

From: (b)(6)
To: Chris_Lehnertz@nps.gov; Karen_Washington@nps.gov
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: GGNRA - Please Slow Down GMP
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2014 2:52:11 PM

Hello Chris and Karen,

I am writing you, as a San Francisco, long time resident, to strongly urge the NPS-GGNRA staff to slow down the drive to limit recreation, and ask that you **must not sign off on any new plans that could restrict our enjoyment of GGNRA lands. This would do a great disservice to the majority of us locals, and residents, of San Francisco.**

I'll list a few important reasons as to why it is imperative that any new plans that restrict use of GGNRA lands not be signed:

- It has come to the sad juncture that the National Parks Service is proposing to keep people from recreating in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area that is managed using my tax dollars.
- Currently the National Parks Service is pushing forward with three separate plans that seek to limit access to areas including Fort Funston, Ocean Beach, Rancho Corral de Tierra and the Marin Headlands. Two of those plans could be signed off on as soon as this week— 1) the General Management Plan, which would establish zones where the NPS could actually prohibit people from doing things like picnicking at most of Ocean Beach; and 2) a rule that would create restrictive and expensive permits for professional dog walkers who people count on to make sure their pets receive appropriate exercise.
- Right now most people in the SF Bay Area and U.S. taxpayers have no idea what's being planned on these federally managed public lands(*there has been very little effort by the NPS to reach out to the public and gather input*). That's why you, Christine Lehnertz, of the National Park Service absolutely should not sign off on these plans right now. We need a real meaningful public process that involves the people who are going to be affected. And we want a process that really takes our input into account. The entire community should have the opportunity to participate in this important discussion.
- Unlike what some NPS staff members at the GGNRA think of the general public, we do not believe people and nature are incompatible. We believe we do coexist and balance both so that we can protect recreational opportunities and be responsible stewards of our environment like we have been doing in the GGNRA for more than 40 years since its inception.
- We live in one of the most densely populated urban areas in America. San Francisco is the second most densely populated city in America after New York City. And the people of the San Francisco Bay Area fought hard to establish and protect the GGNRA that was founded to provide recreational opportunities to the people of this region. Now the National Park Service, which was entrusted to protect public access, is trying to eliminate those recreational opportunities one by one nationwide.
- These are beaches and trails where people have been welcomed for more than 40 years into the GGNRA. There is no credible reason to start denying access now.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to further discuss.

Best regards,
Mr Brian Dodge
San Francisco, CA