

From: (b)
(6)
To: Chris_Lehnertz@nps.gov
Subject: GGNRA proposed plan
Date: Monday, May 26, 2014 3:32:11 PM

Hi Christine,

I would imagine you have received hundreds of emails regarding this which have included the statements I have attached below. I would like to say in my own words to please consider the effect the GGNRA's plan will have on all of us. I have lived in the Bay Area for over 40 years. One of the reasons being is, is being able to enjoy the amazing nature and land that WE (not just GGNRA) have respected and cared for all these years. I am a dog owner and have enjoyed many walks with them throughout our beautiful county, but it is not just losing our ability to walk our dogs (GGNRA has already taken away our ability to let them run leash free), it is about taking away the land and beauty which we hold very dear to our hearts. This land is on the top of my list of why I have lived in the Bay Area for over 40 years and why I could not imagine leaving.

I grew up here and at a young age did not realize how lucky I was. I was in my teens before I realized how lucky I was to have access to these amazing open areas and the fact that they were protected. I have instilled this in everyone I have met since then. I take my friends 10 year old for walks a few times a week and she is amazed and appreciative of every place I take her. I wanted her to realize how lucky she was living in such an amazing place, way before I ever did.

Please consider the people here who have loved and cared for this land way before GGNRA ever stepped in. This is our land, our home. Taking away our ability to walk our dogs (which I must say to most are family/children) is bad enough. Taking away the land from us which we ourselves have loved and cared for, it is just wrong. Please reconsider before signing anything that will take these precious spaces from us.

Thank you,
Tracy Betts
Pacifica, CA

PS.

- It has come to the sad juncture that the staff of the National Park Service is proposing to use our federal taxpayer dollars to keep people from recreating in the GGNRA – places we have been allowed to go for more than 40 years since it was protected from development.
- 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 20-year 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 (any permitting should be considered as part of the dog management plan that is still being developed and reviewed until late 2015).
- Right now most people in the Bay Area have no idea what's being planned – there has been little to no effort by the GGNRA to reach out to the public and gather input for the General Management Plan.
- We need a real meaningful public process that involves the people who are going to be affected. And we want a process that takes our input into account. The entire community should have the opportunity to participate in this important discussion.
- We believe people and nature are compatible that is evident by the beauty and abundance of species in the GGNRA .
- 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 this area that was founded to provide recreational opportunities to the people of this region.
- The proposed General Management Plan literally redefines and changes the stated park purpose that was

established by an act of Congress in 1972. The original language holds “preserving for public use and enjoyment.... to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space...,” is being changed to “...providing a national park experience...”

- The National Park Service, which was entrusted to protect public access, is trying to eliminate our recreational opportunities one by one. These are beaches and trails where people have been welcomed for 40 years or longer. There is no credible reason to start denying access now.