



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, San Francisco, California 94123

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D18 (GOGA-PLAN)

Dear Park Friend:

We are pleased to present the Draft General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument for your review and comment. ~~_-~~ This plan is intended to guide management of the park over the next 20 years. ~~_~~ We invite you to review the draft and share your thoughts with us. and to ~~_~~ let us know how it addresses your aspirations for the future of the park.

Prepared over the last five years, the draft plan contains a lot of various ideas for future management of the park. ~~_~~ Some of these came from the public and park partners. ~~_~~ and ~~Others~~ build upon earlier successes or from lessons learned by day-to-day management of the park since 1972 as directed by the 1980 General Management Plan. ~~_-~~ We employed a rigorous planning process to explore a range of alternatives and create the National Park Service's preferred alternative which encompasses what we believe are the best ideas. ~~_~~ The preferred alternative is described in chapters 4-four (for Alcatraz), 5 five (for Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties) and 6-six (for Muir Woods). ~~_~~ We hope you will give those chapters special attention.

We think you might be interested in a sample of some the item actions the draft plan identifies. ~~_~~ Please bear in mind that implementation of the final GMP-general management plan will depend on many factors. ~~_~~ including future National Park Service funding, service-wide priorities, and partnership funds, time, and effort.

In Marin County:

- Renovations to outdated visitor facilities at Stinson Beach and Tennessee Valley that will also incorporate restoration of the natural landscape.
- Sensible ~~+~~ improvements to the entrance of Muir Woods National Monument, including reorganizing parking and pedestrian paths, repurposing a historic building for use as an education center, and formalizing continued operation of the successful shuttle with development of an off-site intercept facility.
- Improvements to better serve visitors in the Marin Headlands, such as a visitor facility combining information and food service at Rodeo Beach.
- Solutions to long-standing inadequacies for park operations, including construction of a centralized maintenance facility in the Marin Headlands and dedication of a public safety office at Fort Baker. ~~_~~ and consolidation of museum collections into historic buildings in the Presidio.

In the City and County of San Francisco:

- Enhanced connections for visitors along the San Francisco Bay Trail between Aquatic Park (San Francisco Maritime ~~_~~ National ~~Historical~~ Park) and Fort Mason Center.

- A course of action on Alcatraz Island that highlights its rich history, rehabilitates the Main Prison and historic barracks (which could include new exhibits and modest dorm-like overnight accommodations for volunteers) and opens the parade ground that overlooks the San Francisco Bay. It also expresses the park's ongoing commitment to protect nesting water bird colonies, including the shoreline and offshore area.
- Collaboration with the City of San Francisco, California State Coastal Conservancy, and others to create and implement a long-range master plan for the Ocean Beach corridor—looking beyond the park's narrow boundary.
- Consolidation of museum collections into historic buildings in the Presidio.
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In San Mateo County:

- Management guidance and improvements for new parklands, including a broad concept for Rancho Corral de Tierra that retains equestrian uses, restores habitat, and looks to create a sustainable system of public trails and trailheads that will serve future visitors.
- Partnerships to explore a shared multi-agency visitor center.
- New areas to be added to the park boundary, which include important small parcels and larger areas, such as the tidal zone along existing park sites, will enhance our ability to cooperate with other agencies in resource conservation and management.

We invite you to take this opportunity to help shape the future of the park by sending us your comments. You can do that online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>, by regular mail to the address above, or at one of the open houses we will host in communities around the park. [These will be announced shortly.](#) Your thoughtful comments are important to us and will make a difference as we finalize the plan in the coming year.

Thank you for your support and interest in this special place.

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Enclosures (1)

Draft GMP/EIS, Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument