Lewis Ellingham
[redacted]
San Francisco

March 16, 2006

Superintendent
GGNRA
fort Mason, Building:wl
San Francisco, CA 94123

Attention: DogM,magement Plan

Dear Superintendent:

My principal interest in this subject is related to the fact that I am a birder, a serious one who finds at frequent turns that my interest is in conflict with dog walking in the park. This is especially true at Fort Funston and in The Presidio, but also along Ocean Beach. There seems to be no pleasant answer, and if it were up to me, dog walking would absolutely and completely come to a halt in these areas, with those violating subject to painful penalties. But this option clearly will not prevail, although in national parks elsewhere it is taken for granted that no dog walking would be tolerated, as it should be in this park, despite its urban setting.

Therefore: *1 strongly request that the most constrictive possible option to dog walking be that chosen. with penalties and enforcement assured as priority backup in all phases. especiallv budgeting.* If anyone thinks this will be resolved peacefully for all stakeholders, they are mistaken; human nature apparently does not readily resolve conflict so painlessly. I have often been witness to unpleasantness on this subject in the areas of the park mentioned, and I do not suppose this will quickly change. But I will press for my side of the interest as forcefully and in as sustained a way as I can, and hope that enough policy-making support develops, and as many enforcers of that policy as possible are retained, that eventually dog walking is brought under strict control, and that the dog walkers are never allowed to forget that their behavior is watched carefully and with concern by many other users of the park.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lewis Ellingham