Here are my observations:

On Thursday, March 14th, 2002 at around 11:15 AM I went for a stroll with my 9-month daughter. We live in one of the Headlands Condos and we are homeowners.

As I approached the top of the hill at the end of Donahue that leads to the beginning of this beautiful path my first encounter was with a pack of dogs (5 or 6 all together) being "supervised" by a professional dog walker by the name of Debbie. At that moment they were all loose at the parking lot and Debbie was trying to get them on their leashes. However, as she started to walk towards the path screaming at one of the dogs and actually hitting one-- she did not realize that one of them was left behind loose and wandering around. It was a big dog --heavy looking-- maybe a mixed lab which came towards me and my baby. It gave my baby's face a full face lick. I had to call for "Debbie" and ask if that was one of her dogs, she said: "yes, come here ...is your baby eating? "I said: yes, cookies" She said:" Oh, this dog is crazy for food, he is after your baby's cookies"...

I waited until she was gone with all her dogs; finally, I was able to go in the path for my stroll. During my walk I saw other unleashed, large dogs with what I guess were their owners/walkers walking far behind.

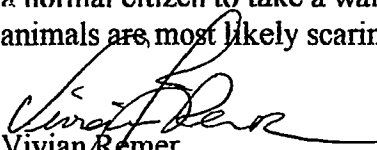
After about 20 minutes I turned back and at the entrance where I had met "Debbie" I saw another pack of 5 or 6 dogs. Their "walkers", two women ignored the fact that I was coming to the curb with a baby and their large dogs were still loose. I saw one of them defecate in the middle of our path, entirely ignored by the walkers.

8/2

I didn't feel it was safe to continue with several large dogs loose and unsupervised, so I called to the women and asked that they put their dogs on a leash. Just then, two big dogs --one a boxer and the other a Labrador ran at us in a threatening way barking as if they would jump on us. I froze as the walker, who didn't move an inch screamed their names. The dogs stopped by each side of my baby's face and for a second I looked at them to calm them down. Luckily they returned to their walker. I would not have been able to control both of them myself if they had not.

I am not a dog hater. I have had my own dogs, I have often noticed lost dogs and gone out of my way to return them to their owners. However, this situation is very dangerous, and possibly life threatening.

It is very unfair that I can't go for a quiet walk with my daughter without being threatened by unleashed dogs and having to dodge their excrement. In addition, most of the dogs, though not all, were being walked as part of a business. It doesn't seem right that someone making money on public lands should be able to make it too dangerous for a normal citizen to take a walk and enjoy nature. Finally, I think that these unleashed animals are most likely scaring the natural wild animals in addition to my baby and me.



Vivian Remer
4 Ridgeview Court
Sausalito/Marin City

Dear Superintendent [redacted] Neill:

4390-01-1E

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

Name: TERESE ANDERSON (printed)
Address: 1166 Garden St EPA CA 94303
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true -- that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: [Signature] Date 3/21/02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M Ethnicity B)

Version 2.2

March 9, 2002

GGNRA013797

4391-04-1A

Moira Flannery
1324 Thomas St.
San Francisco, CA 94124

Sup. Brian O'Neill
GGNRA
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

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MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3/17/02

Dear Sir,

I am writing regarding the proposed rule change. As I see it, the debate boils down to people who want to use the space as the original document first intended and people who want to fence it off for some private agenda of their own.

I'm sorry, but the native plant people are pretending that they are preserving some pristine natural area, when anyone who actually goes there can tell you there is nothing natural or pristine about it.

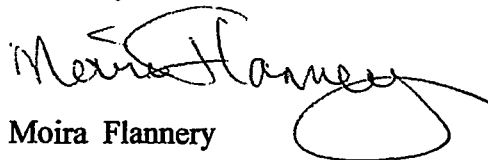
Large areas have already been fenced off and are no longer available for any kind of activity. No more picnicking, kite flying on the bluffs, rolling down the dunes or painting of the view is allowed. These are all activities I, and my family enjoyed. Now the most predominant feature is fencing. Fencing, and heavily planted areas that are not natural nor scenic nor accessible to the people who use the park are at odds with the original intent of the park's inception.

and

Change the rules. Let people play fetch with their dogs. Let children and their pets frolic on the dunes. Let people picnic on the bluffs and watch the surfers. This is not Yosemite. This is San Francisco.

I have enclosed some photos of some paintings I have done at Fort Funston. They were all done in areas that are now fenced off. I can't tell you how much I hope the dog people prevail. If they lose, the people of San Francisco lose, and that will break my heart.

Sincerely,

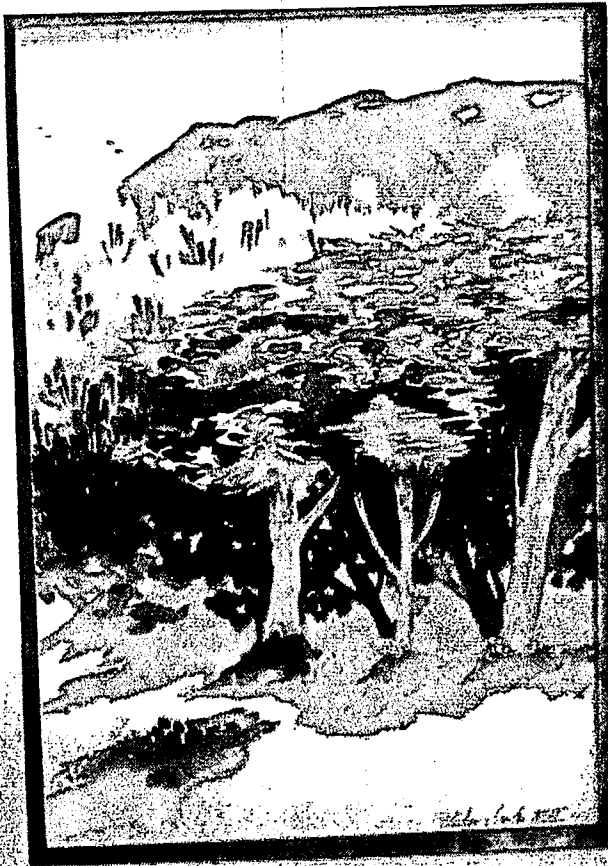

Moira Flannery

1/4



2/4





44

4392-01-1A

MARCH 20, 2002

Dear National Park Service,

I request you to ammend the National Park guidelines on pets to allow off-leash areas in the GGNRA.

Many dogs need large off-leash areas in order to be properly exercised. Their physical and mental health deteriorates without it.

I usually walk my dog at Fort Funston where people are very concientious about picking up after their pets. I have never seen anyone bitten or lunged at and I have almost never seen a dog altercation. The few I have witnessed did not result in a real bite.

One good idea, I think, for assuring peaceful dog parks is to award good citizenship status to dogs who go through certain training and can prove they are under voice command.

There are a lot of people for whom thier dogs well being is a major ingredient of their own well being. For most of those people, having large off-leash areas is of prime importance. The GGNRA is large enough to accomodate them. I know dog owners will be happy to help maintain those areas ,whatever that might entail.

Please enact a special rule allowing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

Thank you,
Barbara Kossen
1726 33rd Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94122

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4393-01-1C

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Mary Borch (printed)
Address: 523 Placitas Ave Menlo Park CA 94025
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I agree to this for limited hours i.e. 7-8 am, or 6-7 pm; letting the public know dogs will be off leash during these hours.

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Mary Borch Date 3/21/02 (optional: Age: 50's Sex M F Ethnicity C)
Version 2.2
March 9, 2002
GGNRA013803

4394-03-18

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MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

21 March 2002

To Whom it May Concern,

First, thank you for your solicitation of public comments concerning this issue. In GGNRA dogs should be on leash. Moreover, there are some times of the year (e.g., when birds are nesting) when dogs should not be allowed, even on leash, and some places in the GGNRA where dogs should not be allowed at all. The GGNRA should establish certain No Dog times of the year and certain No Dogs ever cites. Again, nowhere and at no time of the year in the GGNRA ought dogs be allowed off leash.

I offer a number of reasons. I do so noting first, that although I currently do not own a dog, I grew up owning dogs, I like dogs, and I very well may own a dog in the upcoming years as my children age. (I think caring for a dog is especially character-forming for most children and some adults.) Why, then, do I think the GGNRA should restrict dogs always to a leash, and have some places where they may not go and some places where they may go only at certain times of the year?

First, as you know, there are certain species of bird that nest at certain times on GGNRA lands. One who uses the GGNRA as frequently as I and my family do sees dogs always chasing these birds, even when on leash, the dogs bark and disturb the birds. Dogs cannot help doing this, it is in their nature to do so. Nonetheless, it is harmful to the birds and it is unpleasant for those of us who enjoy seeing the birds and observing them to constantly also hear and see the dogs disturbing the birds. My solution is that when the birds are especially vulnerable during nesting seasons, the dogs would not be allowed in the nesting areas. This compromise accommodates the birds and the dogs.

Second, dogs should not be allowed in certain designated areas ever, as some people simply do not like to have dogs around. Such people must be accommodated. Many people (I have not been but know numerous people who have) have had bad experiences with dogs and have been bit, etc. They do not enjoy dogs and indeed, they are frightened, rightly or wrongly by dogs. Such people deserve places in the GGNRA where they know they will not encounter dogs. When thinking of this matter, one must acknowledge that people, not dogs pay for the GGNRA and people, not dogs, have priority concerning its use. (I am not saying that no one can make claims for the dogs, but that their claims are prioritized after those of people.)

Third, dogs ought always to be on leashes whenever and wherever they are allowed in GGNRA. Why?

There are a number of reasons:

A) There is in practice always a certain declination from the rule. If one requires leashes, then dogs go on leash and the owners let the leashes go (the dog runs free on a leash.) If dogs are under voice command, the dog runs anywhere it wants to go, out of sight of owner and out of voice control, earshot. This is simply the way of such rules, they fall into disuse and are not followed or are followed by the next closest behavior (the dog running on a leash that is not in the owner's control) or the dog running free and in a pack). Moreover, there is typically a decline when it comes to enforcement, too. (That is, officers, because of pressures and the understandable desire not to offend, typically give the owner a little latitude, so the rule needs to be more conservative in order to get acceptable behavior.)

B) Voice command does not work as dog owners do not typically even know what it is to have a dog under voice command. When I was a young boy, I and my father trained dogs. During my adolescence, I had two bird dogs, and a beagle. Those dogs were under my command because I took the hours and hours and months and months it takes to train a dog. I could place a piece of cheese on my dogs' nose and they would not eat it unless I snapped my fingers. That is control, and few owners have it because few owners discipline themselves and their dogs sufficiently to get it. If GGNRA insists on a licensing of certain dogs as being voiced controlled, then those dogs and only those dogs should be allowed off leash, but unless this is done, the presumption should be that a dog is not under voice control; until the owner shows it to an unbiased third party, such as a professional dog trainer.

C) Off leash leads dogs to pack and when dogs pack, they behave differently. This is empirically based; a dog that may not be aggressive in the least when alone will act aggressively in a pack, and this is in the nature of the dog to do. (just as a horse (or

4394-03-1B

humans, for that matter) behave differently in groups than when alone.) For this reason, dogs ought not to be allowed off leash in the GGNRA.

D) In the very unfortunate circumstance of a dog biting a person, especially in the case of a dog biting a child (I note that on 17 March 2001 an unleashed dog bit a 15 year old girl at Rodeo beach it sounds as if she will be permanently marred by this tragic event), if your rules say it is okay for the dog to be off leash, this is more likely to lead to such unfortunate events. For a dog off leash is much more difficult to avoid. Indeed, I have been on GGNRA lands with my child throwing a ball and have had dogs go after and take the ball. So, if dogs are allowed off-leash, there will be more dog bites. Also, those who have been bitten will have less of a claim that they have been wronged, as the dogs will not have been in violation of the leash law. It is easy to avoid a dog on a leash held by its owner; it is sometimes impossible to avoid a dog off leash. By allowing dogs off leash on GGNRA, you would be taking away certain rights from those who prefer to avoid the company of dogs and giving those rights to those who have dogs. The burden ought to be placed on the dog owner. Indeed, it is not a great burden to walk a dog on a leash. It is, however, a very unpleasant experience to have dogs chase after the baseball or football one plays with, or to have dogs run up to a child chasing a ball, and so on.

Again, thank you for your thoughtful solicitation and consideration of these comments regarding the GGNRA's leash rules for dogs.

To re-iterate, dogs must always be on leash, there are some places where dogs may not ever be, even on leash and there are some places that dogs may not be at certain times of the year.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Cavanaugh

Marin County
One Fern Rd.
Kentfield, Ca.
94901-2809

3/3

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4395-01-1A

RECEIVED

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

MAR 25 2002

Name: Mia Cooper
Address: 433 CORBETT ST SF CA 94114
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Please, it's really difficult for me to imagine having my dogs not be allowed to "run free" — our world is full of constraints — why do we have to add to it? Dogs are very much a part of our society — health experts have proven that the company of a dog helps lower our blood pressure, aid stroke victims etc. in their recovery, etc. Dogs need to be able to play, romp, run around — we have the responsibility to provide places to facilitate this. Marjorie Knoller took Bane up onto the roof of an apartment complex to "poo" & perhaps "get his daily exercise". Perhaps Bane may have been a "healthier dog" had he had the opportunity to "run around" & divert his energy elsewhere?

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas? *Who knows?? PLEASE*
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true — that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: [Signature] Date 3/21/02 (optional: Age: 44 Sex M (F) Ethnicity W)
Version 2.2

March 9, 2002
GGNRA013807

don't know no does ...!

4396-01-1A

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET
HELGI TOMASSON ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sir or Madam -

I am very disturbed that the elimination of off-leash dog recreation is being considered in the GG NRA. I don't own a dog myself, but I use the ~~xxx~~ facilities at Fort Funston and Mountain Lake Park quite regularly, and I feel that people should continue to let their dogs run as they have in the past. I've never had a problem with off-leash pets, and I've never seen any problems in the parks when dogs are allowed to run. I am unhappy with the ongoing policy of 'closing off' more and more of the GG NRA to public access in the name of preservation. This is a dense urban area and people need green places to walk and play. You are, in essence, privatizing a public commons and restricting it to a privileged few.

Matthew Naughton

455 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 Tel 415 861 5600 Fax 415 861 2684 Web www.sfballet.org

Helgi Tomasson Artistic Director Arthur Jacobus Chief Executive Officer

184 Funston Avenue #11
San Francisco CA 94118

4397-01-1A

Jody K. Debs
11 Heyman Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94110

company name here

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MAR 25 2002

March 16, 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

I am writing to provide public comment on pet management in the Golden Gate Recreation Area. I am a member of the Nature Conservancy and am staunch proponent of the National Park Service and the preservation of wild habitat and animals. If Ocean Beach and Fort Funston were a pristine habitat untouched by civilization, I would be the first to support the ban. However, they are neither pristine, wild, or unpopulated. In fact, a walk along Ocean Beach would show pollution, tin cans, garbage, diapers, piles of burnt wood and plastic. It is as far from a natural state as one can get. It is teeming with fishermen, bike riders, horses, joggers, adults and children all of whom use the beach.


If the Park Service is concerned about dogs disturbing the handful of shore birds, it should also be concerned about the many other users of the beach who also disturb these shore birds. Let's ban horses who gallop along the water and children who play in the water and joggers who run in the sand.

In the three years that I have been visiting Ocean Beach and Fort Funston, I have enjoyed this URBAN park and watching the dogs playing in the surf, leaping for balls and tumbling with the other dogs. This is one of the few places which the many dog owners of San Francisco can enjoy the ocean with their pets. None of these activities can be pursued on a leash. If certain dog owners are inconsiderate and fail to follow Park policy, fine them just like other users of the beach should be fined for failing to follow Park rules. Do not punish the thousands of dog owners and voters who use and enjoy these areas and who follow Park rules.

What is presently missing from the Park Service is balance and perspective. A visit to Fort Funston would demonstrate that the vast majority of the users are dog owners. At a minimum Fort Funston should permit off-leash dog walking combined with enforcement of rules regarding dog litter and harassment of shore birds. If there is nesting habitat that needs to be protected, it is this area that should be ruled off limits by ALL Park users.

The area permits dog owners who are elderly or who are seniors to provide their dogs with the exercise that they need. For the record, I am both a dog owner and the mother of small children. As such I am an avid user of the National Park system.

Sincerely,


Jody K. Debs

[Type Slogan here]

James R. Prescott

170 Hampton Court
San Bruno, CA 94066
USA

4398-01-1C

RECEIVED

Phone 650.589.6196
Fax 650.794.9090

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

March 21, 2002

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

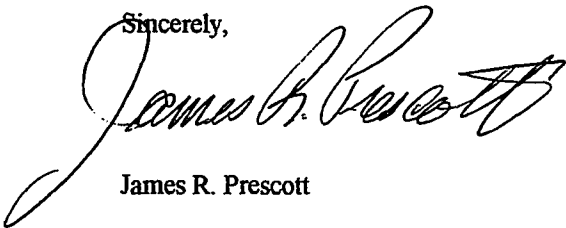
Re: Pet Management in GGNRA / Public Comment

Dear GGNRA:

I am in favor of enforcement of Leash Laws for all dogs using GGNRA. I am a native San Franciscan and have enjoyed using the GGNRA often, although the increase in dogs does detract from this experience. Not all the dogs, just those wild and uncontrolled dogs with owners/guardians who say, "Oh, don't worry my dog won't bite!" Right! We have been growled or snarled at, smelled at (usually in the crotch), assaulted (jumped up on), and bitten by dogs at GGNRA. These owner/guardians' attitudes show a total disregard for others and a very selfish attitude on their part. This attitude is not unlike those who come to Public Meetings and try to intimidate those with opposing view points by hissing. Shame on them.

I have been told to carry a cell phone to report any future incident to the GGNRA Police or to call 911. Perhaps that will work. Others say to bring a video camera and record encounters. Some say to bring pepper spray. Is this any way to have to prepare to go and enjoy the GGNRA? I think not! Enforce Leash Laws!

Sincerely,



James R. Prescott

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4399-01-1B

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

Name: S. Whitney Schrauth (printed)
Address: 71 Central Ave. San Jose CA 95125
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I have enjoyed GGNRA immensely in the 6 years that I have lived in California. A large reason I re-located to the bay area was because of its open space and the ability to run/ hike with my dog in the Headlands & GGNRA.

I have always followed the posted signs and avoided trails/ areas that do not allow dogs. In addition, I have gone to great lengths to train my dog well so that I could have her under strict voice control when in areas that do allow dogs off-leash.

In my experience, my dog has not gone off the trail and damaged any fragile habitats or disturbed wildlife any more than I as a person on the trail has.

I have found that a large part of the enjoyment people have while exploring areas within GGNRA is not only appreciating the phenomenal beauty but interacting with other people and their pets as they too are out enjoying their hike, bike or run. I love coming across horses and speaking with the people who ride them and I have found that my dog has actually caused many people to smile, engage in conversation and therefore, help create a sense of community and camaraderie.

I would be downright devastated if I was no longer able to take my dog with me in GGNRA. As a responsible owner, I would still walk and run with her, but I would have to find other places, none of which are as beautiful or satisfying as GGNRA. Going to a smelly dog park is not my idea of a pleasant outing with my pet, nor part of the outdoor experience I envisioned when I moved to this wonderful part of the earth.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: S. Whitney Schrauth Date 3.22.02 (optional: Age: 30 Sex M Ethnicity F)
Version 2.2
GGNRA013811
March 9, 2002

4400-01-1A

March 20, 2002

GARNER - Attention ANPR,

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am a regular GGNRA park user, and I am in favor and highly support making Fort Funston and the other parks in the GGNRA system accessible for off leash recreation with my dog. I need this freedom to maintain a healthy life in this busy city. Without an area of off leash freedom, my pet and I would greatly suffer.

My dog is walked on leash on the sidewalks and congested areas. She is obedience trained and responds to voice and sign controls. She is not a threat to walk off leash.

GGNRA is a huge area that can easily accommodate my desire to have my dog off leash under voice control and plenty of space for other non-dogwalking activities. It seems that most of the negative press results from a few unfortunate instances. I will not change my lifestyle to accommodate irresponsible pet owners or biased citizens. This planet is large enough to accommodate all wishes...if we want to!!

Sincerely,
Pam Petronis
4098 19th St.
SF, CA 94114

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4401-01-1A, 4402-01-1A, 4403-01-1A, 4404-01-1A,
4405-01-1A

March 19, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Dear GGNRA,

We are writing to ask you to please, please, please allow off-leash dogs in your parks. We do not have dogs ourselves, but feel it would be criminal to not allow dogs the ability to run free in the GGNRA.

Society has already required dogs to be leashed in most places. There are fewer and fewer places in the city where they can enjoy any freedom. Dogs, more than people, need to be able to exercise. However, they spend most of their lives cooped up in apartments and other homes. What right do we have as people to take over the whole world for ourselves? If this is what we are going to do, we might as well kill all other species of animals rather than force them into constrained, miserable existences.

We urge you to consider allowing dogs to be off-leash in the GGNRA.

Sincerely yours,

Amy Warren
Lisa and Bob Carey
Steve Downing
Marlene Mendiotta

*Amy Warren
and others*

4406-01-1A

RECEIVED

14 March, 2002

MAR 25 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I am writing to support off-leash dog recreation in the GGNRA. I have been walking my dogs in various areas for 15 years and have encountered very few incidents during that time. I walk daily, regardless of weather. I have also upon occasion met up with Dr. Wayburn walking his vizsla off-leash as well. Like Dr. Wayburn, I am also a senior with active dogs who would not consider an on-leash walk with me a form of exercise. My dogs run as I amble. I as well as my dogs enjoy our daily walks and I believe being able to enjoy the out of doors in this way keeps us all in good mental health. If it were not for my dogs forcing me to exercise I would probably not be as well off physically as I am, although I am disabled.

My dogs are extremely well-trained and I am responsible about picking up their waste as well as other litter that I encounter. I do not believe all dogs and owners should be penalized any more than people should be kept out of parks because some of them litter and behave badly. I have encountered far more people-caused damage and litter in parks than any caused by off-leash dogs.

I very strongly believe that owners should be accountable for training their dogs to be truly under voice command and to exercise those commands when asked by people to keep their dogs away from them or their dogs or children.

It would be devastating to not be able to take my dogs to the beach at Crissy Field, or the meadow for that matter. Of course Fort Funston should remain as it has been in the past. It is unconscionable for GGNRA to take control of all the parkland around San Francisco and take away our recreation areas based on very questionable "science". Not only has off-leash dog walking been taken away, but the new signs at trailheads now also say no bicycles. The trails I walk are little used anyway, but I would see hikers and bike riders at times - all of us using the park without infringing on anyone's freedom or harming the environment.

Off the subject, but GGNRA is now about to destroy Musee Mechanique. As a native San Franciscan I am seeing the GGNRA as an occupying force in San Francisco taking away the things we treasure. I really wish it were possible for the City to take back these areas from GGNRA as the original agreements for turning the parks over has been disregarded and GGNRA is not to be trusted.

Yours truly,



Poe Asher
44 Ord Court
San Francisco, 94114

4407-01-1C

P.O. Box 370970
910 Hawthorne St.
Montara, CA 94037-0970
March 22, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this letter to encourage you to allow off leash walking of dogs in the GGNRA. Although the GGNRA is a national entity, it should accommodate local needs as well as national interests. As a Sierra Club member since 1972, I am well aware of the urgent need to provide habitats for threatened species (such as the snowy plover) but feel strongly that habitat areas can still be provided while allowing off-leash activities for dogs, either by restricting areas where of leash dogs are allowed, restricting times off-leash dogs are allowed, or a combination of the two.

As a long term dog owner, I would also like to emphasize the no one, including responsible dog owners, wants to have dogs running out of control in the GGNRA. Irresponsible dog owners should be ticketed and fined, as they are elsewhere.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Madden

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4408-01-1A, 4409-01-1A

RECEIVED

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

MAR 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: SUSAN + FRANK MORSE (printed)
Address: 10 VENTURA AVENUE SF Ca 94116
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

once a month at least; sometimes 4x month
hiking, exercise, admiring beauty, enjoyment

2. The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

3. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

OFF-LEASH recreation is not a huge social outlet for us but we very much enjoy taking out our pet to those areas we like for our dog to enjoy the freedom to explore and run around a bit. He doesn't get to do this while living in San Francisco.

4. Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

Yes, I think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available is a good use of the GGNRA. Specifically about times and places for off-leash as well as enforcement would be a good way to make a compromise enjoyable for every one.

5. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

No

Signed: Susan Morse Date 3/23/02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)

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

4410-01-1D
4411-01-1D

Mr. & Mrs. Hugo Evans
4150 Rettig Avenue
Oakland, CA 94602

March 20, 2002

RE: Support of Off-leash Recreation for Dogs in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Dear National Park Services,

In the United States, obesity is the leading cause of preventable death, and the aggressive behavior of abused Pit Bulls owned by completely irresponsible persons makes national news. Is it not our nation's responsibility to support a healthy outlet that not only prevents disease and stress-related behaviors, but honors responsible dog ownership?

Medical studies indicate that persons who own pets, exercise, and enjoy the outdoors are healthier and less stressed. Likewise, dogs that have access to regular off-leash, outdoor activity are healthier, better socialized, and better adjusted to urban life.

Currently, less than 1% of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area parklands is designated for off-leash recreation of dogs and responsible dog owners. The off-leash recreation areas in GGNRA are located amid abandoned military installations and non-California native ice plant that was universally planted as camouflage against the enemy. This small area of GGNRA provides the one of the only accessible off-leash recreation for responsible persons and their dogs in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Responsible dog owners from all parts of the Bay Area travel to GGNRA to enjoy the shoreline with their pets. We want the National Park Services to continue to permit off-leash recreation in these limited areas of the GGNRA in support the health and well-being of the community.

We support the creation of a special rule to allow off-leash recreation in some portions of the GGNRA.

As responsible dog owners; as supporters of the Sierra Club; and as environmentally informed voters, we respect the park lands that our tax dollars maintain and support. Our quality of life is influenced by the ability to take our dogs off-leash in the GGNRA.

We believe it is vital to the health of San Francisco Bay Area residents and communities to support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. A choice to restrict off-leash recreation from GGNRA is a choice to violate the needs of the community, to diminish the quality of life for Bay Area residents, and to contribute to greater incidents of stress-related/aggressive behaviors in humans and dogs. Moreover a lack of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA would assuredly strain the few, dog friendly city parks; and increase the number of dogs that are abandoned, taken to animal shelters and euthanized as a result of behaviors associated with lack of exercise and boredom.

Thank you for your responsible leadership in making the Golden Gate National Recreation Area a place that both preserves the beauty of our coastline and supports the health of the of the San Francisco Bay Area in providing off-leash recreation areas for humans and their dogs.

Sincerely Yours,



Hugo Evans & Denise Davila Evans

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4412-01-1A

March 15, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Brian O'Neill
Superintendent, GGNRA.
Fort Mason Bld. 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

Dear Sir,

Regarding the DOG LEASH controversy: I would rather see a NO DOGS ALLOWED policy at most beaches and parks.

Recent efforts at educating dog owners about picking up waste have helped, but Ocean Beach can still be messy, and the Fort Funston area resembles a raw sewage release.

Because of dog waste, broken glass, and the potential for animal bites, I will only take my children to Stinson Beach or some other dog free zone, for an outing. Even so, on my last trip to Stinson, I managed to do a barefoot squish on a fresh pile.

Perhaps the dog people could have their own designated areas to do their animal bonding thing, and people who appreciate clean, quiet beaches and parks could have their areas.

Sincerely,



David Dryden
1935 32nd. Ave.
San Francisco, Ca.
94116

4413-01-1A

FROM : M DAJANI

PHONE NO. : 415 876

Mar. 23 2002 05:59PM P1

Superintendent O'Neill:

FAX To: 415 561 4355

Date: 3/20/02

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

Name: M DAJANI (optional: Age: Sex: M F Ethnicity)
Address: 115 Seal Rock Dr. SF CA 94121 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

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

I live right in the area... too many dogs off the leash... tons of dog feces... I have been reducing my walking activity over the years because there are too many dogs off the leash

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

I do NOT own any animals at this time -

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

OFF leash and on leash dogs should be prohibited in or around the beach area & the Parks especially when there are huge crowds visiting... They should only be allowed around the southern end of the beach near the Pacific

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

It would be better if we do not allow dogs on these beaches & GGNRA parks altogether. Dogs should only be allowed in designated areas at the southern end of ocean beach nearest to Pacific

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

No I do not feel safe with the dogs around off leash I have 2 small children who get scared by these dogs... in fact one almost bit my 2 year old daughter

Date: 3/20/02

FEB-24-1998 06:55P FROM:

4414-02-1A

TO:5614355

P:1/2

Barbara A. Fugate
318 Foote Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94112
3/23/02

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

Dear GGNRA,

Perhaps it is because I am one of those who has lived in California long enough to remember when San Francisco voted to give Ft. Funston, the Presidio, etc, to the GGNRA. Or perhaps it is just because I am looking at this from a selfish standpoint. Whatever the reason I think your single-minded belief that one rule has to suddenly apply to all places is ridiculous.

I am a 50 year old 911 Dispatcher who needs to get regular exercise to relieve the stress. I do not own a dog but I walk at Ft. Funston because there are dog walkers there and because dogs run off leash. There is a unique pleasure in watching dogs interact with other dogs. It cheers me up on the darkest days. And the people who are out there are responsible, friendly, and considerate. They keep an eye on Ft. Funston and go above and beyond the call of duty to maintain a safe and clean park. There isn't a day when I can't find a dog owner to walk with and chat. And I don't know most of their names. (Of course, I know Daisy, Heidi, Molly, Pepper, Cole, Hardy, and lots of the dogs.) These dog people are the ones who pick up the trash, especially after the weekend's sloppy visitors. Twice I have helped remove graffiti from the hillside when the "Pinoy Boys" were active late last year. Did you know this Daly City Gang was apparently trying to get a foot hold? It's the dog owners who warn others of individuals who probably aren't there to improve their health.

Some years ago, maybe 15 years, I remember you tried to limit Ft. Funston's access. Then we had several robberies, cars weren't safe in the parking lot, and teens began having drunken orgies in the tunnels which ultimately lead to a rape. I submit to you that you must learn a lesson that most police departments have already learned, you cannot protect an area, or city, or park without the help of the citizens who use the area. You just haven't got enough manpower, and you never will have enough. If you go against all your promises and decide that dogs must be on leash at Ft. Funston, you will loose 80-90 percent of your walkers. I can risk my safety walking in my own neighborhood so I won't be out there. The purple lady in her wheelchair won't come out there - she's comes to say hello to the dogs. So, what you will end up with is lots of homeless types, gang members, increased crime just like the last time, and you will make the GGNRA a blight on the area. This will lead to more litter, more waste both human and canine because many transients have dogs and if you think they're going to clean it up . . .

By requiring dogs on leash and therefore loosing most of your responsible users at Ft. Funston you will quickly develop a litter problem as well. I suggest you check the area near the ranger station where you break your own rules and allow overnight campers. On any given day, I can count 10-20 pieces of garbage, bags, Styrofoam, plastics floating around that area. That's the area where dog owners don't walk. So who is suppose to be keeping that clean? Doing a great job, too. I certainly have never seen a ranger bend over and pick up a piece of trash in the 9 years I have been walking out there.

Since the dog owners already pick up everyone else's trash, maintain a Saturday waste cleanup, and watch over the area, I would like to see the following decisions made in order to keep Ft. Funston free:

FEB-24-1998 06:56P FROM:

4414-02-1A

TO: 5614355

P: 2/2

- 1) All dogs will have licenses. There is simply no reason why they aren't licensed in their cities of residence and in most cases this proves vaccination records.
- 2) Rangers will all attend community policing or social interaction classes. I have never seen such a group of poorly prepared "law enforcement" or public employees when it comes to dealing with the public. The Park Police are just fine. They are professional, no nonsense, but never rude to the public. However, your rangers scare me and I've been working as a Dispatcher for almost 13 years. You need to establish some sort of oversight before they hurt someone. The dog walkers self-police and do a proper job of it, why don't the GGNRA Rangers
- 3) Dog walkers will maintain any bag dispensers installed by the GGNRA to pick up refuse.
- 4) Since 99% of the dogs don't chase the snowy plover, return some of the fenced areas to the dog walkers.
- 5) Currently references to native plants don't make sense. Plans to remove ice plant only accelerate the erosion problems. I am confused about your statements that the dogs hurt the ice plant, yet you want the ice plant removed? What year are you trying to return the area to when it comes to native plants? I bet dogs were allowed to run off leash in 1900, and in 1800, and in 1700. So isn't that part of the natural habitat.

The GGNRA should promise to properly repair and maintain the drainage ditches and pipes installed by the Army so that there will be emergency access to the area in case of injury. Right now you are rapidly losing roadway. How would you get an ambulance in there? Since I started walking 9 years ago, I believe there has been a 10-15% loss of park area due to erosion. Three bunkers have landed on the beach. The coast path north of the parking lot has disappeared into the ocean. Two separate stretch of road are probably impassible should an emergency vehicle

In my opinion, the GGNRA should be ashamed of the shabby way you have treated those who walk at Ft. Funston and run their dogs without leash. These people have bent over backwards to try to please you and have treated this area better than it was their own back yard. There could have been a cohesive group working together to make Ft. Funston even more of a model of what a recreation area should be. Instead your goal seems to be to sterilize the park, discourage the users, and hide the neglect and lack of funds spent on the area. You should hang your heads in shame for trying to turn honest considerate law abiding people into criminals.

I SUPPORT OFF LEASH WALKING AT FT FUNSTON, AND CRISSY FIELD. Even if I have to start lobbying Senators, Legislators, Mayors and anyone else I can find to take back Ft. Funston and Chrissy Field from the GGNRA. I would like to see someone who KEEPS their promises in charge.

Sincerely,

B. Fugate

copy: Honorable Diane Feinstein

copy: Supervisor Sandoval, Supervisor Yee, Supervisor Ammiano

copy: Honorable Frances Mainella, Honorable John Graham, Honorable Barbara Boxer, Honorable Joel Hefley, Honorable Daniel AKA

415-01-1A

Mar-24-02 01:53P 285 5440 MARCO

P.01

Dorothy A. Skufca

650 POTRERO AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110 TEL 415/641-1579 FAX 415/285-5440
P.O. Box 410597 S.F. 94114 CA

FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: 3/24/02 FROM: _____
TO: GGNRA FAX#: 415 561 4355
COMPANY: ANPR
REGARDING: OFF LEASH DOG WALKING
TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 1

off leash is an activity that had legal areas in San Francisco prior to the giveaway of its beaches to the GGNRA. Your bureaucracy needs to refresh its communal memory. I enjoyed the old Crissy Field enormously. Leave dog walkers alone; a few bad apples spoiling things is no excuse for your self important decision making -- and hardly open handed!
Dorothy Skufca



14158682193



3/24/02



1:51 PM



1/1

4416-01-1B

Brian O'Neill
Superintendent Golden Gate Natnl. Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Bldg. 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123
fax: 561-4355

Re: banning dogs off-leash

Superintendent:

I think that the maximum flexibility possible must be preserved in park policy regarding off-leash dogs.

Areas of the park differ widely. Some areas are immediately adjacent to neighborhoods where the custom and usage has always permitted off-leash dogs. Unless there is an existing and well-documented problem with such custom and usage, the GGNRA should not create one by banning off-leash dogs in these areas. Such arbitrary bans go against accepted community behavior and only serve to drive a wedge between the citizenry and the park which is, after all, theirs too. This is not good for the public nor for the institution of the GGNRA.

Please do not ban dogs off-leash except in those areas where there is clearly a need for such a ban.

Sincerely,

Nina Bellak
POB 493
Bolinas, CA 94924

03/24/2002 19:24 7077957865

05ENYK

PAGE 01


4417-01-~~33~~ IA

3/24/02



Olga Senyk
 2319-32nd Ave.
 SF.

"Don't fetch it...it'll just make us enablers."

To: whom and all that
 are concerned: 66NRA 
ANPR, SFDOB, Fort Funston
Dog walkers, citizens of the
city & county of S.F., and NPS,

On my car's license plate
 are my two "claims to fame"
 or most important roles: K9mom and
 love a Nurse, PRN (as needed). We need off-leash
^{space!}

I'm a native San Franciscan and I work
 in the city where I'm an RN but live out of
 county due to expensive housing. Fortunately
 my parents (who reside in the sunset district)
 walk my dog, Ivan - a Brittany spaniel, daily
 at Fort Funston. Not only is he one happy
well behaved and exercised dog, but so, too,
 are my elderly parents or I when I get time away
 from the hospital.

Animals especially dogs improve many
 lives. Not only do some rescue people, but
 they are used as therapy in the hospitals to ↓
 stress in the children with cancer frail elderly and
 use the eyes and ears to our rehab. patients. Please
we must have what little land is available in S.F.
for off-leash dog use. People who love and walk
 their pets in any 66NRA, 99% of the time clean
 up broken glass (not put there by dogs) trash and
 carry poop bags. We are responsible and feel that
these areas can be safe multi-use for both humans
 and inines swallows and all, 60 after the 017. who
 want or 'don't self police. Please approve a section 1
exemption that would allow responsible off-leash to
 be legal in approved areas. Thank-you kindly, Olga Senyk RN
 and Ivan

MAR-24-02 11:16 PM Robert Herrick

P.01

4418-01-1D

Robert R. Herrick
6699 Exeter Drive
Oakland, CA 94611
E-Mail - Doc@RobertHerrick.com

March 24, 2002

GGNRA Headquarters
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX - 415.561-4355

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish to urge the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in order to bring the general regulation into compliance with the GGNRA's enabling statute "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

I also urge the NPS to STOP aggressively enforcing the general regulation in the parts of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet Policy as allowing off-leash recreation. I ask that citations be given only for aggressive or destructive dogs as promised in April 2001.

Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when the GGNRA was established, and had been promised to be continued. The tiny percent of the GGNRA that is traditionally off-leash, will not significantly impact the overall preservation of natural resources for the park as a whole.

Respectfully yours,


Robert R. Herrick

MAR-25-02 01:00 AM Robert Herrick

P. 01

GGNRA letter

4419-01-1D

WILMA J. ZINSER
6699 Exeter Dr.
Oakland, CA 94611-1042

GGNRA Headquarters
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX - 415.561-4355

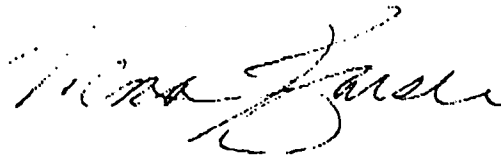
Dear Sir or Madam:

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Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when the GGNRA was established, and had been promised to be continued. The tiny percent of the GGNRA that is traditionally off-leash, will not significantly impact the overall preservation of natural resources for the park as a whole.

Respectfully yours,



WILMA J. ZINSER
6699 Exeter Dr.
Oakland, CA 94611-1042

03/25/2002 13:51

5105276676

RADER

PAGE 01

4420-01-1D

GGNRA Letter.txt

WILMA R. K. RADER
Attorney at Law
Arbitration, Mediation, Factfinding

570 Santa Clara Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707-1647

(510) 527-6676

GGNRA Headquarters
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX - 415.561-4355

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish to urge the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in order to bring the general regulation into compliance with the GGNRA's enabling statute "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

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Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when the GGNRA was established, and had been promised to be continued. The tiny percent of the GGNRA that is traditionally off-leash, will not significantly impact the overall preservation of natural resources for the park as a whole.

Respectfully yours,



1-09-1995 1:38PM FROM

P. 1

4421-01-10

Kristin Ohlson
1010 Pomona Ave
Albany, CA 94706

By Fax

March 25, 2002

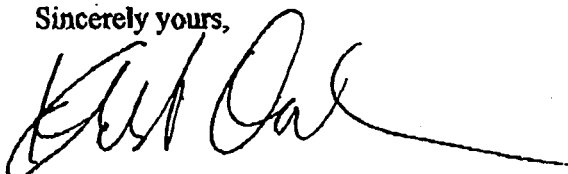
Brian O'Neill, Superintendent
GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

Please select "Alternative A: Enforce existing regulations" when you make your decision regarding the ANPR. Our national parks are too precious to open them up to unleashed dog use. Unleashed dogs can seriously degrade wildlife resources and may have significant impacts on cultural resources also. I believe that locations other than GGNRA can and will be found for unleashed dog owners. National Parks should not be used to satisfy such individual needs.

In addition, some unleashed dogs pose a threat to visitor safety. I have personally been threatened by off leash dogs in regional parks which allow such use. Please don't diminish the quality of our national parks by allowing unleashed dogs at GGNRA.

Sincerely yours,



Kristin Ohlson

03/24/2002 15:12 5102432382

RUBENSTEIN&HERRICKMD

PAGE 01

4422-01-10

Date MARCH 25, 2001

GGNRA Headquarters
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX - 415.561-4355

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish to urge the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in order to bring the general regulation into compliance with the GGNRA's enabling statute "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

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Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when the GGNRA was established, and had been promised to be continued. The tiny percent of the GGNRA that is traditionally off-leash, will not significantly impact the overall preservation of natural resources for the park as a whole.

Respectfully yours,

Signature Nadine TrujilloName Nadine TrujilloAddress 867 Windward Dr.City/State/Zip Rodeo, CA 94572

03/24/2002 15:12 5102432382

RUBENSTEIN&HERRICKMD

PAGE 02

4423-01-1D

Date

March 25, 2002

GGNRA Headquarters
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX - 415.561-4355

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish to urge the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in order to bring the general regulation into compliance with the GGNRA's enabling statute "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

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Respectfully yours,

Signature

Jack Ferreira

Name

Jack Ferreira

Address

235 Cinnabar way

City/State/Zip

Hercules, Ca. 94547

4424-01-1A

March 23, 2002

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

FAX: (415) 561-4355

RE: Off Leash Pet Policy

Dear Sir or Madam:

As a native and current resident of the City of San Francisco, I am writing to urge you to continue allowing the off-leash pet policy in a limited number of areas under your control. I currently use the parks and beaches of San Francisco at a minimum of five (5) days a week. It is a major part of my daily life and I enjoy taking my dog for walks at Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park.

As a resident and taxpayer, I believe that keeping a limited number of areas open to, and available, for off-leash dog walking should be allowed as an option to me and every other San Francisco resident.

It is a very small portion of the total acreage under the control of the GGNRA and I as a dog owner and resident of the City of San Francisco, I urge you to consider the request to keep a limited portion open to off-leash pets.

Sincerely,



Kristine Mar
922 Kirkham Street
San Francisco, CA 94122
kristinemar@hotmail.com

Mar. 26 2002 07:05PM P1/1

PHONE NO. : 415 564 2905

GGNRA013831

FROM :

Received Fax : MAR 25 2002 19:02

4425-02-1A

JÆ

March 25, 2002

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

via facsimile
415-561-4355
two (2) pages total

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

- Children represent an important part of the community who regularly visits Fort Funston. My eight-year-old son and I spend many hours each week with our Siberian Husky, traveling the paths and beaches of Fort Funston. Our time at this urban recreation area has become sacred as it provides an essential natural element, balancing our life in this densely populated urban environment.
- The land of GGNRA can be appropriately shared among recreative space and wildlife space. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. The existing open land at Fort Funston should be maintained as off-leash. The existing land cordoned off for wildlife should be even more clearly marked and educational signage displayed so that the community can further understand and honor the balance of urban living and wildlife sanctuary.
- Fort Funston provides a foundation for community building. Upon our visits to Fort Funston, we very much look forward to meeting our many friends and community members, all of whom were met at Fort Funston while walking their dogs off-leash. This opportunity for community building is essential for a stable society. Fort Funston provides an essential opportunity for one to engage with the spiritual elements of Nature.
- We care for the land as though it were an extension of our bodies. One morning, I was walking alone with my dog and came upon a juvenile gull on the beach. The gull was huddled against a log, not far from the water's edge. I wrapped the gull in my sweater and walked it to the Ranger Station.

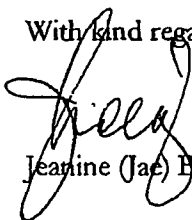
330 Stratford Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132 / jkoenig@mindspring.com

4425-02-1A

- We care for our community. My son found a collar of a dog and mailed it, along with a thoughtful note, to the dog's owner whose address was engraved on the dog tag. While apparently unimportant, this simple thoughtful act provides another important opportunity for my son to further his understanding of building community and caring for neighbors.
- People and dogs require large open spaces in which to exercise. Ours is a working breed, and huskies need open space in which to run and socialize with other dogs. Huskies are not alone in this need, for all dogs benefit from the open space and opportunity for social interaction. Healthy social interaction is possible within this environment among both people and dogs.
- We are very responsible dog people. Our Siberian Husky was a rescue and we have worked with her so that she is now even more responsive to voice commands. We monitor at all times her movements and her manner of engaging with other dogs and people. If there is an occasion where we observe it necessary, we will leash our dog or encourage another to leash theirs.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this letter. Please maintain off-leash status at Fort Funston.

With kind regard,



Jeanine (Jae) Boneck Koenig

cc: SFD OG

via facsimile
415-680-1588

330 Stratford Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132 / jkoenig@mindspring.com

2/2

4426-01-3B

SAVE

OFF-LEASH

DOG

WALKING

AREAS!!

LET

FUN

&

COMMON-SENSE

PREVAIL

OVER

FEAR

AND

UPTIGHT

PEOPLE.



MAR. -26' 02 (TUE) 10:19

CHIRON BLOOD TESTING

TEL: 5109234102

P. 001/002

4427-02-9

4580 Horton Street, M/S Z-300
Emeryville, CA 94608
510.823.4102

CHIRON | BLOOD TESTING

Fax

To: GGNRA From: Dr. Andrew Heaton

Company: _____ Pages: 2 (including cover sheet)

Fax: 415-561-4355 Date: 3/26/02

Phone: _____ CC: _____

Re: ANPR

- Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

• Comments:

1/2

MAR. -26' 02 (TUE) 10:19

CHIRON BLOOD TESTING

TEL: 5109234102

P. 002/002

4427-02-~~18~~ 9

CHIRON | BLOOD TESTING

Chiron Corporation
4500 Horton Street
Emeryville, California 94600-2916 USA
510.923.3044 Fax 510.923.4103

March 21, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

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

Dear Sirs:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the GGNRA's Advance Notice of Rulemaking Process (ANPR) regarding the off-leash dog issue started on January 11th.

When the Presidio was transferred to the Golden Gate National Park Recreation Area, a commitment was made to maintain "the traditional" use of the park. Specifically, in the 1970's the traditional use was adjusted to include off-leash dog walking. During public hearings at the time of letting the contract for renovation of the park GGNRA officials again reiterated their intent to continue off-leash dog walking use. Subsequently, the agency reneged on this commitment and has attempted to enforce the National Park Service dog walking standards to this park.

Specific comments include:

- The proposed amendment goes against commitments made at the time of acquisition of the park.
- Golden Gate Park is not a standard National Park in the wilderness, but rather an urban recreational area. It is unreasonable to attempt to apply wilderness park standards to an open park.
- The park administration needs to utilize the rule making process to accurately reflect the needs of the local area, and the organization of the rule making process has been managed in a way to minimize the level of knowledge of those who would be affected by the change in regulation. If the park service wishes to change the regulations, it would be a simple matter to place this on the ballot in San Francisco in order to document the desires of the population.

The purpose of this letter is to object to the regulation on the basis that this contravenes the original commitment made at the time of creating the park and over the attempt to enforce a national standard on a park designed for a different purpose.

Sincerely,



Andrew Heaton, M.D.
Vice President, Chief of Operations
Chiron Corporation

AH/mdp

cc: Honorable Willy Brown
Crissy Field Dog Group

4428-01-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Nomad Rugs

Phone: (415) 401-8833 - Fax: (415) 401-8855

1195 Church Street - San Francisco, CA 94114

GGNRA

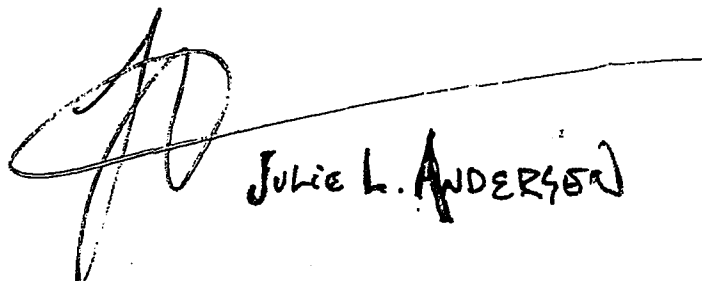
Attention: ANPR

I would like to strongly state that there is room for off-leash recreation in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. The areas where we walk our dogs are not pristine wilderness zones but former military bases and city parks.

The current dog policy has worked for 23 years. Most importantly, lets remember that the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb). Off-lease dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA.

Recreation and conservation are not mutually exclusive. Off-lease dogs under voice control can and do share the park easily with other users.

I strongly oppose greater restrictions on dog and dog owners in the GGNRA.


Julie L. ANDERSON

4429-01-1C

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: RICHARD H. TRUEB (printed)
Address: 5 BERTOCCHI LN MILBRAE CA 94038
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I am a senior citizen as is my wife. We regularly walk at Fort Funston and have done so for many years with a small group of other seniors and their dogs. We love to see the dogs free and we have observed almost no problems between the people and the animals. Take action against the owners who do not have their dogs under control, just as you would against people out of control.

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Richard H Trueb Date 3-23-02 (optional: Age: 70+ Sex M F Ethnicity W)
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002

4430-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

Name: Barbara Selbach
Address: 1055 Green Street SF CA 94133
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

My family of four, including our two grade-school age boys, spend time every week at Crissy Field with our Golden Retriever puppy. The park at Crissy is truly - in peaceful fun for everyone. We have been approached by innumerable parents of small children who seek to introduce their kids to friendly dogs in an outdoor setting. The off-leash freedom allows our dog to swim and fetch and play with other dogs. It is the key to achieving socialization and good training manners for a friendly puppy.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Barbara J. Selbach Date: 3/25/02 (optional: Age: 43 Sex M Ethnicity)
Version 2.2

GGNRA March 9, 2002

4431-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Dale Mc Glaufin (printed)
Address: 25 Romain ST. San Francisco CA 94114
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Dale Mc Glaufin Date 3-24-02 (optional: Age: 67 Sex M F Ethnicity W)
Version 2.0

GGNRA013840

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

4432-01-1B

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

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

Name: NIKOLAUS KAUBISCH (printed)
Address: 191 SAN CARLOS AVE. SAUSALITA CA 94065
(street) (city) (state) (zip)
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

① ALL BEACHES + FIRE ROADS SHOULD BE OR BECOME OFF-LEASH AREAS.

② I HAVE SEEN SEVERAL OLDER/HANDICAPPED PEOPLE COME TO THE BAY-FRONT DOG PARK TO ENJOY THE ANIMALS.

③ APART FROM THE FACT THAT I HAVE MADE SEVERAL FRIENDS BY GOING TO DOG PLAYGROUNDS, I COULD NOT KEEP A DOG WITH GOOD CONSCIENCE BECAUSE WITHOUT OFF-LEASE TRAINING YOU CANNOT RAISE A METALLY AND PHYSICALLY HEALTHY DOG. I WOULD PROBABLY LEAVE THE COUNTRY, BECAUSE HAVING A DOG IS A VERY ESSENTIAL PART OF MY LIFE.

I OBSERVE A MASS HYSTERIA IN RESPECT TO DOGS IN THIS COUNTRY. DOGS DON'T CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS THAN BIKERS AND HORSEBACK RIDERS. IF THERE HAS TO BE A DISCUSSION ABOUT LEASH LAWS IT SHOULD INCLUDE THE BANNING OF BIKERS AND HORSES AS WELL. REMEMBER: OVER 20% OF THE POPULATION IN THE US OWNS DOGS. THERE IS NO OTHER ANIMAL SPECIES THAT HAS DONE AS MUCH FOR MANKIND AS DOGS HAVE.

④ YES. I THINK THAT THE "DOG PROBLEM" IS NOT A GENERAL PROBLEM, BUT HAS BEEN GENERATED ARTIFICIALLY BY A FEW INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SIMPLY SCREAMED LOUD ENOUGH. I HAVE SEEN DOGS, BIKERS, ELDERLY, FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN SHARE THE SAME RECREATION AREAS IN COUNTRIES THAT HAVE A LOT LESS OPEN SPACE THAN THE US.

A CONTRACT IS A BINDING DOCUMENT. IF THE GGNRA RENEGES PART OF THE AGREEMENT THE CITY SHOULD TAKE THE LAND AWAY FROM THE GGNRA.

- Here are some ideas for your letter:
- ① • What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
 - ② • The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
 - ③ • How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
 - ④ • Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
 - ⑤ • San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: N. Kaubisch Date 3/8/02 (optional: Age: 64 Sex (M) Ethnicity (C))
Version 2.2

4433-01-1A

Jeff Wasserman
P.O. Box 29001
San Francisco, CA
94129

RECEIVED

March 24, 2002

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

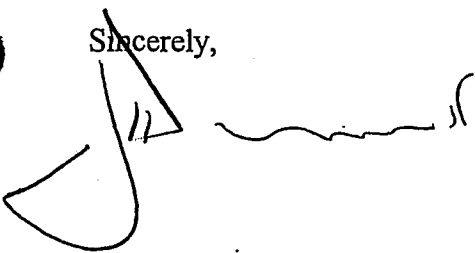
Dear Sirs,

I am writing about the proposed rule change at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) that will permit dogs to be walked off-leash. I am a dog owner. In general, I believe that dogs and other pets must be required to be walked **on leash** in National Parks. I am not against small, well-defined, well-signed areas being designated as off-leash areas.

- Almost every other local, county, and state park requires that dogs to be leashed in the park, to ensure the enjoyment of the park by all park visitors, not just dog owners.
- There have been hundreds of documented incidents in the GGNRA in recent years in which unleashed dogs have attacked pedestrians, cyclists, children, and other pets.
- As a frequent user of the GGNRA, I have often been harassed by unleashed dogs while walking or running through the park, and I have observed unleashed dogs harassing many others. These minor incidents are typically not documented, but none the less greatly diminish the enjoyment that non dog walkers can receive from using the GGNRA.
- My wife and I ride horses in the GGNRA. Unleashed pets constitute a constant serious threat to the safety of horses and equestrian when they attack and startle our horses.
- Unleashed dogs defecate and urinate wherever they choose. I am often disgusted by the sight of hundreds of dogs urinating and defecating on Ocean Beach, Baker Beach, and Crissy Field Beach, and the sight of small children simultaneously walking barefoot and playing in sand saturated with dog urine and feces.
- As a federal resource management agency, the National Park Service has a statutory and professional obligation to protect our resources and endangered species in accordance with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. Unleashed dogs threaten those species.

Please keep me informed regarding your decision in this matter. My e-mail address is sfharrier@cs.com.

Sincerely,



GGNRA013842

4434-01-3B

Steve Taylor
143 Arbor Street

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

3/25/2002

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing to voice my very strong support for off-leash activities in the GGNRA.

I try to walk my dog daily during the past 15 years. In the areas I frequent, I would estimate that 80% of the people hiking are with dogs (Glen Park canyon and Bernal Heights hill). At Ocean Beach, about 10% of the users are with dogs near the North end and about 35% of the users near the South end are with dogs.

A large percentage of the people who use the GGNRA are with dogs. Today, as well as 15 years ago, dogs explore and play within the 75,000 acres of the GGNRA. We offered the GGNRA our open coastland with the mutual understanding that supervised off-leash dogs would use these lands.

However, things do change over time. Today, dog guardians and their dogs are far better educated and responsible than ever before. Our dogs are licensed, they go to school, and are very social creatures (thanks to open off-lease areas). Dog guardians are far more aware and responsible for the environment, and other people, than ever before. As a group, dog owners are your best example of recreation and conservation working together.

I think the GGNRA lands should be 50% off-leash and 50% leash required. The leash required areas would be the more densely frequented or the more environmentally sensitive areas. Off-leash recreation in the approved areas implies that the guardians of dogs face penalties for violating rules for off leash recreation. I think it will be easy to define the rules, violations, and fines pertaining to off-leash recreation in GGNRA lands.

Please grant us a Section 7 exemption or consider returning our land.

Sincerely,


Steve Taylor

GGNRA013843

4435-01-1A

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent
GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

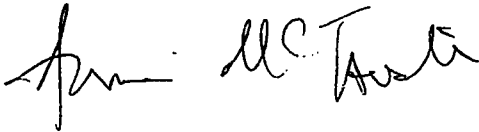
MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I urge you to select "Alternative A: Enforce existing regulations" when you make your decision regarding the ANPR. Our national parks are too precious to open them up to unleashed dog use. Unleashed dogs scare people, threaten children, can seriously impact wildlife resources and may have significant impacts on cultural resources. We should not put the wishes of the few above the needs of the many. I believe that locations other than GGNRA can and will be found for dog owners to take their unleashed dogs. National Parks should not be used to satisfy such individual wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Anne McTavish
269 Laussat Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

4436-02-1A

Lorrie Poch
187 Laidley Street
San Francisco CA 94131

March 25, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

I am writing to implore you to please allow me to continue to use Fort Funston and other areas of the GGNRA as I have for over two decades of joyous off-leash recreation with my current dog and the dogs that went before.

I began walking there with my parents and their dogs in the late 70's. My parents, now in their 80's, used Fort Funston for the social contact with other dog-owners as much as for the opportunity to exercise their dogs. It meant so much to them after my father retired to be able to go there every afternoon and visit with their friends while the dogs ran and played. When my father could no longer drive and my mother could no longer walk I would drive them on the weekends and push my Mom along the sandy, ill-swept, path in a wheelchair so that they could continue to exercise the dog and see some friendly faces.

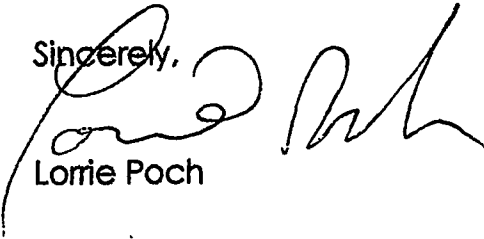
Although my parents can no longer enjoy Fort Funston my husband and I now have our own dog and walk there when we can.

I believe that the GGNRA must serve the needs of an urban population, which includes responsible off-leash dog walking. The area that we are asking for is less than 1% of the entire GGNRA. This leaves 99% to be used for native plant restoration and the recreation of those who do not want to share a space with off-leash dogs. I ask you to recognize that other "National Parks" make exception for usage far more damaging than off-leash dog walking. The best example of this is snowmobiling in Yellowstone but there are many more. Statistical evidence on the threat of dogs to wildlife in the area is circumstantial and largely anecdotal, serving as a feeble excuse to exclude dogs. I am a member of the Sierra Club and have always considered myself to be an environmentalist but I have never believed that dogs, under control, do not belong in wild places.

4486-02-1A

And lastly, to this list I would add the reminder that this land was given to the GGNRA by the city of San Francisco with the understanding that the public would continue to be able to use it as it had been used. Now that promise has been broken. If I have to go back to the GGNRA and ask for what was once ours then I am doing that here, however with a great sense of injustice at the hands of the federal government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lorrie Poch".

Lorrie Poch

Cc: Frances P. Mainella
Gale Norton
Diane Feinstein
Barbara Boxer

4437-01-1D

WENDY E. JORDAN
65 WOODLAND WAY
PIEDMONT, CALIFORNIA 94611

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA:

ANPR

FORT MASON, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA. 94123

March 23, 2002

To whom it might concern:

I am a citizen of this country who also happens to be a dog owner... a responsible dog owner, who is shocked that because of a few dog incidents, all dogs might lose the space to run free and all dog owners might lose the joy that off-leash play brings.

I believe off-leash recreation can be accommodated in the Golden Gate Recreation Area, and should be continued. Please push ^{that} forward in formulating whatever rule that is necessary to allow off-leash recreation in this park.

Sincerely

Wendy E. Jordan
(510) 547-5467

MAR 26 2002

4438-01-2, 4439-01-2

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Kaye & MICAH HARRIS (printed)

Address: 80 HOBSON ST SAN JOSE CA 95110
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

My husband & I have been taking Shadow, a black lab to Fort Funston for the past 2 yrs on weekends & feel that it's a valuable socialization ground for both dogs & humans alike. Now that I am pregnant I find I am unable to run with Shadow in the later part of my pregnancy & allowing a visit to the beach & park allows for him to get the exercise he needs & the off-leash socialization with other dogs; making him a more dog & human friendly pet. We hope we can continue enjoying these outings when our daughter arrives, allowing for her to also enjoy dog socialization.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco? No

Signed: [Signature] Date 3/24/02 (optional: Age: 30 Sex M Ethnicity W)

4440-01-1A

RECEIVED

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

MAR 26 2002

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: BRUCE LOKE (printed)
Address: 170 MARLETTA DR S.F., CA 94127
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I DON'T UNDERSTAND AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF HAVING A OFF-LEASH AREA - WHY THE SUDDEN CHANGE? I GUESS IT'S POLITICS AS USUAL IN S.F. ANYWAYS, I'VE SOME ELDERLY & SOME PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, AS AM I, ENJOY THE AREA & THE DOGS. IT'S BEEN LIKE ACTUAL THERAPY FOR THEM.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Bruce Loke Date 3-25-02 (optional: Age: 53 Sex M F Ethnicity ASIAN
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002

MAR 26 2002

4441-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: MONA LESA LOKE (printed)
 Address: 170 MARIETTA DR. (street) S.F., CAL (city) 94127 (state) (zip)

MY HUSBAND & I HAVE ENJOYED THIS OFF-LEASH AREA FOR APPROXIMATELY 10 YRS. THE THREE LARGE DOGS, NOW JUST TWO, THAT WE HAVE REALLY LOVE THIS AREA. I NEVER REALIZED THAT OUT OF 75,000 ACRES AVAILABLE ONLY .5% WAS BEING USED. ALL OUR DOGS HAVE BEEN TRAINED & IS UNDER VOICE CONTROL. THIS IS THE ONLY AREA THEY ARE ALLOWED TO RUN, PLAY & INTERACT WITH OTHER DOGS — I THINK IT'S GREAT THERAPY FOR THEM. ALSO, A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE FROM ALL THE DIFFERENT DOGS & PEOPLE.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true — that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Mona Lesa Loke
Version 2.2

Date

3-25-02

(optional: Age: _____)

Sex MEthnicity ASIAN

March 9, 2002

4442-01-1A

Nomad Rugs

www.NomadRugs.com

Christopher Wahlgren

christopher@nomadrugs.com

Phone: (415) 401-8833 - Fax: (415) 401-8855

1195 Church Street - San Francisco, CA 94114

RECEIVED
MAR 26 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA

Attention: ANPR


I would like to strongly state that there is room for off-leash recreation in GGNTA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. The areas where we walk our dogs are not pristine wilderness zones but former military bases and city parks.

The current dog policy has worked for 23 years. Most importantly, lets remember that the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb). Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA.

Recreation and conservation are not mutually exclusive. Off-leash dogs under voice control can and do share the park easily with other users.

I strongly oppose greater restrictions on dog and dog owners in the GGNRA.

Christopher Wahlgren

 3/23/02

4443-02-1C

Shannon Carlin
3404 Leafwood Ct.
San Mateo, CA 94403

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MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To. AANRP

I am writing this in regards to the current off leash situation at the GGNRA. Several years back I discovered Ft. Funston while in between classes at SF State. I thought it was just a beautiful place but what really got my attention was all the dogs running around. Never had I saw such a wonderful sight. Being a huge animal lover but not owning a dog of my own (due to living situation) I was just taken back at how happy all these animals and their owners seemed. Since I did not have a dog of my own I began bringing my friends dogs while they were at work. I can't express how happy I was to be there and walking around with these great animals running free and playing as they should be allowed to do. I have introduced that place to over a dozen people from my area who was unaware that Funston even existed. My parents who do not have any pets go there and sit on the bench just to watch the dogs interact. They get a great laugh out of it has does my niece who is four and nephew who is two. With those two little ones running around I have absolutely no fear for there safety. From what I see the dogs are to happy to be there to be aggressive.

I believe the Diane Whipple tragedy has blown the whole off leash privilege way out of proportion. Although what happened to that poor woman is beyond devastating it does not mean that all animals will attack and that they are all vicious. With all the time I spend at Funston I have yet to see a dog attack. Of course they get on one another nerves and a bark or growl is sent out but how different is that from us except we speak.

We are at the point now where we have no where to recreate with our pets. Of course there are those enclosed dog parks but what fun is that for us. The dogs even get bored after the first half hour. I should be

4443-02-1C

allowed to have a place to exercise with the company of an animal even if it is not my own. It is not possible to beat the company and love you get off an animal. I should not be forced to enjoy that company only on the sidewalk in my neighborhood. From what I see Funston is not utilized by anybody but dog lovers and hang gliders.

I have read both sides to this argument and completely understand the environmental concerns as well as the public safety concerns. People need to understand though that you can't just push us dog lovers out of every open space in the bay area. This is basically saying that those in this area should just get cats because there really is no place that dogs are acceptable.

Please take into heavy consideration my letter and the many other letters and petitions you have received and see that there are not just a small number of us but hundreds of thousands of us who use these lands to recreate with the four legged members of our families.

Sincerely,



Shannon Carlin

MAR 26 2002

4444-01-1C

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Anna Liza M. Espinosa (printed)

Address: 322 Irvington St. Daly City, CA. 94014.
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I visit Fort Funston 2-3 times a week - It is a great place to socialize dogs as well as meeting people. This is the only place I can go to, to have my pet off-leash. If ocean beach was the same way, I would bring my dog there too! I am an responsible dog owner. Please keep places such as Fort Funston open to off-leash dogs & their owners - We need them!

Thank you - Anna Liza

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: [Signature] Date 03-22-02 (optional: Age 24 Sex M Ethnicity Filipino)

4445-01-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Alcia Cali (printed)

Address: 1745 Geneva Ave. San Francisco CA 94134
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

There is no place like Fort Funston in the Bay area. I am a person with disabilities and I come with my dogs to fort Funston for fun and personally, my therapy. It brings me great joy to see animals run free. If there were no off leash parks available, where would I go? Walking my dog in the neighborhood is very difficult with heavy foot and vehicle traffic, let alone uneven pavement. Please, please, please keep places such as Fort Funston open.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Alcia Cali

Date 03-24-02 (optional: Age: 44 Sex M F Ethnicity German

Version 2.0

4446-01-1D

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MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent
GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I urge you to select "Alternative A: Enforce existing regulations" when you make your decision regarding the ANPR. Our national parks are too precious to open them up to unleashed dog use. Unleashed dogs can seriously impact wildlife resources and may have significant impacts on cultural resources also. I believe that locations other than GGNRA can and will be found for unleashed dog owners. National Parks should not be used to satisfy such individual needs.

Sincerely yours,

Michael R Williams

*1172 Larch Ave
Moraga CA 94556*

MAR 26 2002

4447-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Name: Alice Kay ALICE KAY (printed)
Address: 809 Noriega S.F. Ca. 94122
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I am a 3rd generation San Franciscan and most of my life I have had a dog, and always enjoyed the freedom dogs enjoyed in my city.

Those two horrible lawyers and their killer dog seem to be spoiling freedom for other dogs. The companionship one gets from one's pet is not easily described. I find it unbelievable that you people are contemplating not letting dogs run free at Fort Funston, Gissy Field and many other large open spaces. I am 84 years young and get much pleasure in seeing dogs running free and playing (without leashes).

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas? *Fort Funston Gissy Field*
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed? *My dog is not happy leashed, feels like you would in a cage.*
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land? How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone? *People clean up after their dogs; I like Park Rangers very anti social.*
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

I knew Phil Burton as a friend, he would be appalled at these leash laws

Signed: Alice Kay Date 3/24 (optional: Age: 84 Sex M (F) Ethnicity W)
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002

4448-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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

Name: Andrew C. Davis (printed)

Address: 9 Russell St S.F. Ca 94132
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Mr O'Neil;

I would appreciate for you to give your approval to the hundreds of dog lovers and myself the off leash for my dog, Buddy.

I have been running my dogs since 1967 at Fort Funston. In that time, I have expose (14) dogs including, Buddy.

Time is catching up with me. The 1/2 mile walk every day with my Pal, has help me tremendously. I will be coming to 86 shortly. Please give thought to me and many people like myself to enjoy what little time we have left.

Thank you,

Andy Davis
(Native San Franciscoer)

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MAR 26 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA should remain (or become) off-leash areas?
- The Park Service says that the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, families with children and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you are the social and physical aspects of off-leash recreation? How would these be different if all the dogs are leashed?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary use of areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this land?** How can the GGNRA make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed Andy Davis Date 3-22-02 (optional: Age: _____ Sex M F Ethnicity _____)
Version 2.2 March 9, 2002

4450-01-1C



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MAR 26 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1850 Los Altos Drive
San Mateo, CA 94402

Phone (650) 349-0114
E-mail Powerscalif@cs.com

March 24, 2002

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

RE: ANPR

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

As a member of both the GGNRA and the Fort Funston Dog Walkers we are puzzled as to why these two fine organizations are at odds with one another. Our goals - the enjoyment for all of the pleasures of Fort Funston - are certainly similar.

We support a Section 7 Exemption, which would allow off-leash to continue legally in the GGNRA and would bring the 1979 Pet Policy in line with Federal requirements.

Recreation and conservation are not mutually exclusive. Surely we can work out a flexible, equitable plan fair to all.

Fort Funston is a jewel appealing to everyone. Please let everyone enjoy it!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim and Rita Powers". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jim and Rita Powers

4451-01-1A

FROM : REC-PARK DEHS

PHONE NO. : 415 831 2098

Mar. 26 2002 05:13PM P1

Superintendent,
Golden Gate National Recreation Area,

I am a native San Franciscan who uses our parks extensively. I represent many people in the Sunset and Parkside Neighborhoods. I would like to take the time to commend you and the field resource management staff for upholding the mandate of the National Park Service in protecting as best to your ability, our natural resource heritage on the San Francisco Peninsula. In the past seven years, I have witnessed a steam-rolling affect by the dog-walking community both physically on our parks, and with the attempt of management, now socially at community meetings and park work groups/shops. Dog-walkers are a recent concentration of use on our parks. Although dog-walkers have the right to request space for use, I have witnessed a great deal of abuse and disregard for maintenance and hard-won restored habitat and its representative beauty of everyone's parks.

Across the nation, we have established lands/open space for our use. These lands have been managed to preserve the land as it exists and to give back what is undisturbed and peaceful to humanity. Throughout history, every type of use has tried to invade, and our park agencies have defended these lands through hard fought battles to manage recreational uses in balance. Our National Park System has set precedents for preservation. What makes the dog-walking community think they have greater privileges here than the rest of our country to try and repeal the important leash law? It provides the basic balance of use to the nature that dogs are invasive on natural land, and mostly difficult to manage. They are by nature for the most part fast moving predators that need to be specially managed. Once again we must fight back the urges and narrow-special-interests of fellow humans and educate them on the importance of co-use and basic aesthetics beyond their love of their dogs/pets.

Dogs do not care where they are run. People do. It is dog owners' responsibility to to steward the land. This isn't happening. Rather, many spend their time attacking well-founded science and land preservation. The facts are that dogs dig a lot, most chase or inadvertently harass wildlife, scare people/children, and are capable of biting. Where is the average park user's right to use and enjoy Fort Funston without threat? This is certainly not a place I can take my family any longer. Many people have simply been scared away from such concentrations where dogs are not separated or controlled! What is the purpose then of urban recreation areas? Certainly not an unmanaged mass dog run!

It is unfortunate that the love of pets there has been less love for other people/children and the willingness to not respect our urban wildlife's basic needs. Fast degradation of established parkland and lack of usability of its resources by others is unacceptable at this level. Awareness must be instilled and rangers/enforcers must remain adamant and supported in the new face of increased use. When listening to commentary, remember that the fervor of the dog-walking community is not in everyone's best interest, but rather a concentrated effort to de-rail good, balanced management. Stop the steamroller! Respect and enjoyment in our G.G.N.R.A. for everyone!. Disperse dog use more, give them areas that allow them to be responsible for their pet, not allow impacts and the inability for others to use our beautiful parks.

Respectfully,



4452-013B



mark tanaka
<Tanakam@pacbell.net>

03/25/2002 10:19 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

Off leash dog areas comprise a very small fraction of the state and national park systems. Any cost benefit analysis of the off leash areas in San Francisco and Bay Area would show that the benefit of allowing these off leash areas far outweighs the environmental cost. If the purpose of urban parks is to serve the public, then these parks must be made available to the widest audience, including the large number of dog owners. Urban parks should not be seen as wilderness or pristine areas; they are designed to allow urban and suburban high density populations a place to recreate.

Please allow existing off leash areas to thrive, and consider creating more areas for dogs and dog lovers to be free.

4453-03-1C



Bill Baker
<bill55@pacbell.net>
03/25/2002 06:42 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Please DO NOT ask for an exception (for the GGNRA) to the
National Park policy that forbids unleashed dogs

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and have used the parklands of the GGNRA for exercise and recreation for most of my life.

It is my opinion that it would be extremely dangerous and grossly negligent for the National Park Service to create an exception to the National Park policy that forbids unleashed dogs.

Allowing unleashed dogs in the GGNRA would result in an increase in dog attacks, high risk encounters between people and dogs, and create a nuisance that would be incompatible with people's peaceful enjoyment of the GGNRA. There is no shortage of stories about dogs attacking people. By allowing an off-leash policy in the GGNRA you are increasing the likelihood of dog attacks against people and other animals. It is hard to calculate how many lawsuits will result from allowing an off-leash dog policy. However, with hundreds or thousands of dogs roaming the GGNRA off-leash there will be an increase in the likelihood that people using the GGNRA will be attacked and injured by an off-leash dog. Why would you put the safety of people using the GGNRA at risk so some militant dog owners can let their dogs run all over the GGNRA off-leash? What is the risk-reward ratio for this type of decision?

Owners of dogs of all sizes, especially large size dogs, have been and to some extent still allow their dogs to walk off-leash in the GGNRA at Milagra Ridge and in the GGNRA walking/hiking/running trails in the GGNRA area across from Lake Merced on Skyline Blvd in San Francisco. Dogs walked off-leash run up to and often jump on people who are walking in the GGNRA. These dogs chase and harass the wildlife (i.e., birds, rabbits, and other small animals) in the Milagra Ridge area and destroy the plants, grasses, and flowers. Although there are bags for picking up and disposing of dog excrement, dog excrement can still be found on the trails.

The GGNRA is a mini-ecosystem that contains many endangered species and frail native plants that would be threatened even more than they are currently threatened by the dogs allowed to go into these areas.

To allow dogs to roam the GGNRA off-leash would be the equivalent of declaring the GGNRA off-limits to those people who are afraid of being attacked, jumped on, or otherwise harassed by the large dogs currently being brought into the GGNRA. While many dog owners are quite responsible in handling their dogs on-leash, many

dog owners do not obey the current off-leash laws and their dogs are already damaging the GGNRA.

In my opinion, the GGNRA walking/hiking/running trails in the GGNRA area across from Lake Merced on Skyline Blvd. and Milagra Ridge in Pacifica have become overburdened by large dogs that appear to be better suited for the wide open spaces of a ranch or the plains than in an urban setting where space is at a premium. These dogs, when off-leash are a nuisance to people trying to use the trails. They jump up on people, they destroy the trails and vegetation, and they have a very negative impact on the wildlife in the area.

On numerous occasions I have had off-leash dogs aggressively run up to me and my daughter when we have been hiking and jump up on us. These aggressive encounters are usually followed by the refrains of the dog owners who say. "Oh, don't worry they won't bite you." This, after our clothes are covered with muddy paw prints. As a matter of fact, there is an individual who brings a Pit Bull and a Doberman up to Milagra Ridge in the evening and allows these dogs to run all over the place off-leash. These dogs are threatening and potentially dangerous. We have to be careful to avoid them as they have a tendency to pop-up out of nowhere. Is this the future of the GGNRA? Will people have to either avoid the GGNRA or walk in a state of constant "high alert" to avoid random dog attacks or threatening encounters? You might as well turn the GGNRA over to the dog owners and post signs stating, "WARNING - watch for aggressive off-leash dogs". This type of situation is not compatible with anyone's peaceful enjoyment of the GGNRA. In addition, dog feces can be found all over the trails and outlying areas even though, there appear to be dog waste stations and bags available at these GGNRA sites.

People who choose to purchase large/huge dogs do not have a right to trash our GGNRA sites with these dogs anymore than people who have off-road vehicles have a right to trash these sites by driving their off-road vehicles through these sites. If off-road vehicles are banned from GGNRA sites because of the damage they do to the GGNRA's environment, then why should you let the hundreds or thousands of dogs that frequent these sites roam off-leash at these sites to create similar or worse damage to the GGNRA's environment?

Having a large dog in an urban environment is a personal choice each person should pay for with their personal wealth without creating a burden on public lands. If someone chooses to have a large dog in an urban environment then they should make arrangements to pay for the land or other private areas where their dog can run free.

Walking a dog on a leash on public lands is o.k. as long as the dog owner does so in a responsible manner (i.e., picking up your dogs excrement, controlling the dog so it does not jump on other people using the GGNRA, and not allowing the dog to destroy plant life or harass the wildlife). Most of the dogs I have seen (illegally) off-leash run up to people, jump on them, destroy plants, and harass the wildlife.

4453-03-1C

For the reasons presented in the previous paragraphs, I am asking you not ask for an exception (for the GGNRA) to the National Park policy that forbids unleashed dogs.

Thank you.

William E. Baker, J.D.
San Bruno, CA 94066

4454-01-1B



CStuart10@aol.com
03/25/2002 09:09 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: comment on leash proposal

I am a frequent user of GGNRA for running and hiking. While I have been generally in favor of some areas of the GGNRA being available for dogs to be off-leash, I confess I grow increasingly less enthusiastic by the day. Fully 50 percent or more of dogs I encounter are not under voice (or any other) control by their owners. While I have not been injured or bitten, I have been jumped on by out-of-control dogs too many times to mention. When so many dog owners refuse to take responsibility for their animals, it can only lead to abuses and injury. I don't think I should have to fend off these animals when using the park land. Without better controls, I would have to vote in favor of leashed use only.

C Christine Stuart
390 Tennessee Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

4455-01-3A



"paula van de werken"
<paulacvdw@yahoo.com>
m>

To: "Brian O'Neill" <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
CC:
Subject: I Support Alternative A - Keep Dogs Leashed!

03/25/2002 08:38 PM
EST

Monday, March 25, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

paula van de werken
19 Nartoff Rd
Hollis, NH 03049
paulacvdw@yahoo.com

4456-01-3B



"F. Gerber"
<frank@richmondfinancial.com>

03/25/2002 05:13 PM

PST

Please respond to frank

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

To Whom it May Concern:

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). I have been a supporter of the GGNPA, but am adamantly opposed to any regulations banning off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and will not continue my financial support of GGNPA if a ban is implemented.

Regards,

Frank Gerber

fgerber@pacbell.net

4457-01-1A



"Nick Rasic"
<nick.rasic@cp.net>
03/25/2002 04:33 PM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: unleashed pets

Hi,
Please draw a new code to allow the dogs to go unleashed in designated areas.

Have a great day,
Nick Rasic
P.O. Box 475160
San Francisco, CA 94147

(415) 344-5131 direct
(415) 344-5012 fax

4458-01-1A



"Diane Daniels ESP
Marketing
(415)616-2314"
<dianed@sfsun.West.Sun.COM>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: dianed@sfsun.West.Sun.COM
Subject: Don't let the beach go to the dogs!

03/25/2002 02:24 PM

PST

Please respond to
"Diane Daniels ESP
Marketing
(415)616-2314"

Friends of the parks,

I've been walking Crissy field for over 15 years and love the renovations and preservations - thank you!

I've been distressed at the ever increasing numbers of dogs off leash. I've had large unknown dogs run and jump up on me for no apparent reason on several occasions over the years - perhaps they were just having fun - but it was scary to me.

Please limit leash-free zones to the beach in front the Crissy field restrooms and require leashes on all other parts of the Presidio and Crissy field renovations. Then, please have park rangers enforce it through fines.

I appreciate the opportunity to give you my opinion.

Diane Daniels
1450 Greenwich St #503
San Francisco, CA 94109

diane.daniels@sun.com

4459-01-3A



"Laura Dreifuss"
<rdreifus@stny.rr.com
>

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

03/25/2002 05:10 PM
EST

Monday, March 25, 2002

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Laura Dreifuss
2805 Upper Drive
Corning, NY 14830
rdreifus@stny.rr.com

4460-02-1A



Bruce Tokars
<btokars@pacbell.net>
03/25/2002 11:39 AM
PST

To: Barbara Emley <barbara.larry@worldnet.att.net>,
goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: Alice Blake Tokars <atokars@tides.org>
Subject: Re: Ocean Beach

Great letter! Thanks for weighing in on the issue.

From: Barbara Emley <barbara.larry@worldnet.att.net>
Date: Mon, 25 Mar 2002 11:26:12 -0800
To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
Cc: Bruce Tokars <btokars@pacbell.net>
Subject: Ocean Beach

I guess I don't really have a dog in this fight, but I would like to make some comments about the NPS and Ft. Funston, Ocean Beach and the Cliff House area.

I have lived in the southwest part of the city for about 40 years and I have often used the recreational opportunities in the above areas. Sutro Baths had just burned when I got here, but we still had Playland.

On windy days I took my kids down and we used to play in the warm sand in the lee sections of the big dunes. I guess all that sand was a problem so the NPS flattened the dunes and planted dune grass. No more playing in the dunes.

We used to walk along the shore and collect sand dollars etc. There must have been off-leash dogs there, but we never noticed one way or the other, so they must not have been a problem. I think the population of the city was about the same. It's always about the same.

Later I became a birdwatcher and I could always find the Bank Swallows at Ft. Funston for my year list. I guess there's been a problem with the Bank Swallow population in recent years since the NPS took over. Maybe the NPS should take a look at what they're doing wrong. I mean there were always Bank Swallows BEFORE, even without fenced off areas.

Even later yet I became a dog owner for a while. I was grateful for a place to take my dog to run so close to home.

We all love the Musee Mechaniques and take out of towners to see it and the Camera Obscura.

I think the NPS is making a big mistake to take this great urban playground and try to turn it into something else. This will never be the wilderness and the

4460-02-1A

rules that make sense elsewhere simply don't apply here. I wish the City had never turned it over to NPS.

Barbara Emley
535 Ramsell St.
San Francisco, CA 94132

4461-01-1A



WGRJS@aol.com
03/25/2002 04:32 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Off Leash Permits

I'm a person who loves and have owned dogs most of my life but I fear that a vocal and aggressive minority of dog owners are about to pressure the NPS into an unwise and unworkable program. I am strongly in favor of providing areas for dog owners to exercise their dogs off leash. However, dogs running off leash are not compatible with small children playing or for that matter adults who are fearful of dogs.

Furthermore when the Park service can't keep off leash dogs out of the parks now, how will it police the permits? Will the permits have to be renewed annually? Even if the permit requires training of the dog and owner, how will continued good behavior be monitored? What about scofflaws or dog owners not aware of permits who see permitted dogs off leash and assume it's OK for their dog too? What about the liability if a permitted or an nonpermitted dog off leash injures a member of the public?

I live in Cow Hollow and run early in the morning and although most of the dog owners in my neighborhood are responsible, a significant number let their dogs out to run free early in the morning. I and other runners have been chased by small packs of dogs not to mention slipping on the dog's deposits the owner's left on the sidewalk.

These types of antisocial dog owners will doom the Golden Bone Program. They believe they have a God given right to let their dogs run free and will simply use the camouflage of the Golden Bone dogs to let their dogs run wild.

Dogs can be a very positive addition to the city lifestyle but there are simply too many people and too many dogs in San Francisco to allow unleashed dogs in the general use parks and streets of our fair city, it's not good for the public or the dogs.

Jerry Sample
1615 Green Street
San Francisco, CA 94124
771-1556

4462-01-1A



"Barbara Emley"
<barbara.larry@worldnet.att.net>

03/25/2002 11:26 AM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc: "Bruce Tokars" <btokars@pacbell.net>
Subject: Ocean Beach

I guess I don't really have a dog in this fight, but I would like to make some comments about the NPS and Ft. Funston, Ocean Beach and the Cliff House area.

I have lived in the southwest part of the city for about 40 years and I have often used the recreational opportunities in the above areas. Sutro Baths had just burned when I got here, but we still had Playland.

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We used to walk along the shore and collect sand dollars etc. There must have been off-leash dogs there, but we never noticed one way or the other, so they must not have been a problem. I think the population of the city was about the same. It's always about the same.

Later I became a birdwatcher and I could always find the Bank Swallows at Ft. Funston for my year list. I guess there's been a problem with the Bank Swallow population in recent years since the NPS took over. Maybe the NPS should take a look at what they're doing wrong. I mean there were always Bank Swallows BEFORE, even without fenced off areas.

Even later yet I became a dog owner for a while. I was grateful for a place to take my dog to run so close to home.

We all love the Musee Mechaniques and take out of towners to see it and the Camera Obscura.

I think the NPS is making a big mistake to take this great urban playground and try to turn it into something else. This will never be the wilderness and the rules that make sense elsewhere simply don't apply here. I wish the City had never turned it over to NPS.

Barbara Emley
535 Ramsell St.
San Francisco, CA 94132

4463-01-3B



Daryl Popin
<DPopin@markpringle.com>

To: "goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov" <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Comments

03/25/2002 11:33 AM
PST

It has come to my attention that there is a probability that dogs off leash might be prohibited from using our parks.

This would be a heavy blow to owners of hunting & retrieving breeds of which there are thousands in the Bay Area.

To train our dogs on leash for these activities is certainly impossible - thus depriving us of one of the traditional uses of our parks.

Is it not possible to have some areas set aside for all dog owners

where the animals can run freely but under supervision? My views on

this subject are shared by several thousand dog owners, hunters and outdoorsmen.

Sincerely,

Douglas Pringle

4464-01-1A



Jennifer Earnest
<JEarnest@montgomeryasset.com>

03/25/2002 11:24 AM
PST

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate Recreation Area. I do not feel it is right to require dogs to be on leashes at all times, and I feel that it is the responsibility of the dog owner to watch and control his or her dog. Therefore, the owner is responsible for the dog's action.

Unfortunately there has been some negative press about a few, remote incidences where owners have trained their dogs to attack, and victims have paid the price. Do not penalize all dogs for this. One of the pure pleasures of life is having a pet dog as a companion and friend and playing toss with him or her at a park. Do not take this right away from the dogs or the owners.

Below is my contact information. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Jennifer Earnest
Manager, Institutional Client Service
Montgomery Asset Management, LLC
101 California Street
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 248-6113
jearnest@montgomeryasset.com

4465-01-1E



"Tanya Gulesserian"
<tanyag@edcnet.org>
03/25/2002 11:20 AM
PST

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: support off-leash areas

I support off-leash dog areas in GGNRA. Dogs that have the opportunity to run off-leash are friendlier, more relaxed and socialized and are, overall, better able to cope with City living. Off-leash dog areas are a MUST for a healthy city.

Tanya Gulesserian
Los Altos, CA

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4466-01-9



Andrea Starn
<astarn@ix.netcom.co
m>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc: petpatrol@msn.com
Subject: GGNRA Offleash rights

03/25/2002 10:02 AM
PST

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am a dog lover and guardian as well as a popular dog walking business owner here in Marin Co. I have also spear headed our own battle against the restriction to leash only proposed ordinances. What I have found that has been a positive and creative solution in working with our land government (Open Space Commissioners) are the ideas below, BEFORE any restrictive ordinances are passed as laws. Give your public and business owners a chance to prove themselves as more responsible citizens by giving them a trial period of atleast 2 years.

1. Install the appropriate equipment to allow people to pick up dog droppings ie: garbage cans, poop scoops, mutt mitt dispensers

*I've been to Muir Beach and there is nothing, once you are on the beach to dispose of dog waste or garbage.

2. Have clear signage or a kiosk/brochures that help educate people on the rules.

3. Let volunteer groups happen and form to help keep the public informed of the rules and help keep the GGNRA areas pristine.

4. Set up a clear and systematic complaint system so dog organizations and the government are sharing information as it comes in to address solutions to problems and to ensure that complaints are valid. Allow ASPCA type organizations to assist as well.

5. Form a subcommittee which includes public members/dog guardians, ASPCA, dog organizations and GGNRA officials to review success and failures of programs mentioned above.

6. Again, allow a trial period that is reasonable to allow creative solutions to continue to allow people to exercise their companions offleash.

I hope this can help solve prohibition of a extremely popular activity and need for all humankind.

Sincerely,

Andrea Starn Vincent
MoonDoggy Dog Walking Adventures
Spokeswoman, Dog Walkers of Marin
415-488-9255
astarn@ix.netcom.com

4467-01-1A



Fdcleis@aol.com
03/25/2002 12:07 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Dogs off leash please

DEAR PEOPLE,

I VERY STRONGLY SUPPORT THE CREATION OF A SPECIAL
RULING TO ALLOW DOGS ON THE GGNRA.

Frederique Delacoste
1061 Page Street San Francisco, Ca 94117

4468-01-1C



Vivian.Fearen@aspect
world.com

03/25/2002 09:07 AM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: off-leash dogs

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing to support off-leash dog areas in the GGNRA. To take this simple pleasure away from thousands of Bay Area dog owners is simply not fair. California has plenty of undisturbed mountain and coastal areas for the preservation of birds and plants. In highly developed areas, such as the San Francisco Bay Area, the people have a right to exercise their dogs and enjoy the GGNRA, as we have done for many years.

The entire GGNRA cannot be a bird sanctuary. Please don't let the bird-huggers take away Fort Fun!

Thank you,
Vivian Fearen
Pacifica, CA

4469-01-3B



Roma93V@aol.com
03/26/2002 02:49 AM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
CC:
Subject: Input on Pets at Presidio Park, San Francisco

In view of the current events surrounding attacks on people by pets whose owners swears that their beloved pet is docile, loving, affectionate and would never harm a fly, it is time to start thinking about safety rather than the emotional outbursts from pet owners whenever discussions occur that would put restrictions on letting their pets roam freely within the park.

The first thing that should be considered is the fact that rules are not strictly enforced with regards the leash law. Even in areas where the signs are glaringly posted that pets should be on leash, the majority openly flaunts their disdain for the rule by letting their dogs roam without a leash even in sensitive eco system areas where birds might be nesting inspite of the big signs posted prohibiting pets within the area. **It is imperative that strict enforcement of the posted signs should be undertaken to discipline those in noncompliance.**

Second, serious consideration should be given to the idea of a **fenced-in** area wherein the dogs can freely run and roam without a leash. This would prevent the dogs into coming in contact with children who can become a victim from attack. Dog owners are always quick to assure everyone that their dogs would never harm anyone. Unfortunately recent events have proven that dogs do attack even the so called "docile, loving, affectionate" type. Therefore it is imperative that something should be done before it happens at the Presidio Park on Crissy Field.

I personally am a dog lover myself and has owned several dogs in the past and just about to acquire a new one to replace another one that I had to put to sleep due to old age. I had walked and jogged at Crissy Field since it was an Army post and had witnessed incidents of aggressive dogs attacking other dogs and one incident of an innocent bystander being bitten on the leg. Though I have not seen a child being attacked, it is just a matter of time if the current situation is allowed to go on unchecked.

I do realize that it is difficult to place any restrictions on the dogs at Crissy field because of the strong advocacy of pet owners and at various times one would think that they run the place when you watch them disregard all the posted signs on restricted areas which their pets blatantly trample on.

If your intentions are to protect the delicate eco system restoration and the children who are visitors to crissy field, it is a must that a **fenced-in area** for dog runs and **strict enforcement of the leash law** should be the should be implemented.

R.A.K.

4470-01-3B, 4471-01-3B



Dennis Donegan
<donegand@pacbell.net>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Pt. Isabel Dog park

03/26/2002 05:48 AM
PST

Please continue allowing dogs to walk off leash with their owners and dog walkers on both Pt. Isabel and North Point Isabel. There are very few places in the bay area that people and their dogs can go to enjoy parks and exercise. Per square foot, this park is heavily used. We support the environment, vote for park bonds and give money to environmental causes. We think that this is the right place for a dog park.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO ALLOW DOGS OFF LEASH AT BOTH PT. ISABEL AND NORTH POINT ISABEL.

Daphne Markham
Dennis Donegan

4472-01-3B



"Khrysti"
<khrysti@cagwin.com
>

To: <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: GGNRA For Family Dogs

03/26/2002 07:02 PM
PST

We support the creation of a special rule to allow off-leash recreation in some portion of the GGNRA. There are far more "Good Dogs" of all breeds out there than the Press sensationalized "Bad Dogs". It appears a single breed type, owned by questionable characters, has dictated state wide restrictions that threaten to affect all types of dogs. This is unfair discrimination for the majority of stable family dogs.

According to the "ANPR" the number of complaints at recreation areas such as Ft. Funston, increased after the press discovered positive ratings for covering recent unfortunate events. Again, these incidents were brought about by a single breed type and their negligent owners. It's disappointing to see the time wasted in the battle between parties after the proposed total restriction of off leash areas that the GGNRA lands have allowed since the 70's (and before). If "Good Dogs" and their owners could continue setting good examples in public places, some of these citizens, filled with fear fostered by the media, might be able to experience something positive.

We enjoy family hikes on GGNRA land. Our family includes our dogs. We probably wouldn't use the land if we didn't see how much the dogs enjoyed themselves. We definitely wouldn't be as healthy. Many friends and neighbors feel the same way. As we hike, we pick up garbage left by others that the dogs even pack out. Pieces of glass, bottles, cans, plastic wrap and trash intentionally left by Humans make me wonder who's freedoms should be restricted from the "Recreation Areas". Certainly, these people are not concerned with others' paws and noses, be it the family dog or the wildlife. The question's been posed, why is there so much hostility to the few beings that don't litter, spray paint, break outdoor accommodations, disfigure signs, dispose of drug paraphernalia and dump bags of garbage in the public lands?

We have had dogs as family members for the five generations we've lived in California. Growing up in Marin, as children we went everywhere with our dogs. Our parents were comfortable that the kids were off exploring the hills, creeks, etc. with the dogs - each looking after the other. Now I recognize there is hardly anywhere kids can go with or without dogs. Further restrictions on public open space can't be the answer.

Khrysti Jones and Family

4473-01-1C



Ronwelf@aol.com
03/26/2002 09:26 PM
EST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Please keep dogs on leash in public parks

Ronald T. Welf
PO Box 371063
Montara, CA 94037
March 26, 2002

Superintendent GGNRA
Attention ANPR
Building 201--Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94132

Dear Superintendent:

I am writing to ask that dogs be kept on-leash as much as possible in federal parks.

Many untrained dogs harass innocent hikers. I hike every night after work for about 45 minutes. I have been sometimes been frightened by aggressive dogs that run free without any owner in sight. When the owner appears a minute or two later, they do not even seem apologetic.

I am expressing this viewpoint because, people no longer seem have the dedication required to train their dogs. I would appreciate the privilege to walk and hike in government owned lands without the fear of wild dogs. Also, the unleashed dogs threaten birds, rabbits and other small animals that are part of the natural habitat.

Thank you,

Ronald T. Welf

4474-01-3B



Karen Gordon
<kareng@sfinteractive.com>

03/26/2002 06:22 PM
PST

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: An idea about off-leash laws

Hello,

I think dogs are wonderful and I always enjoy meeting friendly ones and their owners in public spaces. And I definitely think there is room for dogs to be able to enjoy being off-leash. That said, dogs must be controllable--as we've all painfully learned. After all, they are animals, many of them very powerful ones. So I propose a compromise.

Allow dogs in off-leash areas only if their owners have had them certified for off-leash training. Consider it an off-leash license, if you will. Perhaps you could require off-leash dogs to wear a collar with a special off-leash tag attached and easily visible. That way anyone who encounters them has some assurance that they've had behavior training and presumably can be controlled by their owners, even though they're leash-free.

Think about it. You have to license your car. You have to license your gun. Even children are sent to school--let's face it, to educate but also to civilize them and teach them how to behave amongst others.

Shouldn't animal owners who wish to bring their animals in public and consequently expose others to those animals be required to prove that they have done what they can to ensure the behavior of those animals?

Even if the idea of an off-leash dog license isn't enough by itself, please consider it among the other options you're reviewing regarding the issue. It seems like a logical thing to me.

Karen Gordon
Associate Creative Director
Tel: (415) 249-6422

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www.sfinteractive.com

4475-01-1A



Anne Conway
<annemconway@yahoo.com>

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Pets in GGNRA - Against

03/26/2002 06:12 PM
PST

Dear National Park Service,

I have lived in San Francisco over 20 years and enjoy going to the GGNRA. Unfortunately, I do not enjoy being around unleashed dogs and I feel that they are a problem. The vast majority of dogs that I have been seen during my visits are not well trained -- they run over to people, do not respond well to their owner's commands, and the size of many of them is intimidating. When I have been at the various park sites with my two small nephews, the number and the size of the dogs have scared them. The parking lot at Fort Funston is their least favorite experience.

I hope the GGNRA keeps the current policy of requiring dogs to be on leashes and enforces it strongly.

Thank you,
Anne Conway

Do You Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Movies - coverage of the 74th Academy Awards®
<http://movies.yahoo.com/>

4476-01-3B



"Nancy Bryan"
<nhbsf@hotmail.com>
03/26/2002 11:15 PM
GMT

To: goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov
cc:
Subject: Off Leash

I unfortunately can't have a pet at this time, but I have owned and loved dogs all my life. We have all become more aware of dog safety around other dogs and people, especially following the tragic killing last year in SF. Dogs who are trained, and under good supervision have always been free to romp and play without disturbing our environment. All of a sudden dogs are the scapegoat for careless humans who are also careless with their pets. The parks are for the people and their families, including pets! At least designate reasonable areas designed for pet digging, ball throwing and joyful play, with water and disposable bags in these areas. No cement! No "back rooms". They are a part of our lives and those who have dogs should continue to have the spaces, if need be, fenced in areas that are accessible and large enough for good play and safety for all.

nancy bryan

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4477-01-10



Bart Malloy
<BMalloy@PyramidBre
w.com>

03/26/2002 01:33 PM
PST

To: "goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov" <goga_pets_anpr@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Dogs at Fort Funston and Chrissy Field

I am writing to urge the NPS to reconsider its move toward forbidding dogs to walk off-leash in the GGNRA areas within San Francisco. I own a dog and I live in San Francisco, and I think that a large open area such as Fort Funston is very important in keeping dogs healthy and happy. Off-leash running and socializing is important to both dogs and their owners and there are few areas that provide the room that Fort Funston offers.

I am perfectly willing to accept some restrictions on where dogs can run and on what off-leash dogs can do -- I realize that the parks have several users and roles, and that some dog owners are irresponsible. However, I think that treating one of the few open spaces in a major metropolitan area as if it were a pristine wilderness area is misguided, and I urge you to allow for some areas at Fort Funston or Chrissy field to remain open to dogs off-leash. Thank you.

Bart Malloy
Assistant Head Brewer
Pyramid Breweries, Inc.
901 Gilman Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
bmalloy@pyramidbrew.com
(510) 527-9090 x209

4478-01-3B



"Ted Casey"
<ted@caseyonline.co
m>

03/26/2002 10:22 AM
PST

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

Keep off-leash recreation for dog happiness in San Francisco!

4479-01-1A



"Brad Fox"
<foxbrad@earthlink.net>
t>

03/26/2002 08:38 AM
PST

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

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

I disagree with the proposed policy to prohibit off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. The existing policy has served the City and the parks well for twenty-five years; the proposed change would rob a large constituency of their due enjoyment of the parks. Please do not prohibit off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA, especially at Fort Funston.

Sincerely,

Brad Fox
4444 17th St.
San Francisco 94114
foxbrad@earthlink.net

WE SUPPORT OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING IN THE GGNRA!

My family includes: dogs children both
I am a: senior citizen parent child environmentalist
 bird-watcher dog guardian other: _____

I visit the GGNRA:
 daily weekly monthly yearly visitor (tourist)

I regularly enjoy these recreational activities in the GGNRA:
 off-leash dog walking hang-gliding meditation/relaxation
 hiking bird-watching observing nature
 surfing, sail-boarding or other board sports running or walking
 roller-blading/skating street biking mountain biking
 horseback-riding other

This statement best describes my feelings about dogs in the GGNRA:
 I strongly support off-leash dog walking in all of the historically off-leash areas of the GGNRA (0.5% of the 75,000 acres)
 I feel more land should be opened to include off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA
 Other: _____

Signed: Dianna Sloman
4480-01-1C
San Mateo, CA

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

WE SUPPORT OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING IN THE GGNRA!

My family includes: dogs children both
I am a: senior citizen parent child environmentalist
 bird-watcher dog guardian other: _____

I visit the GGNRA:
 daily weekly monthly yearly visitor (tourist)

I regularly enjoy these recreational activities in the GGNRA:
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 hiking bird-watching observing nature
 surfing, sail-boarding or other board sports running or walking
 roller-blading/skating street biking mountain biking
 horseback-riding other

This statement best describes my feelings about dogs in the GGNRA:
 I strongly support off-leash dog walking in all of the historically off-leash areas of the GGNRA (0.5% of the 75,000 acres)
 I feel more land should be opened to include off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA
 Other: _____

Signed: David P. Thomas
4481-01-1C
San Mateo CA

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

We Support Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA!

My family includes: dogs children both
I am a: senior citizen parent child environmentalist
 bird-watcher dog guardian other: _____

I visit the GGNRA:
 daily weekly monthly yearly visitor (tourist)

I regularly enjoy these recreational activities in the GGNRA:
 off-leash dog walking hang-gliding meditation/relaxation
 hiking bird-watching observing nature
 surfing, sail-boarding or other board sports running or walking
 roller-blading/skating street biking mountain biking
 horseback-riding other

This statement best describes my feelings about dogs in the GGNRA:

I strongly support off-leash dog walking in all of the historically off-leash areas of the GGNRA (0.5% of the 75,000 acres)
 I feel more land should be opened to include off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA
 Other: I believe in recognizing the freedoms our

Signed: Susan Arnold Black ^{country} has to offer!

RECEIVED 4483-01-1A
MAR 27 2002 SF CA

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

We Support Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA!

My family includes: dogs children both
I am a: senior citizen parent child environmentalist
 bird-watcher dog guardian other: GRAND PARENT

I visit the GGNRA:
 daily weekly monthly yearly visitor (tourist)

I regularly enjoy these recreational activities in the GGNRA:
 off-leash dog walking hang-gliding meditation/relaxation
 hiking bird-watching observing nature
 surfing, sail-boarding or other board sports running or walking
 roller-blading/skating street biking mountain biking
 horseback-riding other

This statement best describes my feelings about dogs in the GGNRA:

I strongly support off-leash dog walking in all of the historically off-leash areas of the GGNRA (0.5% of the 75,000 acres)
 I feel more land should be opened to include off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA
 Other: _____

Signed: Brinda J. Jeffers
4482-01-1A
SF CA

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

4484d-1c

3-26-02

I am writing to recommend
Alternative A concerning
the issue of dogs on leash.
We need to have reasonable
restraints on pets to
protect wildlife in
the BGNRA. Research
has proven the importance
of requiring dogs to be
under control in order for
birds and other wildlife to
survive.

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2002

Robert R. Wilkinson
70 Parrott St
San Mateo, CA 94402

4485-02-1B

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2002



Ms. Loraine B. Berry
P.O. Box 1106
Ross, CA 94957

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

26 MARCH 2002

Dear Members of the GGNRA Park Service,

I am fully in support of the retention of the ON LEASH ONLY policy currently in effect in the GGNRA.

Most dogs are not under voice command, contrary to the illusions of their owners.

As a life long hiker and dog owner, parent and grandparent, too often have I been accosted by an off leash dog, sometimes when my own dog on leash is with me, only to have the owner upon failing to call him back say, "He's never done that before." I reply, "Well you can never say that again and why do you think the law applies to everyone but you?"

Leashed dogs only. The SPCA suffer

4485-02-1B

to teach me how to protect myself from aggressive dogs is laughable in light of Diane Whipple's death. Why should I have to protect myself?

Will the SPCA Conduct Classes for pinnipeds and other wild-life to teach them how to protect themselves? I think not.

Most sincerely,

Lizaine Berry

4486-01-10

Date _____

GGNRA Headquarters
 Attention: ANPR
 Fort Mason Building 201
 San Francisco, CA 94123
 FAX - 415.561-4355

RECEIVED
 MAR 27 2002
 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sir or Madam:

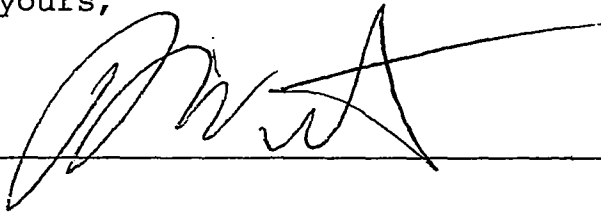
I wish to urge the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in order to bring the general regulation into compliance with the GGNRA's enabling statute "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

I also urge the NPS to STOP aggressively enforcing the general regulation in the parts of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet Policy as allowing off-leash recreation. I ask that citations be given only for aggressive or destructive dogs as promised in April 2001.

Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when the GGNRA was established, and had been promised to be continued. The tiny percent of the GGNRA that is traditionally off-leash, will not significantly impact the overall preservation of natural resources for the park as a whole.

Respectfully yours,

Signature _____



Name _____

R. J. Weston

Address _____

2614 Telegraph Ave

Berkeley CA 94704

4487-02-1A

4551-18th Street
San Francisco CA 94114
March 24, 2002

Superintendent
Golden Gate Nat'l Rec. Area
A NPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

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MAR 27 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent:

I am writing to urge your support for a special rule allowing off-leash dog recreation in at least some designated areas of the GGNRA.

I have lived and worked in San Francisco for most of the past 30 years, and for about twelve of those years or longer I have owned dogs. One of the greatest assets of our city is its access to natural outdoor areas, and ^{for} those of us who cherish our pets, to be able to have them with us and to enjoy watching them run relatively freely is one of our greatest joys.

There will surely always be those irresponsible owners who allow their pets to interfere with the enjoyment of others, but it would be wrong to allow them to spoil

this great pleasure for the vast majority of considerate and thoroughly responsible owners.

In the global ecology, in the great balance of nature, all of us have a place. Certainly some limitations are necessary and appropriate, but there should at least be a few places where we can all enjoy a few moments of relief from the constraints of our modern, post-industrial urban society.

Please give some weight to the needs of those of us who have well-behaved and well-trained pets, and try to effect some compromise that will allow all of us who love our natural environment to enjoy it in ways that meet our different lifestyles and recreational requirements.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peter Betcher