

**From:** (b)(6)  
**To:** [Chris\\_Lehnertz@nps.gov](mailto:Chris_Lehnertz@nps.gov); [karen\\_washington@nps.gov](mailto:karen_washington@nps.gov)  
**Subject:** Please stop the rush to approve GGNRA's unreasonable restrictions  
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We have just received a new update on the GGNRA's latest push to limit recreation and access to GGNRA lands. Please slow down your drive and don't sign off on any new plans to restrict access without thorough public comment and consideration.

We are dog owners and we believe nature and people can get along with good decision-making with meaningful and transparent consideration of all impacted parties. We are disappointed that the staff of GGNRA seem to be proposing that our hard earned taxpayer dollars are being used to keep people from recreating in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. As we understand it, the GGNRA is currently pushing forward with three separate plans that seek to limit access to areas like 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—the General Management Plan, which would establish zones where the GGNRA could actually prohibit people from doing things like picnicking at most of Ocean Beach; and 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 and socialization. We are also under the impression that right now most people in the Bay Area have no idea what's being planned (there has been very little effort by the GGNRA to reach out to the public and gather input) and that's why 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.

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. These are beaches and trails where people have been welcomed for 40 years into the GGNRA. There is no credible reason to start denying access now.

The Bay Area is also one of the most densely populated dog areas and, in the case of San Francisco, we actually have more homes with dogs than we have homes with kids. These dog owners (and their service providers) pay their fair share of taxes and are meaningful contributors to the needs of their communities. We deserve a fully transparent, broadly communicated process and we deserve to have our voices be treated with respect and our messages given full consideration.

Please take pause the push and don't sign off on anything just yet.

Best,

Heather Burton and Jeff Stern