

From: (b)(6)
To: Chris_Lehnertz@nps.gov
Cc: karen_washington@nps.gov
Subject: GGNRA - General Management Plan
Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2014 7:34:09 PM

Dear Ms. Lehnertz,

I'm writing to you today to consider further discussions and/or revising the GGNRA's proposed general management plan to limit the recreational area under its jurisdiction, including Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and the Marin Headlands. As a resident of San Francisco and Bay Area native, I have been fortunate to appreciate and enjoy these beautiful parks as a hiker and dog owner. Every time I hike the trails of Fort Funston with my boyfriend and dog, I always take the time to stop and appreciate the fact that we can drive 15 minutes from our home near downtown San Francisco to get to one of the most beautifully scenic and peaceful places that we have ever seen. We appreciate the opportunity to see the wildlife on the shore and in the hillside - things that we do not get to experience on a day to day basis on the city streets. I have been to Fort Funston many times and have not witnessed any incidences in which a dog or human has harmed birds, rabbits or coyotes out on the trails.

Though there are multiple dog parks throughout the city, unfortunately, they are confining and not always the best place for dogs of different personalities to congregate. We are also fortunate to have a great group of dog walkers who take our dog out on a daily basis to exercise and run out all of his energy at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach, and Chrissy Fields. Having dogs get the exercise they need off leash provides for better behaved dogs on leash when they are being walked throughout the city streets. Therefore, I am also requesting an effective and reasonable plan to provide professional dog walkers with permits for dog walking at a reasonable cost that will maintain their current operating costs. The cost of living in the Bay Area is already difficult for these dog walkers to make a reasonable living and maintain residency in San Francisco and the surrounding area.

I hope you strongly consider keeping the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, just as its name states - a recreation area for the Bay Area residents - dogs and their owners, hikers, horseback riders, birders, and all to enjoy these parks, as we have for the past 40 years. We need these parks to remain open to the public, as they currently are, so that we all have the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of California.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Michelle Ogawa

