



Enabling Legislation

GGNRA was established by Congress in 1972 (*Public Law 92-589*). The enabling legislation describes the park’s purpose, and provides guidance for management, as follows:

“In order to preserve for public use and enjoyment certain areas of Marin and San Francisco Counties, California, possessing outstanding **natural, historic, scenic,** and **recreational** values, and in order to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to urban environment and planning, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (hereinafter referred to as the ‘recreation area’) is hereby established.

In the management of the recreation area, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Secretary’) shall utilize the resources in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management. In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Secretary 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.”

