

APPENDIX F: SPECIAL USE PERMIT

SPECIAL USE PERMIT CONDITIONS

Under Alternatives C and E, Special Use Permits would be available to both commercial¹ and private dog walkers to walk more than 3 dogs at one time; maximum number of dogs allowed at one time would be 6. Commercial permits would be processed by the Business Division; private permits would be processed by the Special Park Users Group. Alternatives B and D do not have a special use permit provision because no more than three dogs are allowed.

1) Permit Terms and Conditions

- Terms/conditions for commercial dog walker permits and private dog walker permits may differ. Differing terms include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Commercial dog walkers:
 - limited from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and not allowed to use GGNRA lands from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.
 - Private dog walkers:
 - Initially, permits will not have time of day/day of use limitation
 - limited to one permit per 12 month period
 - permit not transferrable
- Initially, all permits will be valid for 12 months from date of issue, but following that, permits may be issued for either shorter or longer periods, based on information gained in the first 12 months, and over time.
- Initially, there will be no cap on numbers of permits; impacts resulting from overuse is addressed by Tier 1 remedies in the compliance-based management strategy.
- All permit applications will include applicable NPS regulations and a statement that the permit holder accepts liability for any accident/incident/injury resulting from the permitted use. Applicant signature serves as confirmation that the applicant has read and accepts all terms and conditions.
- All permits will require proof of insurance: for commercial dog walkers, \$1 million in liability; for private dog walkers, commercially reasonable liability insurance is required (available through homeowner's or renter's insurance).
- All permits will require proof of training from existing training courses offered by organizations such as Marin Humane, SFSPCA etc.

¹ Alternatives C and E incorporated the consensus agreements reached by the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, with one exception related to fines noted below, which could not be adopted because fines are set by the courts, not the National Park Service.

“Having more than the allowed number of dogs will result in a fine for every dog over the limit. Second offense will result in a doubling of the fine, per dog.”

Appendices

2) Costs

- Permit charges will not exceed costs, per NPS Directors Order 53.
- Commercial permit costs may differ from private permit costs.
- Private permits are payable by credit card only and no refunds allowed.

3) Permit design

- Plastic card, with photo and permit holders name/address - month/year issued in large, easily legible font
- Commercial permits may require additional identifying elements.

4) Enforcement/Revocation

- Third offense will result in suspension of commercial dog walkers' permit for up to three months
 - Following initial suspension, any subsequent suspensions may be up to 12 months

NPS retains right to permanently revoke for serious violation