

National Park Service
Parameters and Scope of Negotiated Rulemaking Discussion
July 31, 2006

Federal Panel Recommendation to the General Superintendent on Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, November 7, 2002

“The panel concludes that off-leash dog walking in GGNRA may be appropriate in selected locations where resource impacts can be adequately mitigated and public safety incidents and public use conflicts can be appropriately managed. The panel further recommends that the park pursue both rulemaking and comprehensive planning for pet management to address suitable locations and proper management strategies.”

I. Areas not open for consideration for dogwalking (North to South)

1. GGNRA lands north of Bolinas-Fairfax Road (managed by Point Reyes National Seashore, not GGNRA)
2. The beach at Stinson Beach (designated swimming beach)
3. Muir Beach – Redwood Creek, tidal lagoon and sand dunes (protection of federally threatened steelhead, endangered coho salmon, native dune habitat, and water quality)
4. Muir Woods (protection of endangered species habitat and the Redwood forest ecosystem)
5. Tennessee Valley (minimize disturbance to native wildlife)
6. Rodeo Lagoon, including western shoreline of the lagoon (protection of federally endangered tidewater goby endangered California brown pelican, sensitive water and shorebird habitat, and water quality, protection of human health from unsafe water quality conditions)
7. Kirby Cove (campground and picnic area)
8. Fort Baker Pier (protection of public safety associated with railing construction and steep drop off, and to reduce conflicts with other users)
9. Alcatraz (protection of public safety on the island and contract ferry service, protection of nesting bird colonies)
10. Fort Point historic structure and pier (fishing pier, cultural resources)
11. Crissy Field tidal marsh, the Wildlife Protection Area and fenced dune areas (protection of sensitive wildlife and native plant communities in the tidal marsh and dune areas, protection of habitat for shorebirds and snowy plovers in the Wildlife Protection Area – per 1996 Crissy Field Plan Environmental Assessment)
12. China Beach (formerly a designated swimming beach)
13. Lobos Creek (protection of public drinking water supply)
14. Fort Funston fenced and/or signed areas closed to visitor access (protection of visitor safety, erosion control, habitat restoration, and sensitive species including seasonal closure of beach within 50 ft. of

cliff face to protect state-listed threatened bank swallows during breeding season).

15. Phleger Estate (access through county parks which do not allow dogs)

16. Trails:

- All trails where pets not currently allowed
- Travel off established trails with dogs
- Trails with threatened and endangered species, where potential impacts could not be mitigated, including, but not limited to:
 - SCA Trail
 - Coastal Trail from Conzelman Road to McCullough Road (Marin Headlands)
 - Chapel Trail (Fort Baker)
 - Notch Trail (Sweeney Ridge)

II. Areas open for discussion of dogwalking (North to South)

A. Dogwalking on-leash or no dogs

1. Stinson Beach parking lots and picnic areas
2. Homestead Valley (protection of federally threatened northern spotted owl)
3. Fort Baker (except dogs not permitted on fishing pier to prevent conflicts with other uses dogs not permitted on Chapel Trail to protect endangered Mission Blue Butterfly).
4. Ft. Point Promenade between Warming Hut and the historic fort (safety)
5. Sutro Heights Park (formal landscaped area, heavily used for weddings and other events)
6. Ocean Beach Snowy Plover Management Area between Stairwell #21 and Sloat Blvd. (protection of federally threatened Western Snowy Plover - also to be addressed by separate GGNRA agency rulemaking for resource protection)
7. Areas with threatened or endangered species not already specified. Considered on a case by case basis because each species requires different management.
8. Trails:
 - Alta Avenue Trail from Donahue Street to fire gate (protection of public safety and native wildlife behavior by reducing interactions between dogs and coyotes, protection of endangered Mission Blue Butterfly habitat).
 - Marin Trails previously open to on-leash dogwalking by the NPS (see Headlands trail map dated 08/03) including but not limited to:
 - Coastal Trail from McCullough Road to Muir Beach
 - Miwok Trail from Tennessee Valley to Highway One
 - County View Road off the Miwok Trail
 - Orchard and Pacheco Fire Roads
 - Miwok Trail to Wolf Ridge to Hill 88

- Lagoon Trail
- South Rodeo Beach Trail
- Drown Fire Road, Fort Baker
- Trails not mentioned in section above, in Marin and at San Mateo(Sweeney Ridge, Mori Point and Milagra Ridge) (protection of wildlife, native plant species and threatened and endangered species), excepting:
 - Oakwood Valley in Marin County
 - Pedro Point and Cattle Hill in San Mateo

B. Dogwalking per voice control, on-leash or no dogs (North to South)

1. Muir Beach (excluding tidal lagoon, Redwood Creek, wetland and dune habitat areas)
2. Oakwood Valley trails
3. Rodeo Beach (excluding Rodeo Lagoon, and habitat protection areas)
4. Crissy Field (excluding fenced tidal marsh and dune areas, and Wildlife Protection Area)
5. Upper Fort Mason Great Meadow and Parade Ground
6. Baker Beach (discussion of how to divide for variety of uses)
7. Fort Miley
8. Lands End Trail
9. Ocean Beach (outside of Snowy Plover Management Area) north of Stairwell #21 and south of Sloat Blvd
10. Fort Funston (excluding fenced and/or signed areas closed for protection of endangered species, habitat restoration, erosion control and public safety)
11. Pedro Point Headlands
12. Cattle Hill

General Parameters:

1. Dogs required on-leash in picnic areas, campgrounds, parking lots, residential areas and park partner sites where allowed (to protect visitor safety).
2. New NPS lands that come under future management of GGNRA will be automatically governed by CFR regulations and then evaluated for appropriate recreational uses, including dogwalking, and any approved dogwalking use will be consistent with the new special regulation for dogwalking in GGNRA (Rancho Corral de Tierra and other areas added into the park).
3. Dogwalking options may include restrictions on times of the year, days of the week, time of day, etc., to allow flexibility to accommodate other user groups.
4. Dogwalking groups must be active partners in management of dogwalking in the park including disseminating accurate information to constituents regarding dog management regulations, etc.

Other Issues for Discussion:

1. *Commercial Dogwalkers*—GGNRA will move to a system of incidental business permits: discussion can occur regarding the number of permits and permit conditions (including number of on-leash and off-leash dogs allowed by each permittee)
2. *Individual Dogwalkers*-discussion can occur regarding possible limits on the number of dogs on-leash and off-leash
3. *Issues occurring in dogwalking areas*: waste-removal provisions; perimeters, rules and regulations of use, etc.