

Comment ID #	Comment Source	Comment (Direct quotations from comment submissions)
78	P	<p>Comments on Lower Redwood Creek (former Banducci flower farm) Improving conditions for salmon, other wildlife, and ecosystem function should be the top priority. Riparian habitats play essential roles for wildlife as well as providing ecosystem services for humans. Unfortunately, riparian habitat in California is among the most degraded hence raising it in priority for restoration and enhancement. My research along this stretch of Redwood Creek and others in Marin County suggests that the adjacent uplands are also important areas for riparian-associated breeding birds during the post breeding period. Enhancement and restoration of the uplands is important for watershed health in general.</p>
78	P	<p>I am concerned that habitat succession is moving many of Marin's habitats toward Douglas Fir dominated - i.e., grassland to coastal scrub to Douglas fir. I suggest developing a plan to preserve the diverse habitat types (amount and location) and then developing ways to manage for this mosaic.</p>
82	P	<p>I would like to strongly urge that Alternative 1 be adopted because this is the only alternative that will allow Slide Ranch to stay in its current location. The current location is not only stunningly beautiful; it is also an appropriate location because of its historic buildings and the example it offers of a small, simple farming community. The staff and volunteers have created a very special small farm that allows visitors -- and particularly children -- to experience a simpler and more environmentally friendly lifestyle. Over almost forty years, Slide Ranch staff and volunteers have offered so much to the community as well as caring for the environment by removing nonnative plants and tending the wonderful gardens. The suggestion that Slide Ranch should be moved contained in the other alternatives seems to be based on the assumption that there are other locations that could offer the same benefits as the current one. That assumption reflects a fundamental lack of appreciation of what Slide Ranch offers. I wonder if those supporting those alternatives have spent any time at Slide Ranch, or sent their children to one of the camps or other learning programs. My children have returned year after year to Slide Ranch for camp and other programs and I can tell you that the experiences they have had have been truly transformational and have influenced their attitude towards the environment and their own lives more than just about any other educational program. To relocate Slide Ranch would be a terrible loss to our community.</p>
84	C	<p>The closest alternative to my ideals would be Alt 1 with the following exception: retain the Golden Gate Dairy Stables in Muir Beach in its existing location. It has a long history on the park and operates in a very environmentally conscious manner. It is consistent with the history of the park to leave this stable in place. It was a dairy and had a population of horses for many years.</p>

84	C	I also wish that you leave all equestrian trails in their current location. Horses have long been apart of the GGNRA, even before the park was officially formed. We are becoming a culture of nature deprived citizens. Eliminating domesticated work animals from our lands adds to this deprivation. Horses are a mode of transportation for park users who are not physically capable of hiking and biking on trails. This represents a large grouping of trail riders who are middle aged and older. This has not been mentioned anywhere in the park proposals.
88	C	Alternative 1 - managing the area to enhance the environmental and farm education center facilities. We rarely care for something we are not connected to. Slide Ranch connects myself and 1000's of children and families to animals, plants, food, nature and most important themselves. it provides a setting where humans live without dominating, dream while they work and undoubtedly grow. It is a refuge from a world that often moves to fast and forgets what matters. It is a home to so many, though only a few actually live there. Slide Ranch and its present location are precious jewels for the bay area and the world. I spent 11 months at Slide Ranch as a teacher in residence in 2001. I had a college education but I know nothing about how a broccoli plant grew or what kind of climate a tomato plant liked or how to care for chickens. I was a vegetarian who had never seen an imagined an animal could be killed respectfully. I connected to nature mostly through photos on my bedroom wall. The previous two years of my life I worked in the education field in the inner city. Learning there was often abstract and boredom regular problem. At Slide Ranch children were immediately engaged. the goats, sheep, chickens, garden cap most, trails, ocean and tide pools were more then enough to fill a four hour field trip I believe for many children it was the highlight of their school year. Some living in the Bay area - had never ever seen the ocean before.
89	C	Tennessee valley the history of Marincello should be promoted so that visitors can appreciate the effort that saved the area from development. The scale model (GGNRA) could be put on display and the "gate" to the project could be reconstructed. All this would inspire others in their preservation efforts and would also preserve and important part of the local history.
91	C	Alternative 1 should be a preferred alternative. The Main County park - lands are a huge draw for people in the county, SF, as well as visitors. Enhancing and improving the park lands could only be good for all visitors. The park lands is one of the main reasons I live here in Mill Valley. Slide Ranch should remain in its current location because where is it is, it is really quite a magical experience every time. My family love its scenic views as well as its proximity to the ocean and tidal pools. Our children's favorite campsite is Slide Ranch for these reasons.

98	P	I believe it is very important to preserve the non-commercialized feeling of Muir Beach's central area. Right now we have a small inn, a volunteer fire department, and a small horse boarding operation. It is very important to me that these elements be kept pretty much as wonderful as they are now, as well as Slide Ranch. It would be a shame if Muir Beach's public face were trashed to turn it into a pit-stop for Muir Woods. I love our firemen, our mailboxes, our little (now fixed up) house. I love seeing horses. The traffic is already very bad, and I hope any increased public transportation can be kept small in size and QUIET. This is a rural community, based in farming history. It is not a wilderness, and so Alternative 2 seems to me the least appropriate, except for its emphasis on quiet.
98	P	Yes, there was no talk in this plan about the trails, their maintenance and improvement and use. Muir Beach is not a sports center, and I'd like to see the trails around it not turned into a big draw for even more bikes than are already here. There also wasn't much talk about the beach. I would prefer it not to be turned into Stinson--it's just too small for use beyond what's already there.
98	P	I have lived in and loved Muir Beach for over 30 years. Many of the changes being proposed are because Cal Trans threw some rocks into the ocean, many years ago. Now we live with the consequences. Years of construction noise. Changes we can't predict. It would be good if the flooding were dealt with, and I'm grateful for improvements, but I worry that the spirit of the place will be damaged. I know that both the Banducci family and long term workers there and the Ocean Riders barn are under strong pressures from the part. But these are organic parts of what makes Muir Beach what it is. Not obstacles, but heritage, living connections to the history of the area. Please do not throw either of these operations out for some abstract idea of what the GGNRA should be. Point Reyes has ranches, so can Muir Beach have our agricultural component.
98	P	Faint hope: any chance of passing a rule about motorcycles and mufflers? I know this isn't your domain, just thought I'd mention.
100	P	I am writing in support of the Official Ocean Riders comment/letter, signed by Maureen Pinto on behalf of all Ocean Riders members. In that letter, we request that we be allowed to stay at the current site (The Dairy; Alternative 1) but also be given some new auxiliary space on Lower Redwood Creek (Alternative 3). Our current numbers are severely compressed, compared to historical uses, and if we are to provide the very rewarding public programs that we've proved and documented we can do in the past, we need some breathing room for more members and horses, not further compression of space, as seems sadly inevitable at the Dairy site. A very small number of people has put a very large amount of money and time into Best Management keeping of horses at the Dairy. We have worked for many years now to become a good force in our ecosystem, human and natural, in that place, and could do so equally if given new facilities in the Lower Redwood Creek area--but the investment of both time and money really needs to be spread out among a somewhat larger number.

100	P	I would like personally to request that, however the renovated house at the Dairy site be used, it NOT be turned into a visitors' center. The space is simply too small to accommodate more cars, when the Fire Dept already requires space for their own cars in case of emergency calls. Plus, a visitors' center is not a true historical use for this beautiful set of weathered buildings, once a ranch. Continued agricultural-type use, and the presence of horses that bring pleasure to so many, is far more in keeping with both the strengths and the limitations of the Dairy site. I would hope that whoever moves into that house might have some horse-skills as well, since they would be the person closest by, in case of emergency.
100	P	TRAILS. Both their maintenance and improvement, and the very important preservation of single track trails without bicyclists, who wear central grooves that cause erosion by gullying rain; startle hikers, horses, and wildlife with their sudden appearance; and in general are out of keeping with the "natural" part of nature. A bike, unlike a horse, is a man-made machine, and I don't think it belongs in the same place that people go because they want to be in and with nature. (This one aspect of Alternative 2's goals, I strongly support, though I strongly disagree with the part of Alternative 2 that would banish horses from inside the GGNRA--as the ranches are part of Point Reyes National Seashore, so the equestrian barns can be part of GGNRA without detriment--indeed, with increased pleasure, as I see every time I ride the delight on the faces of most who I encounter.)
100	P	Slide Ranch is a treasure, as is. Please don't require them to change.
100	P	Muir Beach is also a treasure. I used to live there, and have many friends who still do. Please don't turn it into a way to "solve" the problem of Muir Woods, which would simply displace traffic from one place onto another, creating two places at risk of ruin by overuse where there now is one. Muir Beach is a wonderful place to encounter for those going up the coast, who see the Pelican, the mailboxes, the barn, and stop to photograph what is now a source of delight. It is the first rural community encountered as one heads north on Route One from San Francisco, and a superb opening note for that drive along the coast. Busses, parking, and any other kind of development would be out of keeping, and would take something wonderful and turn it into one more degraded spot.
110	P	Regarding Tennessee Valley plans :no to moving existing buildings of TV Nursery and Horse Patrol. I prefer to keep the nursery and horse patrol at the current site. It makes no sense to tear all the already existing buildings down and to damage more land to build new and more buildings. Besides, the nursery has only a small group of staff and volunteers, and moving it to the parking lot area could impede the work to be done by interruptions by well meaning visitors. It is also a safety issue.
110	P	Keep camping only at Haypress camp, this is enough for the valley.
110	P	No to more buildings(rustic facilities?) and commercialization of Tennessee Valley.
110	P	No expansion of horse facilities to lower Marincello.
110	P	With all these so called improvements you would lose the very nature and beauty that makes the Tennessee Valley watershed so attractive and special in its way.

115	P	In Marin County I support the position of the Marin Horse Council and want to go on record as supporting the continued presence of the horse facilities and increases in access to trails. The final plan must address the presence and requirements of equestrians.
121	P	Our family believes that the proposal to move Slide Ranch would be a huge mistake. Our family has had the opportunity to visit Slide Ranch several times. Its setting above the ocean is beautiful. You can barely see it from the road (thus there is little to no impact of views from the road). Given the relatively small amount of animals they maintain (for the amount of space they occupy), they seem to have a minimal impact on the land. The educational work they do at Slide Ranch is outstanding. If anything, the Park Service should be doing all they can to support them; rather than threatening to move them away from their current location. We strongly encourage you to abandon the idea of moving Slide Ranch.
127	P	Answer: Regarding Slide Ranch, the most important idea to include in your preferred alternative is allowing the Slide Ranch to remain in its current location. Slide Ranch is a Cultural Resource as well as an education center. Slide Ranch demonstrates to the Bay Area community the sustainability of a small farm system in the midst of a natural landscape. This important piece of our nations culture, small sustainable farms within natural systems, is a rapidly fading piece of our heritage. If THE GGNRA proposes to preserve other cultural sites in the park, the cultural site and program at Slide Ranch should also be maintained, and should be allowed to stay in its current location.
127	P	As you know, the Slide Ranch site was historically a dairy farm; back before the Golden Gate Bridge was built. While preserving the cultural heritage of farming at the site, Slide Ranch has demonstrated how the natural systems can be restored with careful application of sustainable farming methods and organic systems. The land has improved dramatically from the intense over-grazing it experienced in the dairy farm days. With more infusion of capital from the NPS and others, even more restoration could be accomplished around the animal enclosures and gardens.
127	P	Slide Ranch is a care-taker of the site. Additional restoration taking place around the area could be cared for by the Slide Ranch staff who live on site. Their ears and eyes can protect the restoration projects when the park service employees and contractors have gone home for the evening. The Slide Ranch staff's knowledge of the site and the local species could be invaluable in restoring the native vegetation around the site. Restoration of the area is possible while still keeping the Slide Ranch program and facilities on site. In fact, the Slide Ranch facilities (and any improvements that might be approved in the future), could act as an education center for park visitors about landscape restoration. It could be a demonstration site for broader restorations, and for how individuals can restore a bit of the native ecosystem in their garden.

127	P	Whatever your preferred alternative is, I feel it must include Slide Ranch as a functioning sustainable education program at its current site. The GGNRA is not a pristine park without some imprints of human culture. If you allow other major footprints of human culture to remain in the park, you must allow this teeny toe print of Slide Ranch to remain.
127	P	Answer: Well, something you got wrong is calling Slide Ranch "remote." Schools from Marin County, San Francisco, Contra Costa County and Alameda County and beyond visit Slide Ranch. They certainly do not consider it to be a remote location. So the current phrasing for Alternative #2 regarding remoteness is not supportable.
127	P	There are existing park partners up and down the Marin County Coast. The partner I know best, Slide Ranch has been a very dedicated steward of the land. They have kept the impact low while opening the eyes of many to the world beyond their own urban or suburban neighborhood. At Slide Ranch, one learns about one's relationship with food and fiber; with enormous grey whales and teeny intertidal anemones. In addition, as many of you have likely experienced, being at the ocean and hearing the surf returning and returning, or gazing out to the Pacific's horizon and seeing its beauty and enormity, one also experiences deeply how one is a simple part of a vast whole. When a program participant wakes up with the chickens and sees the morning light slanting through the fog on the waves, they feel connected the the broader world beyond their front step. They learn about the cycles of the ocean through the tides, the cycles of the seasons in the garden, and the cycles of the day in gathering a warn egg from the chicken coop. Their sense of responsibility and stewardship for the creatures and lands and waters around them likely grows. Having a program site overlooking the vast Pacific, brings the message of connectedness home like nothing else can. Slide's coast-side location is key to the effectiveness of it's programs.
131	P	We urge the National Park Service (NPS) to include coordination with other regional planning entities, such as County of Marin and the State of California, to maintain the existing trail system (fire roads) and to develop additional links to connect these roads as needed. This would allow access to the open spaces we cherish here in Marin without driving into any of the parks. This concept is in keeping with the stated goal of the GGNRA Transportation Plan that is currently in development.
131	P	Of particular interest to our group is access to the fire roads that run throughout the Marin Headlands (and connect with fire roads in neighboring County and State park lands). For residents in Southern Marin these areas are our 'backyard'. We walk these roads and never cease to marvel at the beauty and variety of wildlife, plants and geography that exist so close to home.

<p>131</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>We have followed the GGNRA Dog Management Committee meetings closely. While we were not allowed a seat on the main Committee, one of our members did have a seat on the Technical Sub-committee. At the end of the two years of meetings there was very little agreement on where we, the citizens, could walk in the GGNRA with our dogs. In particular, there was little or no discussion on where we could walk with our dogs on-leash.</p> <p>Almost the whole of the two years was spent on off-leash discussion, and two of the three areas that are under consideration for off-leash use in Marin County are Rodeo Beach and Muir Beach. This is especially concerning since both of these beaches seem to have vanished from the General Management Plan entirely (areas close by are included: Golden Gate Dairy and Creek, and Marin Headlands: Fort Barry and Fort Cronkite, but not the Beaches). In addition, Rodeo Beach may be eliminated from consideration if the Transportation Plan goes to shuttles in the Headlands. That leaves us with (possibly) a very short walk up Oakwood Valley Trail.</p> <p>This letter addresses our concerns about on-leash dog walking in the Marin Headlands (all areas listed: Fort Barry and Fort Cronkite; Conzelman, Bunker and McCullough Roads; Oakwood Valley, Marin City Ridge and Gerbode Valley; Tennessee Valley). The specific Alternatives refer to the 'Uplands' of the Marin Headlands as either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alternative 1 - a Natural Zone: "outside the trail corridor, the area would be managed to protect undeveloped coastal habitat and outstanding natural features that are backdrops to the scenic corridor experience". We are only interested in access to the fire roads that transect these areas, so do not think our presence with a dog on-leash (or a horse or a bike) should cause concern. -Alternative 2 - a Sensitive Resources Zone: "Visitor access would be highly controlled and restricted to designated trails in this zone." <p>We are not sure what this means as it relates to recreational use, but we suspect it implies we humans are not entirely welcome, let alone humans with dogs, and/or horses, and/or bikes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alternative 3- seems to generally follow the same guidelines for use as Alternative 1.
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131	P	<p>The same fundamental goals are included in all three of the Concepts/Alternatives; the difference we see is in the emphasis of the goals. We whole heartedly support Concept #1: Connecting People with the Parks, "Park management would focus on ways to attract and welcome people, connect people with the resources, and promote understanding, enjoyment, preservation and health." This Concept emphasizes the NPS management commitment to the founding idea of the GGNRA, ie "parks to the people."</p> <p>We realize that the final General Management Plan will contain elements from all three Alternative Management Concepts; however, whenever there are conflicts among the three, we urge you to give primary consideration to Concept #1: Connecting People with the Parks.</p>
131	P	<p>The areas that the Alternatives refer to as "the Uplands", are the areas those of us living in the communities of Sausalito and Mill Valley consider our "backyard". These are the areas that we can access without driving into the GGNRA. These are the areas that we want to access with our dogs (on-leash) and our bikes and our horses, just as many have for as long as most of us can remember.</p>
151	P	<p>Alternative 1, connecting People to the Park is the best option for the Fort Barry Stables, operated by the Presidio Riding Club (PRC). The stables should remain as a boarding stable and under current management. Allowing diverse opportunities will let people with different interests to enjoy the park. We also think this will allow the PRC to offer additional public outreach programs.</p> <p>Visitors to the Horse Hotel, the PRC's current public outreach program, frequently request more camping options, so that is an idea we support.</p>
151	P	<p>The PRC would also like to incorporate some of the historical education ideas, like installing interpretive signs for the Ft. Barry Balloon Hanger to give visitors an idea of the history of the site. The stables are historic, having been at the Ft. Barry site for over 40 years.</p>
151	P	<p>We do not think using the facility as an equipment storage area would enhance the visitor experience. We do not support returning the buildings to their state as a motor pool or missile repair site as suggested in Alternative 3. The public currently gets more enjoyment from the facility as a stable. Families with children enjoy coming to visit the horses and an empty garage would not have the same recreational value.</p>

151	P	The amount of environmental protected area in Alternative 2 seems excessive and we believe that it will be difficult to eliminate everyone, including hikers, from the area south of Bunker Road to the Golden Gate Bridge. This is the most populated area of the park, and the area serviced by public transit. These trails are some of the most popular and should remain open to hikers, equestrians and cyclists.
151	P	A warming hut or food service would be valuable near the Ft. Cronkite beach. This is also the terminal of the Muni bus service, so it would be a good location for people to eat while waiting for transportation. Other locations would simply not get the amount of visitors to support it. Ft. Barry would NOT be a good place to put food service.
151	P	The current Visitor Center in the Headlands is sufficient; a new Visitor Center is not needed.
154	P	Marin -- There is very little area designated for "diverse opportunities" anywhere in the Marin holdings of the GGNRA in Alternative 1. Alternative 2 and 3 have essentially no recreational access anywhere in Marin (except for Stinson Beach).
160	P	San Mateo and Marin: There are very few sites where "diverse opportunities" (a designation that includes off-leash dog walking) will be allowed in alt. 1; your 2 & 3 are disastrous alternatives.
161	P	Hello, my name is Laurie Wilson and have lived a very outdoor life in Mill Valley for over 21 years, and I use some part of GGNRA on a weekly basis. I am also a parent of two school age children, 5 and 10 years old. Our oldest has attended Slide Ranch's weekly summer camps 3 years now, and was on a waiting list for a week earlier this summer. We LOVE the camp, and it is very popular, and fills up by late March. We enjoy carpooling with other Mill Valley kids, and we hope that it will be available in the future for our younger child to enjoy. There is no place like it in Marin, and attending the children's "farmers market" on the last afternoon, and seeing all the things they created, is just wonderful. Please seriously consider Alternative #1, "People in Parks" or "People And Parks", or whatever it is called. Surely there is enough Natural Zone along our beautiful coast already.
166	P	As a resident of Muir Beach whose family will be substantially impacted by any and all changes included in your plans in newsletter 4, I respectfully submit my opinions as follows regarding the alternatives that are most important to include in the preferred alternative: A. Golden Gate Dairy: eliminate options for visitor services of any kind at the Golden Gate Dairy. Any additional use at this site such as moving Muir Woods activities to the Dairy, installing an informational kiosk or adding a bus stop for the Muir Woods shuttle is absolutely inappropriate, out of the question, and is strongly opposed. The traffic and space constraints make this idea wholly untenable. I support the continued presence at the Dairy of the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department, which protects the entire community, from Three Corners and Green Gulch Farm to Muir Woods, Slide Ranch, and beyond. I also support the preservation of the historic presence of horses at the Dairy, under the auspices of Ocean Riders of Marin. I would also support allowing Ocean Riders to use Banducci Ranch as a base of operations as well.

166	P	<p>B. Slide Ranch: maintain, nurture and support the Slide Ranch environmental educational center where it is now located, on the site of an old coast dairy ranch. Slide Ranch is a gem for the whole Bay Area, and my own children have found great pleasure and education in experiencing their camps or just hiking down there to visit the goats and sheep. By experiencing a working farm and garden, it offers my children their first opportunity to learn that food does not originate on grocery store shelves. It also allows my children to experience nature both on land and in the tide pools at ocean's edge. This gives them a sense of the importance of environmental stewardship. This coastal site is intrinsic to my children's experience. Slide Ranch must remain as it is, and where it is.</p>
168	P	<p>1. (I spend most of my GGNRA time in Marin County so comments apply to Marin only.) All three management concepts are viable, with some concepts working better in certain areas than others. For example, Muir Woods is a National Treasure, deserving of Alternative 3, focus on National Treasures. Other lower Marin GGNRA areas should remain at the use level that they enjoy today, as they are popular areas and should not be made less accessible to the public. However, the inland/coastal area from Muir Beach to the headlands should not be made more accessible to the public than it is now, because it is a natural corridor for the flora and fauna running along the riparian area, especially in reference to the existing multi-use trail. The trail should not be enhanced, as only walk-in camping should be encouraged. The entire area should be promoted as a "leave no trace" area (as should all of the scenic corridor zones), and users should be encouraged to consider it a "National Recreation Area" and not a "National Picnic Area." There are plenty of close-by opportunities for users to enjoy the area without walking far, such as at Rodeo Beach and at Muir Beach. Camping in the lower Tennessee Valley near the NPS patrol stables should continue for special groups, as at</p>
168	P	<p>The main Parking Lot area of Tennessee Valley is in desperate need of expansion, and an historic-looking warming hut (with museum-quality photographs and history of the area) at that location would encourage users to eat and drink at the trailhead and appreciate the mostly untouched landscape where they would hike.</p>
168	P	<p>One comment about the Capehart Housing Area in the Marin Headlands: The housing should be retained, because affordable housing for park volunteers and interns is a necessity. They are our Park Ambassadors. let's keep them in the park. The housing could easily be made attractive (it is not so now) by adding architectural-grade trellising, vegas, etc. and by tucking the garbage receptacles away behind one of those trellises.</p>
168	P	<p>3. I cannot overemphasize the importance of good signage. The public these days need guidelines for proper park use, whether it be trail use etiquette (bikes, horses, hikers), garbage etiquette, or noise etiquette for us bird-watchers.</p>

177	P	Preliminary Alternatives for Marin County, Tennessee Valley. I believe that a combination of Alternatives 1 and 2 should be included in the preferred alternative. Trailhead site improvements including an improved parking lot/picnic area are desperately needed to support the high use of this part of the Park. A warming hut would not be beneficial for this site. The area is already a popular destination at maximum capacity on weekends. Increase in use will also contribute to the introduction of more weeds along the trails. I believe that the attraction to this site is because of it's rustic qualities and lack of major facilities. People come to Tennessee Valley for it's easy access to hike, bike and enjoy the beauty and wildlife of an area so close to urban life. Introducing increased facilities would draw in more people to the point of over-capacity and would eliminate the reasons why people come to this area in the first place. I also do not believe that moving the nursery and horse patrol to a new location located up by the entrance would greatly benefit the preservation of the natural ecosystems in Tennessee Valley.
177	P	The cost and impact of tearing down the equestrian barn and nursery facilities and moving them both up to the main entrance in an undeveloped area would seem to cause much more disturbance than if the facilities were to remain on their existing footprint and restoration improvements were made around them. Creating a new facilities footprint in order to remove an old one would not necessarily result in a net gain of preserved natural areas. Especially considering that many improvements have and would continue to be made to both the equestrian and nursery facilities at their existing location. With regard to existing development in Lower TV, I support alternative 1, paragraph 6.
177	P	If the facilities and programs to remain in there current location, I believe that more sustainable transportation should be acquired for staff/volunteers that work there. This may be bicycles or electric carts/vehicles which transport people to and from the parking lot down to the nursery and horse patrol areas.
177	P	I do not support expanding the Miwok Stables to the area of lower Marincello Road. This area has been stewarded by volunteers for many years in attempts to remove invasive species introduced by the original development of Marincello. This is a high use area and should be shared by all park visitors.
177	P	I highly support public transit and an improved multi-use trail to connect with the Mill Valley Bike Path.
177	P	If the existing structures are to be removed I hope that the Park will follow the most sustainable practices not only in creating new facilities, but in removing the old ones. For example, the ranch house located next to the nursery is slated for demolition. The support beams in the ceiling appear to be old growth redwood. If at all possible it would be great if a reclaimed redwood company could offer their services to help dismantle the house in exchange for the wood. I realize there are legal restrictions with anything being taken from the Park, especially for profit, but it would be beneficial to all if agreements like this could be made.

177	P	Preliminary Alternatives for Marin Headlands: Oakwood Valley, Marin City, Ridge, and Gerbode Valley. 1. I support Alternative 2, Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems for these areas. As with most of the Park, I believe visitor attraction is to the wild character of the landscape and increased visitor amenities would diminish this character. I do support continued and expanded primitive camping opportunities as a regular comment I often receive from Park visitors is that there are not enough camping opportunities in the GGNRA.
177	P	Preliminary Alternatives for Lower Redwood Creek. I support Alternative 2 for this area as I believe that restoration of the creek and the surrounding habitat are extremely important for the benefit of the salmon.
177	P	Preliminary Alternatives for Marin Headlands: Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite .I support Alternative 1 for this area as I think Park visitors should have a range of activities including military history, stewardship, recreation and education which are all well represented in this area of the Park.
177	P	Preliminary Alternatives for Marin Headlands: Capehart Housing Area. I support Alternative 1 for this area as I believe housing is an important benefit for staff and especially interns who provide work in return for a small stipend and the free housing. Interns are an integral part of the many stewardship programs we have in the park. The only way these interns can afford to work for "free" is by having access to the housing.
179	P	#3 Overall the 3 options have an emphasis on protecting natural resources and discouraging recreation. This is not what Congress intended when it established the GGNRA in 1972, nor is it the vision of San Francisco when we gave our land to the GGNRA. The GGNRA has the majority of open space in S. F and owns all the beaches. They are the largest landowner in Marin. The need for the public to recreate should be a vital consideration for a valid General Management Plan.
180	P	From: Supporters of horseback riding in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (1) Support for preservation of equestrian facilities: Ember Ridge, Picardo Ranch (Millwood), SFPUC Watershed easements, Moss Beach Ranch, Ocean View Stables, Renegade Ranch, Presidio Riding Club, Miwok Stables and Golden Gate Dairy.
181	P	Preferred Alt - ideas most important to include: For Marin Headlands and Oakwood Valley: preferred alternative is Alternative 2. Maintain natural and wild park experience. Continue to keep pets out of the valley so wildlife can feed uninterrupted and human observation of wildlife can continue. Install outdoor interactive native american exhibit like Pont Reyes has. Remove dams and restore creeks to create pre-European contact feel. Do not expand into restored valleys off Marincello Road or wetland to the north of the parking lot. Keep facility impacts to a minimum that currently exists. Do not move NPS facilities (nursery and horse patrol) out of the valley. This will reduce NPS presence which will not exist otherwise. Natural resources are protected by presence and occupation of NPS facilities. Do not expand camping in other locations besides Haypress camp. Water and restrooms should be available at the parking lot but a gift shop/warming hut should not.

181	P	<p>For Rodeo and Gerbode Valley preferred alt 2., Remove housing north of Bunker road and restore natural features. Keep visitor service where they are! People will not stop-there are no views or compelling features in this area. The current V.C. is centrally located and reduces driving impacts in the valley. If located to the east, Many visitors will drive to the beach then have to drive back to get a map then to the trailheads again. Do not concentrate visitor and park infrastructure near the valley entrance this endangers the ecological function by placing more people and potential pathogens and pests at the headwaters of the watershed potential pathogens and pests will have a more difficult time establishing when accidentally introduced to the bluffward regions</p>
181	P	<p>Kirby Cove Alt 2 preferred, Do not lose nature experience, maintain existing level of visitor services, restore watershed to more natural conditions</p>
183	P	<p>I have lived next to the parking lot in Muir Beach for 25 years. I fully understood the consequences of living next to this beautiful beach and the crowds that are attracted to the area when I moved in. While the Park Service may have had great intentions it has consistently failed to accommodate the large crowds in the area: Failure to control traffic, parking, and litter. At the same time the Park Service has reduced the space available for families to picnic, use the beach and hike the trails. In an effort to restore the area to its natural habitat, the Park Service has put the same number of people into a much smaller area. Tempers rise, horns honk, and the feelings are not positive. I see and hear this. Your rangers are nowhere near the beach. Our volunteer firemen regularly monitor the situation to keep the peace. They have much more important issues to deal with than traffic control. Your good intentions have failed. Now we are looking to add to this mess by putting in additional park services at the Diary. Who is going to monitor the increase in the flow of traffic? Clearly not the Park Service. The job is not getting done now with the existing services how will it possibly work with the new plans. Muir Beach/Pacific Way has no more room for additional cars. The new</p>
183	P	<p>My suggestions are as follows (for Muir Beach):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put information kiosks over the hill near the exits from the freeways. The kiosks can be located with the shuttle buses as this will encourage people out of their cars and into the bus. 2. Keep administrative job and offices over the hill. We don't need that additional traffic and parking requirements. Many of the functions you are addressing do not need to be onsite. 3. Stop trying to change the Diary. It works. Not everything must be fixed, improved or changed. It works. 4. Please give as much consideration to the many people living at Banducci Farm as you have given the fish in Redwood Creek. These people are as precious to us at Muir Beach as the fish are to you. This is their lives you are changing. Thank you for the chance to provide my comments. I look forward to good solutions to the issues you are addressing and hope that Muir Beach will continue to be a destination for visitors and that their trip will be a joyful one.

185	L	In Marin County I support the position of the Marin Horse Council and want to go on record as supporting the continued presence of the horse facilities and increases in access to trails. The final plan must address the presence and requirements of equestrians.
190	P	The overflow crowd that met at the Muir Beach Community Center on June 26th demonstrated Muir Beach's strong feelings regarding some of the proposed alternatives in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area General Management Plan. The community also expressed disappointment at the lack of collaboration in developing General Management Plan alternatives and great concern that its input may not be given due consideration. We seek to maintain a balance between environmental stewardship, recreational enjoyment for generations to come, the nurturing of the social fabric of our community, and protection of cultural and historic resources. This takes recognition that horses and barns at the Dairy, sheep and gardens at Slide Ranch, flowers on the hillsides, people and old farm buildings at Banducci Ranch, and rows of vegetables and zen buddhist practice at Green Gulch Farm are what make this place beautiful and unique. They are what make this area as attractive to our visitors as it is to us. Its coastal, rural, ranching history must be preserved, protected, and appreciated by all. We strongly support this vision of the GGNRA General Management Plan:
190	P	1. Golden Gate Dairy: eliminate options for visitor services of any kind at the Golden Gate Dairy. There is no room! We support both the preservation of the historic presence of horses at the Dairy, under the auspices of Ocean Riders of Marin, and the continued presence of the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department, which protects the entire community, from Three Corners and Green Gulch Farm to Muir Woods, Slide Ranch, and beyond. Ocean Riders of Marin continues a long history of kids and horses at the Dairy and provides riding opportunities for horse-lovers of all ages. In addition, it is committed to fostering outreach programs for under-served youth by offering them a chance to experience the thrill of riding a horse in the wild. Ocean Riders has shown its commitment to environmental stewardship by working tirelessly to minimize its impact in the watershed, and working to preserve the integrity of the land, water, flora and fauna of Redwood Creek. Because the co-existence of horses and fire engines is essential, but not always easy, any additional use at this site such as moving Muir Woods activities to the Dairy, installing an informational kiosk or adding a bus stop for the Muir Woods shuttle is absolutely inappropriate, out of the question, and will be strongly opposed.

190	P	2. Banducci Ranch: the cultural and historical integrity of Banducci Ranch, which has been in the Banducci family since the thirties, must be supported. This includes the ownership/partnership role of Amadeo Banducci, who, as the last rancher in this valley, personifies Muir Beach living history. With his vision as a farmer and a steward of the land, he must be allowed to run his ranch and to pass it on to his family. Ranches are run with farm labor, and develop a farm community of their own that extends beyond the immediate family. We support this long-standing community at Banducci Ranch, and treasure its diversity. These are our friends and neighbors, and must not be removed from their homes.
190	P	3. Slide Ranch: maintain, nurture and support the Slide Ranch environmental educational center where it is now located, on the site of an old coast dairy ranch. Slide Ranch is a gem for the whole Bay Area. By experiencing a working farm and garden, it offers many children their first opportunity to learn that food does not originate on grocery store shelves. It also allows these children to experience nature both on land and in the tide pools at ocean's edge. This gives them a sense of the importance of environmental stewardship. This coastal site is intrinsic to the children's experience. Slide Ranch must remain as it is, and where it is.
190	P	4. Muir Woods National Monument: Juggling the need for access to this venerable stand of redwoods that was created close to a major population center with the express purpose of being remarkably accessible, and the preservation of those same great trees, is a balancing act that we understand well. Our concern is that the parking lots at Muir Woods not be reduced or eliminated until and unless the number of cars using them has been diminished by the use of shuttle buses and parking facilities at connecting mass transit transfer points.
190	P	We are extremely concerned about the impacts of moving Muir Woods facilities to Muir Beach, and encourage discussion of land swaps with the State, where useful and feasible, to accommodate those needs.
190	P	In addition, we local Marin County people love to hike in Muir Woods! While we support efforts to restore the natural flood plain and create a sustainable visitor program, it would be a shame to replace access along the valley floor with a limited trail system above the valley floor that is "highly controlled and limited to designated areas and activities." This is not consistent with the need for Muir Woods to provide an accessible opportunity for visitors to fully experience the wonders of this great treasure.
190	P	5. Trailhead Development: We do not support any proposal for intensified development of trailheads with new facilities such as parking lots, restrooms or picnic areas. The wild, undeveloped appearance of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is what makes it so spectacular.
190	P	6. Interagency Coordination: We strongly support the efforts at improved coordination with neighboring agencies and organizations to better manage the park for environmental restoration, protection of species diversity, and building resiliency to climate change.

190	P	7. Public Transit: We support efforts to provide public transit to the Muir Beach parking lot to lessen the impact of private cars. We urge the Park Service to collaborate with the County to provide appropriately-sized public transit for both local residents and Muir Beach visitors.
190	P	8. Miscellaneous: Lastly, we urge consideration of Shirley Souza Nygren's request for a name change of Santos Meadows to Souza Meadows, and we urge the Park Service to work cooperatively with Bob Winklemann to resolve trail connections and pedestrian safety issues.
192	L	It is confusing to me that a plan (Alternative) exists for Slide Ranch to relocate "if they should want to" when they have clearly stated they do not want to. The NPS seems concerned about their location because "Slide Ranch is called "Slide" Ranch for a reason" and the area is "sensitive and unstable" and "may not be the best location for the activities that are currently going on there" . . . However, . . the NPS stated that if Slide Ranch were to relocate, the NPS would use the site for exactly what Slide Ranch is doing now only increase the visitor activities. In other words, they say that Slide Ranch is located on sensitive and unstable ground and clearly support the idea of relocating them to reduce the impact/footprint on the area yet. . .they would turn that area into a bigger and better Slide Ranch if it became available!! Leave Slide Ranch alone!
192	L	I also take issue with the idea of putting a visitor center and public transit stop at the Golden Gate Dairy. There is a concern for the Fire Department not being able to perform it's duties effectively if there were that kind of congestion in that area. Nothing else should need to be said! In light of this concern, relocating the equestrian facilities seems logical. Give the Fire Department The Dairy. The Fire Department would have easier access in and out for emergencies (which will probably increase as the NPS continues to draw more people and as regular large transit and tour busses are allowed to be on these narrow, twisting roads). The large barn (renovated) would give them much needed space for a variety of things including community preparedness classes. Moving the equestrian facilities would also eliminate the often dangerous crossing of horses over Highway One. Adding MORE to the dairy makes no sense... we don't need MORE congestion at that intersection or at the Fire Department. Why not use the farm land at Kern Lane on Frank's Valley Road (Muir Woods Road).. looks like a nice spot for a visitor's center (renovate the old barn).. plenty of room for busses.
192	L	As for the Banducci Ranch.. all I can say is.. what a travesty to move those people.. and, for what purpose?? Is it necessary to be so destructive in order to create? There is so much land in this park system, it baffles me that anyone would even consider moving out families that have been here for generations and are an integral part of the community! Find another location for your planned activities.. there is plenty of land in the park system.

192	L	The NPS seems to have a concern about the ‘Stewardship’ of the land. From my perspective, the NPS is the big business in West Marin (check comment?) and causes the greatest impact/footprint with a goal to increase that impact by drawing more people and building more facilities. I am certainly not against that... the Park belongs to the People! However, the impact the NPS has is far greater than the impact of those living at Banducci Ranch, the activities at Slide Ranch or the minimal activity at The Dairy.
193	L	In Marin County I support the position of the Marin Horse Council and want to go on record as supporting the continued presence of the horse facilities and increases in access to trails. The final plan must address the presence and requirements of equestrians.
197	P	Topic 2:Some types of recreational use cannot be easily shifted or replaced if they are limited or prohibited. There should be a recognition that shoreline dependent uses like windsurfing, kitesurfing, kayaking, fishing, etc. can only occur in limited areas in some cases such as the Marin Headlands. An emphasis should be placed on preserving recreational uses that are shoreline dependent and have limited areas where access is practical. For windsurfers, Point Cavallo is the only practical access along a 10+ mile stretch of shore. These uses should retain access to the shoreline including vehicular access if that is required to allow for the transport of equipment. Access points along the shoreline should be recognized as a gateway to the open waters and non-motorized users should have access equal to motorized boaters who will not be affected by proposed car free days.
197	L	The closest alternative proposed to my desires would be #1 — Connecting People With the Parks. However I differ with the proposal with regards to movement of any equestrian facilities, especially the Golden Gate Dairy Stables which has a historical presence in the park and shares it’s facility with the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Dept. I am vehemently opposed to moving the Dairy Stables from it’s present site as it is very well run and is very conscientious about protecting the surrounding ecosystem.
198	L	Following your suggestion, we are submitting this letter to you. We are very concerned about the future of the Banducci site that is part of the Redwood Creek watershed. Historically, this land has been used for farming purposes since at least the turn of the century. The Banducci’s alone have been occupying and farming this land for at least 70 years. In the GGNRA general management plan, it states that the park service is trying to preserve the natural vitality and unique cultural history of the park lands. By allowing this land to be farmed the GGNRA will be preserving cultural history, and creating another potential educational opportunity, which I know the park service also places high value on. This letter is to inform you of our intentions to farm on the Banducci site. Amadeo Banducci is a skilled farmer, who is very familiar with the landscape, and understands what it takes to make a successful farm. We are willing to do the work, and have been for many years. By farming this site, we will preserve, protect, and share the legacy of this land together.

<p>199</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>For instance, look at guiding principles (which are included). Also it would be useful to think in terms of the Agricultural Park model as presented by SAGE (Sustainable Agriculture Education - see their website at www.sage.org, especially the Sunol project). The basic idea is that an agricultural park is a place that integrates sustainable agriculture and local community needs, natural resources, stewardship and public education in a mutually beneficial way by sharing resources. Our watershed, because of its relatively small scale and its rich diversity, could become a progressive land-use model for how the National Park Service could work and partner with its neighbors and local government</p> <p>Components</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Preserve and improve upon the agrarian heritage as it has been practiced for the last 70 y by the Banducci family. Work with MALT (Marin Agricultural Land Trust). 2) All farming activity would be certified organic under the auspices of MOCA (Marin Organic Certification Agency). 3) Greenhouse propagation: Build two greenhouses, one for native plants for Muir Beach landscaping, as well as for Muir Woods, to be used for aspiration, fire control fl2- C'L and water conservation projects, and one for production of nursery crops and starts for " field production. 4) Field production: Develop in scale with fragile ecosystem, analyze and improve soil conditions, create value-added product for sale, use packing shed, cooler. Join Marin Organic for technical and marketing support. 5) Plant food crops for food security for the greater Muir Beach neighborhood. In case of a natural or other disaster we could feed ourselves, and excess food could be donated to the Maim Food Bank. Work with Muir Beach disaster committee. .6) Develop a composting system for Muir Beach so we can process our own waste in a beneficial way Worms coialdaid the process (with or without) horse manure Woic with - . - the Muir Beach Garden Club . — - .7) Education: The basis ol'cdu c&woidd-be-a-working farm utilizing and enhancing
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202	P	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the preliminary alternatives for the GGNRA General Management Plan (GMP) as described in Newsletter 4. This excellent newsletter has been very useful in understanding the proposed alternatives. As a County Supervisor representing some of the Marin communities adjacent to the GGNRA, I am pleased to provide comments. Topic Question 2 Planning Issues and Management Concepts</p> <p>Newsletter 4 identifies broad planning issues to be addressed in the GMP as well as over arching management concepts. I strongly urge that, under headings related to sustainable natural resource management, the National Park Service incorporate opportunities for active agriculture on appropriate sites. Specifically, grazing is widely known as a beneficial tool for managing natural resources on grasslands for the benefit of native plant species and for fire fuel load reduction. Additionally, agriculture is a very significant piece of the history of the lands managed by the GGNRA in Marin, and it is important to go beyond "emphasizing sites and stories" of agriculture to an active and meaningful demonstration of these vital cultural resources.</p>
202	P	<p>The GMP update is lacking in that it does not adequately address the issue of fire and fuel load, both as a broad planning/management objective, and in the specific geographic areas. It is vitally important to continue fuel load reduction via projects, including prescribed burns, where appropriate. While this is addressed in the GGRNA Fire Management Plan, cross reference would be valuable.</p>
202	P	<p>I also encourage the GGNRA to be flexible with respect to locating wireless facilities on parklands, as long as those facilities are disguised as elements of the surrounding landscape or development. The Marin County's Telecommunications Facilities Policy Plan may be worth reviewing as you consider this issue in your management plan.</p>
202	P	<p>All three alternatives provide important elements. Access to trails, expanded protection of coastal ecosystems, and emphasis on national treasures are all of high priority and should be included in the preferred alternative. As mentioned above, a preferred alternative for the overview would emphasize the importance of fire fuel load reduction and would create opportunities for sustainable agriculture in appropriate locations.</p>

202	P	<p>I strongly support a preferred alternative which would enhance alternative transportation and reduce congestion. If the laudable proposal in Alternative 2 to restore sand dunes and remove the south parking lot is pursued, it should only be done with the certainty that the reduction in parking will not increase parking problems and congestion in the Stinson Beach community.</p> <p>Development of GGNRA lands around Easkoot Creek has disrupted the natural stream flow and has contributed to flooding downstream and backwater effects upstream of park property, negatively impacting the community of Stinson Beach. I encourage the restoration of a more natural flow to Easkoot Creek and for the benefit of riparian habitats, wetlands and flood control. Alternative 2 includes the re-design of the parking lot, which could incorporate the restoration of a more natural flow to Easkoot Creek, providing significant flood control benefits to the community. I urge the GGNRA to consider a possible modification of Alternative 2 to include flood control objectives. Further information is available from Neal Conatser Marin Department of Public Works at 415-507-2941 or nconatser@co.marin.ca.us.</p> <p>The commitment to the ongoing restoration of Bolinas Lagoon, as described in all three alternatives, is greatly appreciated.</p>
202	P	<p>While Marin County is open to opportunities suggested in both Alternatives 1 and 2 to collaborate on improved access and restoration of the coastal ecosystem, we are concerned about the suggestion in Alternative 2 that the National Park Service would encourage abandonment of a segment of Highway One between Muir Beach and Stinson Beach should there be a catastrophic landslide. Closure of Highway One would have significant implications for the two nearest communities, would increase traffic to Panoramic Highway and would diminish public access. This should be eliminated from the preferred alternative. Alternative transportation is strongly supported. A preferred alternative for this section of the GMP would also address fuel load reduction because of the proximity of park lands to urban areas.</p>
202	P	<p>I strongly urge that the preferred alternative provide no change, and that Slide Ranch remain in its current location. The operation of Slide Ranch at its present site under the management of the existing non-profit has provided outstanding and widely appreciated programs for youth and adults. The current location, while challenging in some senses, is in fact part of the extraordinary and unique character of this unusual resource. Its remoteness is an asset, not a problem, and the facility should not be relocated.</p>

<p>202</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>Lower Redwood Creek</p> <p>Generally Alternative 1 is preferred, but I support the inclusion of several elements of Alternative 2. The County of Marin remains committed to a partnership with the GGNRA for the restoration of Redwood Creek, in particular on the replacement of the Pacific Way Bridge. It may be helpful to identify replacement of the bridge as a priority.</p> <p>Additionally, I strongly support the Alternative 1 proposal to incorporate a small scale educational, organic farm on this site. Structures needed to support such a farm should be preserved. While it is not addressed formally in the GMP, the Banducci family should be allowed to be part of any agricultural operation there. I also recommend that two elements of Alternative 2 be included in the preferred alternative. Specifically, I strongly support efforts to increase water storage capacity for the benefit of human activities as well as to reduce summer extraction. Also, the County of Marin will be open to the exploration of realignment of Franks Valley Road for protection of natural resources.</p>
<p>202</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>Alternative 1 is preferred for its greater support of community services and emphasis on trails and provision of a bus stop. It is vitally important to continue to support the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department, and if possible to expand their use of the buildings for meeting training space and storage. The presence of the Fire Department is highly beneficial to both the GGNRA in responding to emergencies in the recreational area, as well as to the Muir Beach Community. One important exception to Alternative 1 is that the equestrian facility should be preserved in its current location.</p>

<p>205</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>As a member of the equestrian community, I wish to go on record in strong support of alternative 1: Connecting People with the Parks. This is the only alternative that preserves the current stables in GGNRA parkland in Marin county, as well as recommending diverse uses by the multi-user community, including equestrians. I am strongly in favor of improved trail access, improved parking areas, trail maintenance and improvement for use in all weather conditions, as well as picnic tables, water troughs, hitching rails and manure bunkers for proper manure management.</p> <p>I believe that the best way to ensure access to the parks by future generations is to promote opportunities for diverse use of the GGNRA territories by all user groups. For many of us, most of these rugged parklands would be off limits, were it not for the access provided by our equine mounts. And in order to enhance the visitor experience for equestrian users, we need well maintained trails, picnic tables, restrooms, and easy to use (from horse-back) gates and latches. The areas that I am most concerned about ensuring access to (and that are discussed in the current draft management plan) include (but are not limited to): Tennessee Valley, Mann 1-leadlands: Oakwood Valley, Mad City Ridge and Gerbode Valley, and Golden Gate Dairy.</p> <p>B) The missing important elements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of the valuable resource that exists in the current trail system • Advocacy for multi-user trails that connect to other trail systems. • Analysis of what is needed to enable equestrian access (as described above). • Appreciation for what the volunteer communities, such as horse clubs, can and are willing to contribute to making a safe multi-user environment for all visitors.
<p>206</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>Please do not move Slide Ranch from it's present site! I was a Teacher-In-Residence eight years ago; it was incredible experience in on of the most beautiful places I have ever been. I believe that the site is an integral part of the Ranch's teachings. The people, young and old, who visited the Ranch were visibly effected by the peace, simplicity and beauty of the site. I do not think that the program would have the same power if it was in a "less remote area". Contrarily, I believe that is precisely why the program works.</p> <p>When I was there we were told that the staff hoped that we would be like seeds and disperse our knowledge and try to make other places sustainable and keep them beautiful. I do my best to continue the work and continue to dram of a place that I might live the way I did at Slide Ranch. These are precarious times, why destroy something that has worked and continues to be positive for almost forty years.</p>

207	P	Marin County -- There is very little area designated as "Diverse Opportunities" anywhere in Marin County in Alternative 1. The areas for Diverse Opportunities and recreational access and uses must be expanded. They are too small in Alternative 1. Alternatives 2 and 3 are unacceptable because they have essentially no recreational access anywhere in Marin, except for Stinson Beach.
208	P	I have been a camper at Slide Ranch for three years. This has been a farm for over one hundred years. I can not imagine slide ranch being anywhere but where it is. Please do not move slide ranch.
210	L	My comments are limited to page 14 and 15 of your recent news letter as these issues have the most impact and hold the most interest for the town of Stinson Beach. My comments also cover the information gathered or not gathered as was mostly the case, at your June 10th open house in the SF Bay Model, multi purpose room. To begin with separating your proposals as abstract as they are, into Alternatives 1,2 or 3 seems almost silly. Under alt. 1 the park managers would explore ways to improve visitor access to Stinson Beach, such as introducing seasonal alternative transportation and would continue to work with the community to address congestion. In alt. 2 the park managers would explore year round alternative transportation after years of comprehensive transit management plan meetings and now plan a lot of exploring has been done. The county of Marin brought us the Stage and has supplied some deputies to direct traffic at the stop sign - park entrance juggernaut during seasonal peak traffic periods. Stinson Beach would like to know what exactly you have in mind. The idea of choosing alternative 1 over alt 2 because we like seasonal alternative transportation rather than year round seems silly. A ranger at the park entrance at peak traffic hours to assist the count deputies would seem like a good simple concept but its not in any of the alternatives.
210	L	In both alternatives 1 and 2 sustainable new facilities would replace deteriorated restrooms, showers, picnic areas and parking lots. The existing deterioration are concrete concepts. They exist sustainable new facilities is completely abstract and could mean just about anything. Stinson Beach would love to see the preliminary concept drawings. How does alt 1 differ from alt 2? Where are the new bathrooms going to be located at exactly? At the June 10th NPS open house i asked these questions and expressed the fact that over recent years the consensus in Stinson Beach has been that preserving the number of parking spaces in the park is important but maintaining the no fee status of the parking lot critical managing traffic and parking congestion in town. All the NPS I talked to were invasive when it came to any thing specific about any of the alternatives. In alternative 2 the Easkoot Creek riparian corridor would be further enhanced by redesigning the parking lot and the south parking lot would be removed to support wet land restoration. Although environmental restoration does not necessarily reduce the number of available parking spaces a significant reduction seems likely. Again Stinson Beach would love to see the plan.

210	L	<p>As private property ownership in Stinson Beach fill the flood plain along the Easkoot Creek, mitigation flooding in town may began to take precedent over parking, Wetland restoration and developing a sustainable creel riparian habitat zone in the park that functions naturally during periods of high and low rainfall and supports the variety of indigenous plant and animals species while helping to mitigate flooding in the developed part of the town may well become very attractive in a practical as well as environmental sense. Again Stinson Beach would love to see the plan.</p>
210	L	<p>Under highway 1 and Panoramic highway it mentions new facilities, such as pullouts, picnic areas, restrooms, etc. These kinds of facilities including parking, developed at the old white gate ranch house site would be a boom to those who like to hike the Mid Hill and or enjoy the panoramic views from that area. It might also take a bit of the pressure off the main parking lot at the beach and would also still be within quick reach of the Stinson Beach fire dept and EMI. we would loke to see what you have in mind. The Stinson Beach Village Association would be very open to meeting with an informed person from the park service with specifics, hopefully site plans of what it is you would like to do in our locale. The comprehensive transit management plan process seemed allot like a game of "hide the ball" hopefully this time things will be more transparent.</p>
215	L	<p>I am writing in response to your request for input on the new General Management Plan for the GGNRA. I would like to note that although I hike and ride a bike I am specifically writing as an equestrian because I feel this user group has not been fairly represented in the GMP.</p> <p>I am disappointed to see a focus on management, control, and policing in the language that appears to limit and confine access to the park. I also sense a tendency to homogenize the park by eating away at its unique regional character and history. The legacy of southern and western Marin County is largely agricultural and speaks to us culturally through the barns, dairies, farms, and ranches that follow the coast north. If the GGNRA does not want to allow grazing of cattle and sheep on these lands they can at least continue to allow horses to represent this important historic element. The barns, dairies, farms, and ranches should be treasured and preserved in this landscape. Horses are iconic in the American west. They are recreational, therapeutic, and provide trail access to some who can no longer walk the trails. Despite all of this the NPS continues to squeeze them out. Trail access is limited, practical needs (such as water) are ignored, trailer parking is restricted, and horse facilities are being taken down or turned into maintenance sheds.</p>
215	L	<p>The trail systems should be improved and expanded to help distribute the increasing number of park users. Closing trails only results in overuse and generates tension and abuses. The trails are the heart of the park! This is not to say that trails cannot be differentiated in terms of use and safety. Mountain bikes have become a frightening and terrorizing element on the trails. They should not be allowed on single-track trails. They have taken over and marred trails throughout Marin County.</p>

215	L	Equestrian facilities are already limited in the GGNRA. Currently, however, they are spaced so that they can still support one another by acting as destinations, way stations, watering locations, emergency facilities that provide tie-rails and paddocks should an equestrian encounter a problem. Interfering with this critical mass will no doubt undermine the future of all.
215	L	PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES regarding Marin Headlands: There appears to be a catch 22 at work here. At a presentation I was told that two of the alternatives allowed the equestrian facility (Marin Headlands Stables at Rodeo Valley) to stay but apparently cut them off from trails. Despite this Information, none of the alternatives appear to support the continuation of this equestrian facility. I oppose converting the balloon hanger/indoor arena into a maintenance shed. This unique building should remain part of an already delicate equestrian network.
215	L	PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES regarding Tennessee Valley and Miwok Stables. It appears that Miwok Stables is allowed to stay but the barn and paddocks in lower Tennessee Valley are being removed. This seems incredibly destructive and wasteful. This is a historic cultural location and could be kept for the mounted patrol or for horse camping. It is part of the equestrian network that offers opportunities for overall improvement. It is also an important cultural vista along the major trail down Tennessee Valley.
215	L	PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES pertaining to Golden Gate Dairy: I feel this proposal offers more catch 22 alternatives. The GMP is suggesting moves that are not approved to locations that are not built. I do not think the GMP's intention here is honorable. This facility has a long history and has worked hard to maintain their stewardship at this location. They are committed to the land, education, and outreach. I support Alternative 3, as it is the only one that appears to allow this historic cultural resource and anchor to the equestrian network to remain. I cannot imagine the drive along this section of Highway 1 without the barns, corrals and mailboxes marking this intersection. The GGNRA was brought into the National Park System because of its unique location and character. Undermining its special quality by eroding the cultural resources is a crude and short sighted management plan.
216	L	MARIN COUNTY: Please find below comments on the alternatives for Golden Gate Dairy, Miwok Stables at Tennessee Valley and the Presidio Riding Club in the Marin Headlands, Fort Barry, and Fort Cronkhite. The three stables on GGNRA land in Marin County are a needed asset to the area. For equestrians, they are vital. They provide overnight horse stabling to the traveling equestrian public. Their location nearby a Youth Hostel offers affordable accommodation for the people:- A unique and very valuable combination. They make it possible for riding clubs to organize group rides by making the barns located on GGNRA property available for parking rigs, providing water, and providing tying posts for horses. They offer rest stops, overnight destinations, and boarding facilities.

<p>216</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>GOLDEN GATE DAIRY: Alternative Two (2) is unacceptable, because equestrians are forbidden except on a severely limited numbers of trails. Alternative Three (3), retaining the ranch “as is” and offering equestrian access to trails while keeping the historical dairy ranching spirit alive, is preferable. The ranch has been successfully operated in the existing location for years and is historically a landmark. In Alternative One (1) the suggestion of having horses on Lower Redwood Creek next to the State Parks arena would create a wonderful opportunity for developing educational programs that could be merged with some of the visions of the local organic farmer. In the vicinity of the Golden Gate Dairy, one issue that needs urgent immediate remedial attention is the lack of a connector trail between Frank Valley Horse Camp and Muir Beach. Equestrians have to use Highway One. This is very dangerous, as buses, cars, and motorcycles pass us dangerously. It is much worse on the weekend. Equestrians would be happy to work with GGNRA to find the right location for this connector trail and to volunteer in building it.</p>
<p>216</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>TENNESSEE VALLEY :Alternative One (1) “Connecting People with the Parks” would be the best selection for the area. It is essential that the existing equestrian facilities be retained and possibly expanded. After all, horses are a great attraction to other park visitors. Regarding the statement “Trailhead site improvements, including a warming hut (food and visitor information) “: We do not need such an accommodation adjacent to a trailhead or parking area. There are now enough visitors’ centers in the Marin Headlands, and adjacent state parks. Opening a food store at this location is not suitable, because it will bring more traffic and congestion to the area. An informative station with a map and better signage would best serve this area. This trailhead is very heavily visited, especially on the weekend, by every class of trail users: hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders, and baby strollers. It is important to plan a better parking area for cars and trucks with trailers, motor homes, etc. The picnic area needs to offer a place to tie horses, give access to water for dogs and horses, and provide a better restroom facilities for the visiting humans. Alternative Two (2) and Three (3) for the Tennessee Valley are not options. Suggested in Alternative Two (2): Removing roads, no historic structures, and artificial ponds is not necessary unless it improves accessibility to the park. Roads give access to trails. The suggestion to change unnecessary fire roads to multiuse trails or to remove them can be very worrisome to equestrians, and hikers. The process should be an open procedure which includes input from all affected users. Modest and rustic facilities are good additions as well as overnight camping for all users including equestrians. Creating an unpaved trail to the sea and to Mill Valley is a splendid idea. Trails should never be paved but rather left in their natural state. The recommendation you received from the Marin Horse Council for the improvement to be made at Tennessee Valley are in accordance with our vision for the management of the area.</p>

<p>216</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>MARIN HEADLANDS; FORT BARRY, AND FORT CRONKHITTEP- PRESIDIO RIDING CLUB. The three alternatives are not acceptable, because they do not mention or recognize the existence of the equestrian facilities. The historical covered arena, the historical hanger, and the Presidio Riding Club should remain. Not only are they part of the history of the area, but they continue to provide services to the park users to enhance and broaden their experience within the park. They provide equestrian public programs, horse boarding options for the local population, and overnight horse accommodation for long-distance travelers with horses. We strongly oppose the conversion of the hanger into a maintenance station. It is a beautiful historical building that need not become storage for equipment. Alternative One (1) "Connecting people with parks" list many good ideas regarding the improvement of trailheads, accessible trails, camping, picnicking, and orientation. It is important that equestrians are included in these activities and that space is granted appropriately. The proposed idea of a food service or a new visitor center should be rejected. It is simply not appropriate, since adequate visitor center already exists.</p>
<p>217</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>CURRENT CONDITIONS: Oakwood Valley, Marin City Ridge and Gerbode Valley The current conditions for historical recreational activities here do not accurately reflect the use of this area. Oakwood Valley and Mann City Ridge (Alta Avenue) are used for hiking, biking, horseback riding and off/on-leash dog walking. "Visitor Access improvements. . . would be provided . . .to support access to the trail system with improved community connections/adjacent communities." You must mean: The City of Sausalito in the 1979 Pet Policy stated that the NPS would provide access for the City of Sausalito to the GGNRA Marin Headlands "at a future date". That has not been accomplished nor discussed at any recent date. Such a connection would enable residents to leave their cars outside the Park boundary and access the trails of the Mann Headlands car free. Realizing that Tennessee Valley Road, the trailhead for Oakwood Valley is very narrow cars realistically should only park on one side in a very limited area (7 cars max) for safety. Enlarging the trailhead area further at Oakwood Valley would be cause for concern for the safety of increased visitors exiting their cars along the roadway. Oakwood Valley: Alternative 1, 2 and 3 dismiss the current historical recreational activities at the site area of Oakwood Valley, Mann City Ridge and Gerbode Valley.</p>

<p>217</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Rodeo Beach/Marin Headlands</p> <p>The current conditions section for historical recreational activities does not accurately reflect the use of this site in that the weather is the determining factor here. Fog and wind blanket the Headlands/Rodeo beach area much of the year. Water activities include low to high use by the surfing community, however swimming is not a normal activity except by a few brave souls on an unusually hot day. Land based activities include hiking, biking, horseback riding and off-leash dog walking. This area remains low in conflict with all users.</p> <p>Upland Area historical recreational use supports hiking, biking, horseback riding and off- leash dog walking.</p> <p>Alternative 1: Many trails within the Headlands over the years have narrowed from fire trail width to single file passage from a lack of maintenance. improving trails/fire roads, which were very accessible some years ago, should be improved by regular on-going maintenance keeping the trails that exist available for safe and poison oak free passage. A warming hut near the beach sounds wonderful in theory, but owing to the amount of paper/plastic and glass that is left for others to pick up on the beach and the parking lot now we could not recommend encouraging further eating and drinking near the beach adding to the debris left by visitors currently.</p> <p>There is some confusion in regard to the Capehart housing area removal creating a more scenic entrance into Rodeo Valley.” The Marin Headlands Transportation Plan recommends the current tunnel entrance/exit be changed to allow only exit to Alexander Avenue, therefore it would not be necessary to remove them.</p> <p>We have noticed that the Paramedics are no longer stationed at the firehouse out at Ft. Cronkite, and with the existing number of children, park partner staff and visitors we would think it to be an incredible safety issue without adding it to</p>
<p>218</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Stinson Beach and Environs</p> <p>We support components of Alternative 2 that include maintaining or reducing the current level of use; considering public transit; restoring natural processes at Easkoot Creek, the riparian corridor, the sand dunes; and restoring the south parking lot to wetlands; and managing the rest of the land to protect coastal ecosystems; and contributing to the restoration of Bolinas lagoon.</p> <p>For Alternative 1 we recommend against active beach recreation and not expanding food and other concessions etc. These services would introduce increased impact from litter, smells, and other problems with people services such as these. Providing alternative transportation is a positive component of this alternative.</p>
<p>218</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Hwy 1 and Panoramic Highway</p> <p>We support the greater emphasis on coastal ecosystems protection under Alternative 2. For Alternatives 1 and 3 we do not oppose adding a few overlooks provided no natural habitats would be destroyed or damaged. There are many areas along the coast, however, where viewing is possible, so we question the need for this development. The scenic rural environment should be protected. Construction of overlooks should avoid, not just minimize, habitat impacts and be subject to thorough environmental review.</p>

218	L	<p>Slide Ranch Moving all or some of Slide Ranch would enable restoration of a more complex habitat at Big Lagoon. Relocating the entire ranch would necessitate thorough environmental review to ensure there would not be increased impacts at the new location.</p>
218	L	<p>Marin Headlands/Forts Barry and Cronkhite Our preferred alternative is 2, however, we do not support aiming for higher public uses. Rodeo Valley, the Fort Cronkhite ponds provide important habitat for waterfowl, diving birds, and some seabirds. They are particularly important as refugia during storms and rough waters in ocean. Maintenance and visitor use of bunkers and historical buildings is fitting, but expanding “military identity” is uncalled for. Habitat preservation should be paramount. Further, why would habitat for just endangered and special status species be protected? This area is habitat for many native migratory birds and other wildlife that should also be protected as they are part of the native ecosystem. Habitat should be restored and maintained for all native species We recommend no higher levels of visitor use, and support controlled use. This Alternative should clearly recognize wildlife protection as major goal.</p>
218	L	<p>Alternative 1 We oppose any new construction. There are plenty of opportunities available hike, bird watch, horseback ride, walk, photography, to name just a few. Additional uses are not needed. The trails are already accessible and people can already picnic. No new facilities are needed. Alternative 3 Recognizing military history is one thing, but history does not need to be “made alive.” It is the historic buildings and facilities that are of interest.</p>
218	L	<p>Capehart Housing We support Alternative 2 which would remove Capehart housing. These buildings have no historic significance and, in fact, are unattractive. There also have been a number of problems with behavior of residents which have contributed to problems for native wildlife, the management of which seems to create additional problems for staff. Restoration of the riparian and upland habitat is in the public interest.</p>
218	L	<p>Conzelman, Bunker, and McCullough Roads Alternative 2 will benefit by restoring coastal habitats particularly for Mission Blue butterfly Public access should be tightly controlled. For Alternatives 1 and 3 , only limited trail improvements should be made. Any new trails should be subject to environmental review to ensure they do not destroy or degrade any habitats</p>

218	L	<p>Kirby Cove</p> <p>Unlike Alternative 2 in other locations, this alternative does not recognize Kirby Cove's habitat values. Any camping should be subject to protection of habitats. Care should be taken to ensure the Water Trail use and trailheads construction does not cause impacts to coastal habitats and wildlife.</p> <p>Alternatives 2 and 3 camping is already provided and should not be significantly increased.</p>
218	L	<p>Point Bonita, Historic Light House and Related Structures</p> <p>We have no problem with preserving these historic structures should be preserved but any alternative chosen should not adversely impact diving bird species that use the deeper waters off these coasts. The waters off of this area attracts diving birds species that do not occur in most other locations in the Bay. Management of the Water Trail should not be a part of Alternative 2. We oppose management for high levels of visitor use in the sheltered Ft. Baker area where the use of the sheltered lagoon by sea birds is already being impacts. There already is enough use. We support restriction of visitor resources in marine environment for all three alternatives.</p>
218	L	<p>Offshore Marine Environment Fort Baker, Muir Beach and Point Bonita</p> <p>Alternative 2 We are concerned that the "high levels of visitor use" that is suggested would result in adverse impacts to the diving birds that use these offshore waters. Care should be taken to ensure that boat use, including users of the Water Trail, do not disturb rafting seabirds and diving birds that occur in these waters. Implementation of a Water Trail launch area must be accompanied by a requirement for regular monitoring of impacts and a commitment that enforcement be provided to ensure the species are not harassed. Sensitive marine resources should be protected.</p>
219	L	<p>The overflow crowd that met at the Muir Beach Community Center on June 26th demonstrated Muir Beach's strong feelings regarding some of the proposed alternatives in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area General Management Plan. The community also expressed disappointment at the lack of collaboration in developing General Management Plan alternatives and great concern that its input may not be given due consideration.</p> <p>We seek to maintain a balance between environmental stewardship, recreational enjoyment for generations to come, the nurturing of the social fabric of our community, and protection of cultural and historic resources.</p> <p>This takes recognition that horses and barns at the Dairy, sheep and gardens at Slide Ranch, flowers on the hillsides, people and old farm buildings at Banducci Ranch, and rows of vegetables and zen buddhist practice at Green Gulch Farm are what make this place beautiful and unique. They are what make this area as attractive to our visitors as it is to us. Its coastal, rural, ranching history must be preserved, protected, and appreciated by all.</p>

219	L	<p>We strongly support this vision of the GGNRA General Management Plan:</p> <p>1. Golden Gate Dairy: eliminate options for visitor services of any kind at the Golden Gate Dairy. There is no room. We support both the preservation of the historic presence of horses at the Dairy, under the auspices of Ocean Riders of Mann, and the continued presence of the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department, which protects the entire community, from Three Corners and Green Gulch Farm to Muir Woods, Slide Ranch, and beyond.</p> <p>Ocean Riders of Marin continues a long history of kids and horses at the Dairy and provides riding opportunities for horse-lovers of all ages. In addition, it is committed to fostering outreach programs for under-served youth by offering them a chance to experience the thrill of riding a horse in the wild. Ocean Riders has shown its commitment to environmental stewardship by working tirelessly to minimize its impact in the watershed, and working to preserve the integrity of the land, water, flora and fauna of Redwood Creek. Because the coexistence of horses and fire engines is essential, but not always easy, any additional use at this site such as moving Muir Woods activities to the Dairy, installing an informational kiosk or adding a bus stop for the Muir Woods shuttle is absolutely inappropriate, out of the question, and will be strongly opposed.</p>
219	L	<p>2. Banducci Ranch: the cultural and historical integrity of Banducci Ranch, which has been in the Banducci family since the thirties, must be supported. This includes the ownership/partnership role of Amadeo Banducci, who, as the last rancher in this valley, personifies Muir Beach living history. With his vision as a farmer and a steward of the land, he must be allowed to run his ranch and to pass it on to his family.</p> <p>Ranches are run with farm labor, and develop a farm community of their own that extends beyond the immediate family. We support this long-standing community at Banducci Ranch, and treasure its diversity. These are our friends and neighbors, and must not be removed from their homes.</p>
219	L	<p>3. Slide Ranch: maintain, nurture and support the Slide Ranch environmental educational center where it is now located, on the site of an old coast dairy ranch. Slide Ranch is a gem for the whole Bay Area. By experiencing a working farm and garden, it offers many children their first opportunity to learn that food does not originate on grocery store shelves. It also allows these children to experience nature both on land and in the tide pools at ocean's edge. This gives them a sense of the importance of environmental stewardship. This coastal site is intrinsic to the children's experience. Slide Ranch must remain as it is, and where it is.</p>
219	L	<p>7. Public Transit: We support efforts to provide public transit to the Muir Beach parking lot to lessen the impact of private cars. We urge the Park Service to collaborate with the County to provide appropriately-sized public transit for both local residents and Muir Beach visitors.</p>

221	L	<p>I am a founding member (1980) and director of the Mann Horse Council, Inc., a California non-profit. I have lived in Mann County for 50 years. I am a hiker and road-bicyclist but it is from an experienced equestrian’s point of view that I wish to comment on the proposed GGNRA Management Plan (MP).</p> <p>The heartbeat of the National Park System (NPS) in Mann County is the trail system. They provide places of peace, solitude, and renewal for the public. The benefits, from physical to mental to societal, are incalculable, especially when applied to our youth. Horseback riding does not discriminate by gender or by age. Yet, the importance of trail usage in this MP is downplayed and often lost.</p> <p>Because of the 6,000-year association of humans and horses, it is important that the MP affirm this linkage by retaining all stables in its jurisdiction. Horses are a natural fit with history, nature, opportunities, scenic values, and culture. Horses have been on Mann ranches since recorded history. Best Management Practices (BMPs) further enhance the viability of horses on National Parklands.</p>
222	L	<p>Marin Headlands Oakwood Valley, Mann City Ridge, Gerbode Valley Alternative 2</p>
223	L	<p>Regarding the Proposed Alternatives for Marin Equestrian Facilities: Golden Gate Dairy Alternative 1 - Equestrian uses would be relocated to Lower Redwood Creeka Not enough information is provided to select this alternative. Alternative 2 is unacceptable. Alternative 3 - I support Alternative 3. The Golden Gate Dairy Stables has successfully operated in this location for many years. This option allows continued equestrian access to trails, and retains an connection for the larger equestrian use-group. -Note: An issue that needs attention in this area is the lack of a connector trail between Frank Valley Horse Camp and Muir Beach. Currently, equestrians have to use Highway One - a dangerous situation - a safe connector trail needs to be built.</p>
223	L	<p>Lower Redwood C reek Alternative 1 - Not enough information is given regarding potential equestrian uses to select this alternative. However, I support the idea of expanding equestrian use opportunities to this area. Alternatives 2 and 3 (same as Alternative 2) are not acceptable.</p>

223	L	<p>Marin Headlands Stables at Rodeo Valley (Presidio Riding Club)</p> <p>Crucial information is missing from all three Newsletter alternatives. None of the alternatives in Newsletter 4 even mention the existing equestrian facility, and some of the maps seem to cut the stables off from the trails. Subsequent NPS Staff charts, detailing the alternatives, state: Stables are removed, and, use of stables still being evaluated based on park operations needs. It is unacceptable not to include this information under the alternatives in Newsletter 4. Please develop a new alternative that allows this facility to remain, with trail access. Allow this facility to continue serving the public with horse boarding options for the local population, and overnight horse accommodation for long-distance travelers with horses. Allow the hanger building to remain for the stables use, not a maintenance shed.</p>
223	L	<p>Lower Tennessee Valley Stables (Volunteer Mounted Patrol)</p> <p>All 3 alternatives are unacceptable as they remove the LTV Stables. This historic location should be kept for equestrian use and for the volunteer mounted patrol. The addition of horse-camping is a good idea -- although, the site is not ideal for horse camping unless the riders are also able to camp at the site.</p> <p>Creating a multi-use trail to conned with the Mill Valley Bike path, and promoting equestrian touring on a trail to the sea' is an excellent idea.</p>
224	L	<p>The SBVA has strong concerns regarding ANY options put forward that ,within the Management Zone, lessen or eliminate , alternatives for this Alternative #1. Examples of these less desirable alternatives are:</p> <p>Any plan to remove or eliminate the existing restrooms, showers, or the South parking lot to support increasing wetland restoration. During weekends throughout the summer and during warm days year-round1 Having the current parking capacity lends itself to the enjoyment and options of the Park visitors and the balance of impact on the Stinson Beach town/community/residents.</p>
224	L	<p>Of greater concern is the option in Alternative #2, where there is suggestion that the Park would encourage the abandonment of Highway 1 between Stinson Beach and Muir Beach in the event of a catastrophic slide(road undermining, rnudslide, rockslide, ect). Our community would not and cannot accept such a radical proposal with NO hope of another alternative route(such as the Devil's Slide Project in San Mateo).California State Highway One is designated as a State and National treasure and a official Scenic Highway with all the clout that it carries. Restoration of the natural ecosystem of Easkoot creek watershed and the benefits that would contribute to the natural processes that affect the Bolinas Lagoon is of great concern the residents of Stinson Beach in the 2008 community survey just released on the community website (stinsonbeachvillage.com). Stinson Beach Village Association does appreciate this lone-range planning process within our beautiful and unique home. Our community environment is equally valued however, and SBVA and the residents will stand firm for our cultural and community character values.</p>

224	L	<p>One last observation deals with ‘taking care’ of what you have. We believe that the delayed and deferred maintenance/repair of existing infrastructure must take precedence over “new” projects of environmental nature.</p>
226	L	<p>Marin Conservation League (MCL) urges you to place the greatest possible emphasis on Concept 2 — Preserving Bruce Fullerton and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems throughout Marin County. In a few specific instances we recommend a different alternative. These exceptions are noted below.</p> <p>We note that the differences among the three alternative management concepts are subtle but, nevertheless, distinct in their emphasis. While the other two concepts/alternatives do not ignore natural resources and ecological systems, Concept 2 gives special attention to restoration and preservation as well as maintenance of these systems — e.g., reconnection of fragmented habitat, recovery and survival of special status species and wildlife, and restoration of natural processes. We believe that Marin County could be a showplace within the GGNRA for natural resource stewardship by emphasizing protection and restoration of the ecosystems here. We recognize that the GGNRA is also about people and the history of settlement of the San Francisco Bay Area, and would like to point out that Concept/Alternative 2 also emphasizes the historical legacy associated with the physical challenges that settlers faced in their encounters with Mann’s rugged coastal terrain and their reliance on the coastal ecosystem that sustained them. Placing the historical legacy within the context of that ecosystem is central. Concept/Alternative 2 accomplishes this objective.</p> <p>GGNRA is in the distinctive position of being in the center of a large urban area and will continue to experience high densities of visitor use, and, at the same time, will continue to offer exceptional opportunities for public education. The ecologically diverse natural systems within GGNRA and Mann provide the basis for offering public education about the sensitivities of these natural resources and the tools and practices that will be necessary to sustain them for the future enjoyment of generations to come. The Park’s reputation in the long term will rely not only upon how well it has protected and preserved the coastal ecosystems that are its foundation, but also on how well it has educated the public regarding their protection and preservation. Concept/Alternative 2 emphasizes this objective.</p>

226	L	<p>Nevertheless, the allocation of management zones under Concept/Alternative 2 reflects the fact that, even with the emphasis on natural system restoration and preservation, there are specific areas that are less sensitive to human uses and, therefore, can tolerate more active use such as for camping and educational activities. We find those uses generally acceptable, but wish to underline the fact that the Marin County portions of the GGNRA are very diverse in ecosystems and historic and current human uses. Generally the connections between habitats should be improved, with emphasis upon preserving significant habitats and biological diversity. At the same time, the area should be accessible for nonprofit group educational activities, support other nonprofit uses such as the Headlands Institute and Marine Mammal Center, very limited commercial use to support tourism, and passive recreation such as camping, hiking, bird-watching, etc. Concept/Alternative 2 recognizes this diversity of low impact functions by recommending that existing facilities continue with limited improvements for the sake of public safety and the scenic enjoyment of visitors. Another general point that we wish to make concerns how the GGNRA Management Plan will be coordinated with management of adjoining public lands, such as the Mt. Tamalpais State Park, Mann County Parks and Open Space</p>
226	L	<p>We also urge you to review the new Marin Countywide Plan, adopted November 2007 after an exhaustive public review process. Many important natural systems policies and programs deserve your consideration. To the extent possible, GGNRA Management Plan policies and programs should at the least be congruent and consistent with those established in the Countywide Plan, e.g., streamside and wetland protection measures and standards for trail design, uses, and connections. We note that the GGNRA Management Plan does not give clear direction on what will be done with its trail system under the various alternatives. Perhaps that was an oversight or will be addressed separately. However, many of the public uses, including occasional conflicts of the GGNRA in Mann are associated with trail use for walkers, runners, horses, dogs, and bicycles. It would be helpful for the Management Plan to elaborate more fully on GGNRA's plans with regard to its trail system under the three Concepts/Alternatives.</p>
226	L	<p>A major focus of restoration of the native coastal ecosystem is the removal of exotic vegetation including eucalyptus, broom and other invasives, and their replacement with native plants. The GGNRA Management Plan should incorporate objectives for addressing this issue. In this connection, the GGNRA Management Plan should consider establishing a direct seeding program for oak and buckeye and other native plant species as an effective way to restore native plant communities. Most federal parks use nursery seedlings that are planted out and have to be cared for until they become established. Direct seeding, however, with locally harvested nuts and seeds is well suited to reestablishing native habitat with the least amount of attention and without supplemental irrigation.</p>

226	L	<p>Stinson Beach to Bolinas-Fairfax Road: The current level of visitor services should continue without major expansion of services or facilities, except for renovation of deteriorating existing facilities. However, we do not believe that parking lots should be removed to allow wetland restoration in this case, given the absence of alternative land for parking in peak use periods. Any natural processes that affect Bolinas Lagoon should be managed to protect and promote the natural restoration of the Lagoon.</p>
226	L	<p>Highway 1 and Panoramic Highway: Although we encourage placing emphasis on protecting and restoring the coastal ecosystem, this stretch of road is among the most scenic in the area. To improve safety, some improvements could be made, but must be done without threatening the “remote” esthetic quality of the area and without compromising the fragile coastal bluffs.</p>
226	L	<p>Slide Ranch: Concept/Alternative 2 contemplates the removal of Slide Ranch to another undefined location. In the absence of information on where new alternative locations could be and how the transfer would be accomplished, we believe it should be retained in its present location as described in Concept/Alternative 1 (Connecting People with the Parks). Slide Ranch has a long and successful history of exposing people to both organic farming and our natural coastal ecosystems.</p>
226	L	<p>Golden Gate Dairy: This site abuts Redwood Creek. Under Concept/Alternative 2 it is designated as an Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone. The GGNRA Management Plan as presented makes no mention of how this area will be managed with respect to its relation to Redwood Creek. It is important that there be a complete separation and control of “cultural” and other uses that would potentially impact Redwood Creek. Redwood Creek is habitat for endangered Coho Salmon, and protection of this resource should take priority over any “cultural” use of this site.</p>
226	L	<p>Tennessee Valley: This is one of the most accessible and heavily used areas in Marin. It is enjoyed by a wide variety of visitors, including joggers, hikers, birders, families, senior citizens and equestrians as well as bikers. Expansion of parking and picnicking facilities at the trailhead are appropriate. Unused housing structures and other facilities should be removed and the watershed restored to its natural condition. However, Concept/Alternative 2 contemplates removing roads and narrowing the main trail as well as removing dams and artificial ponds. The former reduces accessibility, and the latter has potential unknown impacts on wildlife and the beach. This deserves further study, and a Master Plan that might incorporate some of the contemplated uses in Concept/Alternative 1 (Connecting People with the Parks). In this connection, we question the need for either food-serving facilities or overnight accommodations anywhere in Tennessee Valley. The eastern watershed of Coyote Creek that provides entry to Tennessee Valley and lies within the GGNRA should be left as a Natural Zone without camping facilities.</p>

226	L	<p>Mann Headlands, Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite: This is another heavily used public area of the GGNRA, especially the Rodeo Lagoon, Cronkhite Beach, and certain upland areas dedicated to other park-compatible uses. We support the continuation of those various uses as indicated in Concept/Alternative I (Connecting People with Parks). We also support the designation of Rodeo Lagoon and most of the Rodeo Valley Uplands being managed as Sensitive Resources and Natural Zones. We question the compatibility of a warming hut and food service facility at this site, however.</p>
226	L	<p>Capeheart Housing Area: The restoration and reconnection of habitat in this area is desirable. However, it is also advantageous to provide affordable workforce housing for park staff. The current amount of houses appears to exceed the needs for park staff. A combination of Alternatives 1 and 2 might be desirable, with only sufficient housing remaining to serve the needs of park staff.</p>
227	L	<p>In Marin County I support the position of the Mann Horse Council and want to go on record as supporting the continued presence of the horse facilities and increases in access to trails. The final plan must address the presence and requirements of equestrians.</p>
229	L	<p>A few comments: Page 14 — Overview: Current Conditions and Management Alternative 1 + Connecting People and the Parks: The overview should address the trail system and its ability to provide safe passage for walkers, hikers, runners, equestrians and to the best extent possible. Those with physical limitations who should be provided the best opportunity to enjoy the GGNRA facilities. Alternative 1 reads: “The national park lands in Marin are a hiker’s paradise, with an extensive network.. .etc. ..etc.” Please edit to read “The national park lands in Marin are a hiker’s equestrian’s paradise, with an extensive network.. - etc... -etc.”</p>

229	L	<p>Page 16 - Preliminary Alternative's for Marin County Tennessee Valley including Miwok Stables Current Conditions and Management: This section does not even mention the issue of parking. Alternative 1 states "...Improved picnic and parking areas..." Alternative 2 states "minimal level of visitor facilities...." Alternative 3 ignores the issue.</p> <p>The truth is: Tennessee Valley is one of the closest, if not the closest, major terminals for visitors from San Francisco who come every week by the thousands. Tennessee Valley alone provides the location for expanded facilities (rest rooms, picnic tables, trash enclosures, etc.) plus, most important, a ready area, non-sensitive, that can be utilized to expand the parking area, provide better flow through (there is none now since visitors block the aisles every weekend), better facilities for parking motor homes, cars with trailers, trucks with horse trailers, and make it possible for all of them to come and go without impacting the traditional auto and bicycle traffic.</p> <p>Bear Valley in Point Reyes has a program wherein the main parking lot has a section reserved for trucks, motor homes, cars/trailers, and trucks with horse trailers. Everyone respects the limitations and abides. The balance of the parking area and the adjacent lots are for automobile use only. It works.</p>
229	L	<p>Page 18 - Preliminary Alternative's for Marin County Conzelman, Bunker & McCullough Roads: The first section, Current Conditions and Management" as well as all three alternatives are missing one major point. This is a major area providing access, parking, hiking, riding and exploring the Headlands, close in to the greater San Francisco Bay Area. There is no mention of improved parking areas as covered in my January 2008 paper to GGNRA. Please consider enhanced limited parking as requested, in the area on the west side of Bunker Road just north of the stables, probably utilizing the abandoned 'old road'.</p> <p>Tennessee Valley provides GGNRA one unique location with the ability to accommodate many visitors and their vehicles without damage to the environment. It will save demand for such expansion in other areas. Please consider expansion of this one, virtually urban terminal for expansion to provide facilities demanded by the amount of traffic involved.</p>

<p>230</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>The Stinson Beach County Water District appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement as described in your Newsletter #4.</p> <p>The Stinson Beach County Water District wants to, and should be, included as a stakeholder/ partner with the GGNRA as you have established with other political bodies and agencies. We would like to be added to a more formal and direct contact list.</p> <p>The District is very supportive of the parks concept of upgrading the beach facilities, especially the septic disposal system. We have had ongoing concerns regarding septic disposal, and urge you to upgrade and correct the deficiencies in the system. Should you implement the alternative of removing the parking lot, then we would expect that you address the septic system and the bathroom facility.</p> <p>The District owns land, easements, facilities and other interests within the park boundary. We would expect to be included in the future technical working groups or stakeholder meetings. Attached is an interest card for follow up with the District</p>
<p>240</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Fort Baker Site: Located at the Southern tip of the North Bay, the Fort Baker site would honor and be dedicated to the Coastal Miwok people. Civic Engagement with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (who are federally recognized) would be essential. There are several recommendations for a Fort Baker location.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Take over one of the Officer's Houses surrounding the Parade Grounds. 2) Take over some rooms in the Administration Building also on the Parade Grounds. 3) If a new site needs to be built, there are two recommendations for its footprint. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) An area that is presently fenced off, in between the Discovery Museum and the Coast Guard Station, and between the Parade Grounds and the shoreline Parking Lot. b) Another site could be on the footprint of a non-historical warehouse building in between the Discovery Museum and the Administration building, above the Parking Lot to the rear of the Jail House (across the street from the Discovery Museum). <p>For the last 30 years the California Indian people, through California State Parks, have consistently referred to a basic criteria that they would like to see in a new cultural facility(ties). One major point being, the Regional Indian Museum approach.</p>

<p>240</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>The following points make Fort Baker the best choice for the northern site of the CILM.</p> <p>The California Indian community has consistently stated they would like a new cultural facility near or on the water. Fort Baker with Horseshoe Cove would be ideal for aquatic educational programs and a "Grand Vista."</p> <p>The museum should be located so there is access to a naturalistic area for educational programs on how the California Indians utilized their natural resources. Fort Baker sits next to the Marin Headlands, a perfect place for California Indian educational programs. The Marin Headlands would provide a more naturalistic educational experience Crissy Field could not.</p> <p>Fort Baker was the site oaf former Coastal Miwok village, thus able to convey a sense of continuity.</p> <p>The Fort Baker Parade Grounds would be ideal for cultural special events.</p> <p>Park Partners: the new CILM would become a member of the GGNRA Park Partners program and able to form working partnerships with other members. The CILM would not only have its own educational programs, but also work with the Marin Headlands Institute (and Crissy Field) to improve their programs and conduct mutual programs. The Bay Area Discovery Museum is always looking for ways to form community partnerships to diversify their audience. The Discovery Museum has a new state-of-the-art auditorium and other educational facilities that are rarely used that could be utilized by the CILM.</p>
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<p>240</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>If the CILM were based out of Fort Baker, Marin County, it would be eligible for funding from the Marin Community Foundation and provide an outside source of funding for educational programs and special events.</p> <p>- Phase 1: Data Base Collection:</p> <p>In order to successfully outreach to the American Indian community through Civic Engagement, a data base of Tribal and Community Indian Museums is needed. The following progression is recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. California Tribal Museums ii. California Indian Community Museums iii. Tribal Museums Nationally iv. Community Indian Museums Nationally v. Tribal Museums in Canada VI. Community Indian Museums in Canada vii. Tribal Museums in Latin America viii. Community Indian Museums in Latin America <p>- Phase 2: Letters of Support from Tribal Governments and Tribal Museums.</p> <p>Through Civic Engagement GGNRAINPS would go to tribal governments and tribal museums to ask for their support of the Living Indian Museum concept. This can be done through Letters of Support. This is how the National Museum of the American Indian started, and it would be wise to ask for their support and help as well. After gaining enough support within the Native communities for the Living Indian Museum system, then we gather the interested parties for the next phase.</p> <p>- Phase 3: Public Meetings.</p> <p>It is recommended that public meetings within the Native communities be set up to galvanize support for the Living Indian Museum concept. The intent of the public meetings is to form a support base leading to a consortium of Tribal Museums and Community Indian Museums. The public meetings would first focus on California</p>
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243	E	<p>I attended your recent meeting at the Muir Beach community center. My parents moved to the beach before WWII and I spent part of my childhood here. Whenever I'm in Marin people ask me what it was like in the early days, and I try to explain all the changes. Wishing my parents were here to fill in the gaps. Naturally I see Amadeo Banducci, Golden Gate Dairy, Slide Ranch and the Alcalá family as historic resources that should be preserved and made a part of the new programs, not something to be pushed aside. Changes come soon enough, and people will ask about things we no longer can explain. Humans are resources also, and the elders need to be preserved and respected as much as the natural resources</p>
243	E	<p>I also have my own ideas of how the park should prepare for the number of visitors it receives, though I realize you've already narrowed it down to 3 options. If I were Mr. O'Neill, I would encourage people to see the entire area as the destination, not just Muir Woods and Muir Beach. I would develop smaller visitor areas along Muir Woods road, Highway one, and Panoramic, perhaps every half mile or so (depending on terrain.) Each would have parking for 6 - 12 cars, a few barbecue pits, and a kiosk with information on flora, fauna and local history - perhaps honoring one of the early families, the Banduccis, Souzas, Wheelwrights, Brazils, Pontes, etc. Each might offer different activities - a volleyball court, horseshoes, dog or horse facilities, exercise area (pull up bars, etc.) These would be connected by multi use trails, going along the valleys and over the hills. And, during tourist season and weekends, by shuttles (trolley cars?) making a loop around highway one and panoramic, etc. Each stop could have a name, like the old Marin railroad did (Manzanita, Almonte, Strawberry.) People wanting to meet up could agree on which site - giving them an option away from the beach and woods crowds.</p> <p>This plan would encourage people to come to the area, not just to Muir Woods/Beach. If the main parking areas were filled, they could stop at one of the others, either to picnic there or to catch the shuttle to the beach or woods. It would</p>
244	E	<p>Slide Ranch, a nonprofit California corporation established in 1970, submits the following comments in response to the proposed General Management Plan for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (the "Plan"). This statement was drafted by the Executive Director and Vice President of the Board of Directors of Slide Ranch in consultation with the President of the Board and members of the board's Executive Committee.</p> <p>Slide Ranch belongs and should remain where it is.</p>

<p>244</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>The most recent draft of the Plan presents three alternatives for the future of the historic coastal site now occupied by Slide Ranch between Muir Beach and Stinson Beach, California. Two of those alternatives call for the relocation of Slide Ranch to a “more desirable location.” Slide Ranch respectfully but strongly disagrees with any proposed relocation of the Ranch. In this it is not alone. The managers and staff of Slide Ranch have received a myriad of comments, written and oral, from past and present users of the site, parents of children who have benefited from its many educational programs, and teachers, all of whom unanimously and enthusiastically endorse the operation of Slide Ranch in its present site. Slide Ranch management is advised that NPS staff has received a similar if not greater volume of comments urging that Slide Ranch not be relocated away from its home on the coast.</p>
<p>244</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>The reasons for this outpouring of support for Slide Ranch are not hard to understand. Slide Ranch may be the most beautiful outdoor classroom in the world. Its present location is ideally suited to the role Slide Ranch plays in the ecology and social well-being of Marin County and the entire San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 1970, the year of the first Earth Day, located above the Pacific Ocean and blessed with a panoramic view of the Marin County coastline, Slide Ranch teaches visitors to discover the wonder of the natural world through hands-on activities and independent exploration. Participants of all ages, socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds experience a deep connection to the Earth, its soil, water and the human efforts that preserve the land and bring food to our tables. From the moment of its founding in 1970, Slide Ranch immediately started serving inner-city children from San Francisco’s Mission District. Today more than 8000 visitors – many of them underprivileged and at-risk youth -- attend Slide’s family days, school field trips, summer camp and overnight camping programs each year. This direct and immediate immersion in the natural world has generated a deep base of support for Slide Ranch that spans generations of San Francisco Bay Area residents.</p>

<p>244</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>Plan Alternative One, "Connecting People with the Parks," calls for Slide to remain where it is, and is very much in line with the purpose of Slide Ranch. The NPS should keep in mind that the Ranch site was purchased with private funds in 1970 and dedicated to public use in order to protect it from commercial development. Slide Ranch's founding and operation on the coast thus helped realize, and continues to further, one of the basic congressional mandates in the establishment of the GGNRA, namely, that the Secretary of the Interior "shall preserve the recreation area, as far as possible, in its natural setting, and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area." 16 U.S.C. §460bb.</p> <p>The people of Slide Ranch have these words in mind every day. They maintain a deep sense of stewardship for the land and ocean and the creatures that inhabit them. Staff regularly remove invasive plants, maintain trails and provide interpretive and educational programs that inspire visitors to help restore the coastal eco-system. Visitors to this scenic historic coastal farm thus experience first-hand the connections between the food we eat and the natural elements that grow life. The Slide Ranch site has been used by farmers since the 19th Century. Building on 21st century methods of ecology and farm husbandry, Slide Ranch staff and volunteers manage 134 acres of coast land consistent with its GGNRA Park Partnership and membership in Marin Organics (which Slide Ranch joined in 2005).</p>
<p>244</p>	<p>E</p>	<p>Relocation is unwarranted under the language of the Plan itself. Slide's tide pool exploration and education program, habitat restoration days and curriculum are all heavily oriented to the Plan's goal of "increasing visitor understanding, awareness and support for coastal resources through participation in stories and programs about human interaction with and dependency on natural resources." The Slide Ranch site, perched above the crashing waves, inspires a sense of wonder and awe unlikely to be replicated elsewhere.</p>

244	E	<p>Visitors and program participants are not the only beneficiaries of Slide’s magnificent location and excellent programs. Slide Ranch has become an important national training ground for young environmental workers, teachers and thinkers who come from all over the U.S. to participate in our Teachers-in-Residence program. After ten months of working at Slide Ranch, these young people disperse to organizations nationwide to apply the knowledge and techniques they have learned at the Ranch.</p>
244	E	<p>In fact Slide Ranch is an “evolved cultural landscape”, to borrow a term from the NPS, and has been in continuous agricultural use for more than 100 years. It has performed multiple roles and tasks for generations of visitors at its current site. Geological issues certainly exist – indeed, the name comes from the historic “Big Slide” that served as a navigational landmark for 19th Century ships approaching the Golden Gate – but those very issues present opportunities for innovation and creativity. The land beneath Slide’s rustic facilities is a continuously changing landscape that requires and inspires creative design solutions emphasizing flexibility, adaptation and simplicity. In this sense Slide Ranch is not only a classroom but a laboratory for ecologically sound engineering and land use in harmony with a rugged yet astonishingly beautiful environment.</p>
244	E	<p>Slide Ranch celebrates a style of farm architecture and working-the-land ethic that dates well back into the earliest days of settlement of West Marin. Its food growing practices, organic soil, re-use of resources, buildings and infrastructure exemplify a light-carbon footprint operation reminiscent of a younger world but which employ the latest tools of organic farming. The Coastal Miwok people harvested and smoked food from the sea at the Slide Ranch site 800 years ago. Visitors today can examine the tide pools where the Miwok fished and moments later enjoy Slide’s organic vegetable garden, the pride of West Marin. Slide Ranch honors the Miwok and all people in its very contemporary yet timeless efforts to connect us all to the Earth.</p>

246	E	<p>I am writing in response to your request for input on the new General Management Plan for the GGNRA. I would like to note that although I hike and ride a bike I am specifically writing as an equestrian because I feel this user group has not been fairly represented in the GMP.</p> <p>I am disappointed to see a focus on management, control, and policing in the language that appears to limit and confine access to the park. I also sense a tendency to homogenize the park by eating away at its unique regional character and history. The legacy of southern and western Marin County is largely agricultural and speaks to us culturally through the barns, dairies, farms, and ranches that follow the coast north. If the GGNRA does not want to allow grazing of cattle and sheep on these lands they can at least continue to allow horses to represent this important historic element. The barns, dairies, farms, and ranches should be treasured and preserved in this landscape.</p>
246	E	<p>Horses are iconic in the American west. They are recreational, therapeutic, and provide trail access to some who can no longer walk the trails. Despite all of this the NPS continues to squeeze them out. Trail access is limited, practical needs (such as water) are ignored, trailer parking is restricted, and horse facilities are being taken down or turned into maintenance sheds.</p> <p>The trail systems should be improved and expanded to help distribute the increasing number of park users. Closing trails only results in overuse and generates tension and abuses. The trails are the heart of the park! This is not to say that trails cannot be differentiated in terms of use and safety. Mountain bikes have become a frightening and terrorizing element on the trails. They should not be allowed on single-track trails. They have taken over and marred trails throughout Marin County.</p> <p>Equestrian facilities are already limited in the GGNRA. Currently, however, they are spaced so that they can still support one another by acting as destinations, way stations, watering locations, emergency facilities that provide tie-rails and paddocks should an equestrian encounter a problem. Interfering with this critical mass will no doubt undermine the future of all.</p>
246	E	<p>PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES regarding Marin Headlands</p> <p>There appears to be a catch 22 at work here. At a presentation I was told that two of the alternatives allowed the equestrian facility (Marin Headlands Stables at Rodeo Valley) to stay but apparently cut them off from trails. Despite this information, none of the alternatives appear to support the continuation of this equestrian facility. I oppose converting the balloon hanger/indoor arena into a maintenance shed. This unique building should remain part of an already delicate equestrian network.</p>

246	E	<p>PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES regarding Tennessee Valley and Miwok Stables</p> <p>It appears that Miwok Stables is allowed to stay but the barn and paddocks in lower Tennessee Valley are being removed. This seems incredibly destructive and wasteful. This is a historic cultural location and could be kept for the mounted patrol or for horse camping. It is part of the equestrian network that offers opportunities for overall improvement. It is also an important cultural vista along the major trail down Tennessee Valley.</p>
246	E	<p>PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES pertaining to Golden Gate Dairy</p> <p>I feel this proposal offers more catch 22 alternatives. The GMP is suggesting moves that are not approved to locations that are not built. I do not think the GMP's intention here is honorable. This facility has a long history and has worked hard to maintain their stewardship at this location. They are committed to the land, education, and outreach. I support Alternative 3, as it is the only one that appears to allow this historic cultural resource and anchor to the equestrian network to remain. I cannot imagine the drive along this section of Highway 1 without the barns, corrals and mailboxes marking this intersection.</p>
249	L	<p>Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) has reviewed the General Management Plan (GMP) Preliminary Alternatives provided in Newsletter 4 dated Spring 2008 for the Golden Gate National Recreational Area (GGNRA). GFNMS manages the waters and submerged lands of GGNRA off the Coast of San Mateo and Marin Counties to the mean high tide, including the tidal waters and submerged lands currently adjacent to, and overlapping jurisdiction with GGNRA. Therefore, we plan to be an active stakeholder, partner and collaborator in the implementation of the GMP.</p> <p>All comments provided herein discuss GFNMS' suggestions on shaping the preferred alternative(s), focus on the impacts to GFNMS, and examine the need for the inclusion and clarification of GFNMS jurisdiction. We have specific comments on several preliminary alternatives for Marin and San Mateo Counties and some overall comments on the maps and the management zones.</p>
249	L	<p>General Comments</p> <p>GFNMS supports the general approach of three Concepts and Guiding Principles as presented in the newsletter. In particular, we encourage GGNRA to acknowledge specific regional collaborations and partnerships when describing potential actions under each of the alternatives, including the preferred alternative. We also encourage an ecosystem-based approach to actions in the preferred alternative.</p>

<p>249</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>GFNMS supports all actions in the preliminary alternatives that protect coastal streams from erosion and restore riparian habitat. We encourage GGNRA to protect and improve water quality in the creeks that drain into Sanctuary waters. Improving water quality in areas of management along coastal streams and land use in the coastal zone including Slide Ranch, Muir Beach and Rancho Corral de Tierra helps protect sanctuary resources.</p> <p>GFNMS regulations prohibit discharging or depositing any material or other matter directly into the Sanctuary from the land [15 CFR § 922.83 (a)(2)]. It is critical that any land uses within GGNRA along the shoreline have clean discharges. Actions that improve offshore water quality should be incorporated into the preferred alternative.</p>
<p>249</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Maps and Management Zones</p> <p>The maps are a great way to communicate actions to the public. We suggest that Sanctuary boundaries are added to the maps to show overlapping jurisdictions within the ocean. We noticed that Preliminary Alternative 2 has two offshore "Sensitive Resources" zones and that recreational activities allowed under these zones could include non-motorized boating, but could potentially exclude fishing and motorized fishing. We have several recommendations for clarifying exactly what these two areas would and would not allow.</p> <p>The area off Point Bonita, at Bird Island, is now home to a Common Murre colony. This was observed in June 2008 by U.S. Fish and Wildlife from the Bird Island overlook (south of the rock) along a southeast-facing wall on the west side of the rock. Brandt's Cormorants have also been observed nesting in this area. Most of the cormorant nests are on the west side along the flatter top portion of the rock. This new information should be considered in how this offshore area is designated in the preferred alternative.</p>

<p>249</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Marin County General Comments: Since there is not a specific recommendation for Muir Beach, we recommend that specific actions be incorporated into the preferred alternative for Marin County that can result in improving water quality by addressing current uses at Muir Beach. Stinson Beach-Bolinas Fairfax Rd: GFNMS is partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Marin County Open Space District to develop a Locally Preferred Plan to restore Bolinas Lagoon. The plan aims to minimize the adverse human impacts to Bolinas Lagoon, thereby promoting the natural, dynamic processes of the estuarine environment. One of the actions in the Plan is to investigate the use of GGNRA Stinson Beach lands to improve floodplain function for Easkoot Creek. An additional action can be to investigate utilizing a portion of the GGNRA Stinson Beach parking as a seasonal floodplain. The specific language in Preliminary Alternative 2 does not clarify if the floodplain restoration is seasonal or year-round, which is an important clarification in order to build community support. We also recommend clarifying if Preliminary Alternative 2 also includes the actions listed in the Natural Zone in Preliminary Alternative 3. Right now it is not clear if the uplands east of Highway I would be restored in Alternative 2.</p>
<p>249</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>Highway 1: GFNMS supports the actions for the Scenic Corridor Zone and the Natural Zone. We have been and will continue to review actions taken by Caltrans to manage the coastal road. We also suggest an additional action in the Natural Zone, which is to partner with GFNMS on interpretive signage highlighting Sanctuary waters and the offshore waters of GGNRA. Slide Ranch: GFNMS supports the actions in Preliminary Alternative 2 for the Natural Zone and we are interested in partnering in restoration of coastal resources. Lower Redwood Creek: GFNMS supports the actions in Preliminary Alternative 2 for the Natural Zone to further protect the creek's endangered salmon.</p>

249	L	<p>Offshore Marine Environment: GFNMS supports the actions in Preliminary Alternative 2 for the Natural Zone, Scenic Corridor Zone and Sensitive Resources Zone. As stated above, we recommend an additional refinement of the zones based on specific needs of each of these areas. Additionally, the breeding and nesting times (including nest prospecting and pre-nesting activities) for the two main populations of seabird species near Point Bonita, Brandt's Cormorants and Common Murres, is November to August. Both species can additionally benefit by protection from human disturbance throughout during the non-nesting season. In particular, Brandt's Cormorants need places to rest and dry their wings and year-round protection can provide these additional benefits.</p>
249	L	<p>Finally, we recommend that GGRNA staff clarify the language for the Natural Zone in Preliminary Alternative 2. GFNMS manages the northern portion of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, which includes all Sanctuary waters north of Ano Nuevo, including waters off the southern Marin coast. Therefore GGRNA only needs to coordinate with GFNMS.</p>
1000	C	<p>Jenna Goodman, 510-704-1449. Strongly, strongly voice opinion. Please let Slide Ranch stay where it is. Amazing experiences there. We use it, enjoy it, contribute to it. Breathtaking beautiful places in the world. Like access to that part of Marin. Choose Alt. 1 (July 11).</p> <p>John Chirico, SF resident and park user. Alarmed and oppose changes proposed, not balance needs of people for recreation. take dogs to park. Horseback riders, hang gliders. Lands cherished by people - very little land available. Keep it available for all re aspects. Keep status quo. If its not broken then don't fix it. 415-846-0805 (July 31)</p>
1001	C	<p>I think the trail all the way from the Hunt Field/Coastal trail to slacken outlook over looking the Golden Gate Bridge should be open to horses. It is a easy ride. There is plenty of room for hikers, horse riders and bikes. The Coast trail from the Presidio Riding Club/Marin Headlands stables should be open to horses an the road down to the Hunt Field should be open to horses. it is a good trail for hikers and horses but not bikers. (P.S this trail is not tabled/marked i.e. there is no signage going from Rodeo to Bonita. there is signage going east. It is difficult to tell that horses are not allowed when traveling west on this cut-off between these two trails.</p>
1007	C	<p>I am concerned about the possibility of losing Slide Ranch. I believe it is an enormously valuable resource to children in the Bay area in an era in which children are spending less and less time in nature. Particularly, I believe it is vital for children to have an experience of people living in nature in a harmonious way. Many of the messages they receive imply humans are bad for nature and Slide Ranch helps them rethink this. Please continue to support Slide Ranch and create more projects of the sort.</p>

1008	C	I am not in any way in favor of alternative 2 because losing equestrian presence in Franks Valley is not acceptable. The horses at Muir Beach give many people enjoyment while walking. Alternative 1 and 3 are more reasonable. Please have people from the difficult stables (Muir Beach, Golden Gate Dairy) take part in planning. We have seen how the dairy has had to move to their land. Let's be careful with this plan.
1010	C	Most of us live at the near Ocean Beach love the character of the beach as it is and has been for decades, although it would be vastly improved if the debris left behind by city visitors (as opposed to tourists) were disposed of properly. That phenomenon is, of course, a people problem, not to make Ocean Beach into some East Coast type resort beach, or some kiddie park. Let's strive to retain its traditional appeal.
1011	C	I am a former teacher in Residence of Slide Ranch, and still an active member of the Slide Ranch community. I am writing to share my extreme concern over the General Management Plan and its possible threat to the future of Slide Ranch in its current site. Please find my official comment form attached, and feel free to contact me with any questions or statements on the subject. Slide Ranch has a 38-year track record in its current home, and has been connecting people to the Marin County coastal wild lands for as long. In the case of a potential threat to its future in its current location, the public uproar would be tremendous - it has touched that many lives.
1014	L	<p>Re: General Management Plan — Golden Gate National Recreation Area / Slide Ranch</p> <p>Dear Mr. Jarvis,</p> <p>I am a Friend of Slide Ranch. As the National Park Service considers the alternatives regarding Slide Ranch, I would like to state that I am opposed to its relocation. After nearly 40 years at its Shoreline Highway location, the proposal that Slide Ranch should be "relocated to another location" and all facilities and program be removed is unacceptable. My children have attended Slide Ranch's programs over the last 20 years, and we, as a family find it an irreplaceable resource.</p> <p>In the General Management Plan for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, two of the three alternatives propose that the Slide Ranch site be converted to a "Natural Zone." My family and I are opposed to these conversions, as no suitable other locations, or funding for moving the Slide Ranch program are on the horizon. We believe that Slide Ranch's unique location is critical to its program and services, and support "Alternative 1" - "Connecting People to Parks" as the preferred alternative for Slide Ranch.</p>

1016	L	<p>that birthday party, I have visited regularly. Slide Ranch is a unique and irreplaceable treasure of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Mann County. Slide Ranch should be allowed to stay where it is!</p> <p>As a kid, I visited Slide Ranch with my parents; I hung out there with friends. We walked the trails, toured the garden, identified bugs and native plants. Now, as an ecology teacher at Redwood High School, I bring my students each year to learn how to live with the land in a sustainable way. For many students, it is a highlight of their high school career. I also send my own children to Slide Ranch for summer camp. Their time at Slide Ranch has helped them develop a deep appreciation for nature. They have also have seen how to and the importance of coexisting with nature.</p> <p>As an avid and active environmentalist, I see the benefit of creating undisturbed nature zones. But nature zones will only proliferate and be fully appreciated by people who have learned to take stewardship of the land. Would I be as involved in teaching about and caring for nature had I never known Slide Ranch?</p> <p>Slide Ranch teaches us how to be stewards. The human impact created by Slide Ranch is significant; but unlike most human impacts it is a positive impact. Please allow Slide Ranch to continue where it is: teaching us how to better live with nature.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
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1017	L	<p>I realize my comment comes a bit late, but I wanted to express my complete and unwavering support of Slide Ranch, the non-profit sustainable agriculture education organization in the Golden Gate Recreation Area. Slide Ranch has a very special place in my heart and in everyone else's who has come through to experience what it has to offer. 5 years ago I came to the Bay Area and decided to drive up Highway 1 to explore the beautiful landscape. I stumbled across the little farm on the coast and immediately fell in love. The ocean, the animals, the rustic buildings, the people, the garden- it was love at first sight for them all. I applied for an internship and began work that summer.</p> <p>At Slide Ranch my eyes truly opened to a world I had never known about. I developed a strong appreciation for the developing a local food system, learned a great deal about sustainable agriculture, decided I wanted to educate others for a living, and lived a utopian life. I felt grounded in a community, developed life long friendships, and connected to the natural setting that will always feel like home. Without Slide Ranch, I never would have felt so deep of a connection to the beauty of Marin and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I will always bring visitors, new residents to the area, and youth I am teaching to experience what I have through Slide Ranch. In fact, this summer I led a job training program for my organization, People's Grocery. I brought a group of West Oakland urban teenagers, all African American or Latino, to Slide Ranch. Although this group had limited experience with the outdoors and were hesitant to try new things, each and every one of them loved milking goats, exploring the tidepools, feeding chickens, and planting tomatoes. It was by far one of the highlights of their summer, as they often refer to their time in Marin when asked to describe a life changing experience. One of my interns is applying to a teaching position as a result.</p> <p>So please, choose Alternative I - Connecting People to Parks. Slide Ranch does exactly that, and does it in a way that no other place can.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
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1020	L	<p>Area ("GGNRA").</p> <p>Transportation Alternatives for Marin ("TAM") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation whose mission is to promote pedestrian and bicycle transportation, particularly in the United States. This mission is advanced through the study of international best practices and the promotion of Mann Coimty, California as a model community of pedestrian and bicycle transportation. Our objective is to demonstrate that investment in integrated bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, combined with education, can relieve a substantial portion of the overall transportation load.</p> <p>The mission of the National Park Service is to "preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations." The best way to advance this mission is to develop sustainable alternative transportation systems as a means to reduce congestion both accessing and within the parks, reduce carbon footprint, minimize detrimental environmental consequences of automotive traffic and emissions, and enhance the peaceful, natural experience that draws visitors. We encourage the NPS to work with its local partners and gateway communities to develop creative, long-term transportation solutions in and around our parks.</p> <p>We encourage the National Park Service to emphasize non-motorized access to the GGNRA in this planning process. A large number of everyday users of the GGNRA are local users. We recommend that the NPS consider the huge increase in non-motorized infrastructure in Mann County to access the GGNRA in the Mann portions of the National Recreation Area, particularly in Southern Mann. These notable increased access opportunities are primarily in the Tennessee Valley and Highway 1 areas.</p> <p>Our recommendations are made for the National Park Service to include in the General Management Plan ETR process to consider as Alternatives.</p> <p>The recommendations we make below are primarily for safe and separate accommodation for non-motorized travelers, which are primarily cyclists and pedestrians. Safe and separate accommodations for pedestrians and cyclists are primarily Class I bike paths and multi-use paths. Separate infrastructure increases the number of non-motorized users and provides safer accommodation.</p> <p>The following are our specific infrastructure recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Class I Bikeway from Vista Point to Ft. Baker. Ft. Baker has been renovatd based upon sustainable principles. Non-motorized access to Ft. Baker provides the best, easiest access to Alexander Avenue, Sausalito. Safe and separate
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1021	L	<p>Two years ago the park began a restoration project on redwood creek. That winter the creek flooded several houses - now there are no salmon at all! Now they completed Phase 1 of redwood creek banducca project. The last thing they did was drop several very old octupys trees right across the very creek they had been working to restore. thus destroying existing alders on both sides of the creek itself. Your track record of completion is incomplete. the waste caused at Banduccis site has remained on site for two years. This includes the Gucatptus stumps hauled in from elsewhere, to provide cohabitation for salmoniod in redwood creek. you after the event discover these to be toxic to the natural wll being of creek root balls lying around. those projects are minor in comparison to what you are proposing. We are deeply concerned for wildlife and residents alike. Where are you hearts?</p>
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	<p>The overflow crowd that met at the Muir Beach Community Center on June 26th demonstrated Muir Beach's strong feelings regarding some of the proposed alternatives in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area General Management Plan. The community also expressed disappointment at the lack of collaboration in developing General Management Plan alternatives and great concern that its input may not be given due consideration. We seek to maintain a balance between environmental stewardship, recreational enjoyment for generations to come, the nurturing of the social fabric of our community, and protection of cultural and historic resources. This takes recognition that horses and barns at the Dairy, sheep and gardens at Slide Ranch, flowers on the hillsides, people and old farm buildings at Banducci Ranch, and rows of vegetables and zen buddhist practice at Green Gulch Farm are what make this place beautiful and unique. They are what make this area as attractive to our visitors as it is to us. Its coastal, rural, ranching history must be preserved, protected, and appreciated by all. We strongly support this vision of the GGNRA General Management Plan:</p>
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	<p>1. Golden Gate Dairy: eliminate options for visitor services of any kind at the Golden Gate Dairy. There is no room! We support both the preservation of the historic presence of horses at the Dairy, under the auspices of Ocean Riders of Marin, and the continued presence of the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department, which protects the entire community, from Three Corners and Green Gulch Farm to Muir Woods, Slide Ranch, and beyond. Ocean Riders of Marin continues a long history of kids and horses at the Dairy and provides riding opportunities for horse-lovers of all ages. In addition, it is committed to fostering outreach programs for under-served youth by offering them a chance to experience the thrill of riding a horse in the wild. Ocean Riders has shown its commitment to environmental stewardship by working tirelessly to minimize its impact in the watershed, and working to preserve the integrity of the land, water, flora and fauna of Redwood Creek. Because the co-existence of horses and fire engines is essential, but not always easy, any additional use at this site such as moving Muir Woods activities to the Dairy, installing an informational kiosk or adding a bus stop for the Muir Woods shuttle is absolutely inappropriate, out of the question, and will be strongly opposed.</p>

193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	2. Banducci Ranch: the cultural and historical integrity of Banducci Ranch, which has been in the Banducci family since the thirties, must be supported. This includes the ownership/partnership role of Amadeo Banducci, who, as the last rancher in this valley, personifies Muir Beach living history. With his vision as a farmer and a steward of the land, he must be allowed to run his ranch and to pass it on to his family. Ranches are run with farm labor, and develop a farm community of their own that extends beyond the immediate family. We support this long-standing community at Banducci Ranch, and treasure its diversity. These are our friends and neighbors, and must not be removed from their homes.
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	3. Slide Ranch: maintain, nurture and support the Slide Ranch environmental educational center where it is now located, on the site of an old coast dairy ranch. Slide Ranch is a gem for the whole Bay Area. By experiencing a working farm and garden, it offers many children their first opportunity to learn that food does not originate on grocery store shelves. It also allows these children to experience nature both on land and in the tide pools at ocean's edge. This gives them a sense of the importance of environmental stewardship. This coastal site is intrinsic to the children's experience. Slide Ranch must remain as it is, and where it is.
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	4. Muir Woods National Monument: Juggling the need for access to this venerable stand of redwoods that was created close to a major population center with the express purpose of being remarkably accessible, and the preservation of those same great trees, is a balancing act that we understand well. Our concern is that the parking lots at Muir Woods not be reduced or eliminated until and unless the number of cars using them has been diminished by the use of shuttle buses and parking facilities at connecting mass transit transfer points.
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	We are extremely concerned about the impacts of moving Muir Woods facilities to Muir Beach, and encourage discussion of land swaps with the State, where useful and feasible, to accommodate those needs.
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	In addition, we local Marin County people love to hike in Muir Woods! While we support efforts to restore the natural flood plain and create a sustainable visitor program, it would be a shame to replace access along the valley floor with a limited trail system above the valley floor that is "highly controlled and limited to designated areas and activities." This is not consistent with the need for Muir Woods to provide an accessible opportunity for visitors to fully experience the wonders of this great treasure.
193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188	P	5. Trailhead Development: We do not support any proposal for intensified development of trailheads with new facilities such as parking lots, restrooms or picnic areas. The wild, undeveloped appearance of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is what makes it so spectacular.

<p>193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>6. Interagency Coordination: We strongly support the efforts at improved coordination with neighboring agencies and organizations to better manage the park for environmental restoration, protection of species diversity, and building resiliency to climate change.</p>
<p>193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>7. Public Transit: We support efforts to provide public transit to the Muir Beach parking lot to lessen the impact of private cars. We urge the Park Service to collaborate with the County to provide appropriately-sized public transit for both local residents and Muir Beach visitors.</p>
<p>193, 146, 135, 200, 194, 195, 192, 128, 188</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>8. Miscellaneous: Lastly, we urge consideration of Shirley Souza Nygren's request for a name change of Santos Meadows to Souza Meadows, and we urge the Park Service to work cooperatively with Bob Winklemann to resolve trail connections and pedestrian safety issues.</p>
<p>76, 173, 112</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>In Marin County I support the position of the Marin Horse Council and want to go on record as supporting the continued presence of the horse facilities and increases in access to trails. The final plan must address the presence and requirements of equestrians.</p>
		<p>Comments on Alternatives Golden Gate Dairy Stables (Ocean Riders, managers) present a unique combination of planned educational programs for youth and a much-needed boarding facility for local equestrians. Therefore, Alternate 2 is unacceptable. It eliminates equestrians from Frank’s Valley. There is overwhelming support from the public and local community for a continuing horse presence in Muir Beach. The stables are able to provide overnight guest accommodations as well as visitors to the Pelican Inn. While a combination of Alternates 1 and 3 might work best, it is important that no changes be made until all environmental studies have been completed, the blending of plans and allocation of horses approved, and the residents at the Banducci location are agreeable to the plan. The basic statement should be: there will be no reduction in numbers of horses stabled in Muir Beach.</p>

		<p>Tennessee Valley and Miwok Stables</p> <p>It is puzzling that, after so much money was spent on upgrading stalls at Lower Tennessee Valley, all three alternatives suggest that they be eliminated. I oppose this. LW would make an excellent place for horse camping or as a base for a mounted volunteer patrol, such as the Mounted Patrol of Mann County Open Space or the program at the Morgan Horse Ranch at Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Such a program would greatly assist the rangers, who are chronically understaffed and overworked. The conversion of the lighter-than-air hangar to a maintenance station/yard is not acceptable. It should be restored for public use including equine outreach programs. Therefore: for the Mann Headlands, Alternatives 2 and 3 are not acceptable; Alternative One is acceptable ONLY if the equestrian presence is continued, trail access is maintained, and parking for rigs expanded.</p>
		<p>Tennessee Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • :Bike path to Mill Valley • Keep the horse patrol and nursery at its current site. There are only a few staff members and volunteers working at the nursery 9nd if the site would be moved to the trailhead, interruptions by well meaning visitors would seriously reduce the ability to get the work done • Horse patrol, done by volunteers, keeps NPS presents in the park • Camping only for stewardship programs. • Remove remaining dams and restore riparian habitat and wetland • No rustic and modest facilities for recreational activities, Haypres camp is already available for everybody • No expansion of horse facilities to the lower Marincello trail. Manage horse feed to keep out invasive weeds, and pick up horse droppings. • Definitely No dogs on the Lower TV trail and beach • No trailhead improvements
		<p>Kirby Cove: Alternative 2</p>
		<p>Capehart Housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove housing north of Bunker Road. Replace landscaping around housing south of Bunker Road with native plants. • No visitor center or other facilities for park or operational uses. Fort Cronkite has a visitor center, ample parking and buildings. The introduction of weeds and pathogens at the headwater (Capehart housing)of the lagoon is more serious, harsh conditions closer to the ocean will prevent its spread.