Brian O'Neill, Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

January 18, 2001

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

On January 23rd the Advisory Commission for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area [GGNRA] will vote on whether to ban off-leash recreation in ALL areas of the GGNRA, including Fort Funston, Crissy Field, Baker Beach and Rodeo Beach. This ban would have a serious impact on all local parks, and would change a way of life for tens of thousands of our citizens.

The Advisory Commission and the GGNRA are ignoring provisions in the United States Code which would allow off-leash recreation. Specifically, the US Code states that each park's enabling statute and accompanying legislative history are to be the <u>guiding principles</u> for each specific park unit and these cannot be overridden by the requirement to govern each park unit uniformly.

The enabling statute for the GGNRA has four distinguishing provisions related to recreational use. In the legislative history, off-leash recreation is identified as an example of a valid recreational use.

The solution is NOT to ban the 1979 Pet Policy, but to incorporate it into the regulations as a special rule for the GGNRA – just as hang gliding and off-trail bicycle riding are permitted by special rules. This should have been done when the Pet Policy was created. Let's correct this oversight now.

Please urge the GGNRA Advisory Commission not to rescind its 1979 Pet Policy. And please ask Interior Secretary Gale Norton to formalize the 1979 Pet Policy under regulation 36 CFR 1.2(c).

Thank you.

Mr. Michael Alexander Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

January 18, 2001

Dear Commissioner Alexander,

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Ms. Susan Giacomini Allan Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Dear Commissioner Allan.

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Thank you.

Mr. Richard Bartke, Chair Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

January 18, 2001

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Mr. Gordon Bennett Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Ms. Anna-Marie Booth Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

January 18, 2001

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Ms. Betsey Cutler Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Mr. Redmond Kernan Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Mr. Mel Lane Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Ms. Yvonne Lee Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Ms. Amy Meyer, Vice Chair Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Mr. Doug Nadeau Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Mr. John Spring Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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Dr. Edgar Wayburn Advisory Commission Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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