

From: (b)(6)
To: Chris_Lehnertz@nps.gov
Cc: karen_washington@nps.gov
Subject: GGNRA misdirection
Date: Monday, May 26, 2014 7:34:36 PM

Hello,

I wanted to express my deep concerns that the GGNRA staff is totally misguided in its attempts to take the recreation out of the parks and lands that were put under its management.

You will probably have seen these concerns expressed before, please take notice, we the people do have a say, and I would like to point out that we can take back the areas that were loaned to GGNRA if it is continued to be mismanaged.

Thank you

*It has come to the sad juncture that the staff of the GGNRA is proposing to use our federal taxpayer dollars to keep people from recreating in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

*Currently the GGNRA is pushing forward with three separate plans that seek to limit access to areas like Fort Funston, 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.

*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). 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.

*Unlike some staff members at the GGNRA, we do not believe people and nature are incompatible. We believe we can 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 decades.

*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 area 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.

Jim Morris
Tax Payer, resident and user of these areas.