

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

The *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA) requires an environmental impact statement (EIS) to briefly provide a statement of purpose and need for the action the agency is proposing. The purpose states the goal the park must achieve by taking action and the need for action summarizes why action is required.

Purpose for Taking Action

The purpose of the *Draft Dog Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement* (plan/EIS) is to provide a clear, enforceable policy to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park. This plan/EIS would promote the following objectives:

- Preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes
- Provide a variety of visitor experiences
- Improve visitor and employee safety
- Reduce user conflicts
- Maintain park resources and values for future generations

Need for Action

A plan/EIS is needed because Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA or the park) resources and values, as defined by the park's enabling legislation and the NPS *Organic Act*, could be compromised to the extent that, without action, those resources and values in some areas of the park might not be available for enjoyment by future generations. Additionally, a dog management policy inconsistent with NPS regulations and increased public expectations for use of the park for dog recreation have resulted in controversy, litigation, and compromised visitor and employee safety, affecting visitor experience and resulting in resource degradation. The conflicts will likely escalate if not addressed in a comprehensive plan/EIS.

PURPOSE OF GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

The purpose of GGNRA is to offer national park experiences to a large and diverse urban population while preserving and interpreting its outstanding natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values.

OBJECTIVES

Objectives are specific goals that describe what GGNRA intends to accomplish by preparing a plan/EIS. These objectives come from a variety of sources, including NPS management policies, laws, and regulations. The objectives help develop alternatives for evaluation and public review. The internal scoping process yielded the following specific objectives for this planning process:

Visitor Experience and Safety

- Minimize conflicts related to dog use by providing a variety of safe, high-quality visitor use experiences, including areas where dogs are allowed.

Law Enforcement / Compliance with Dog Rules, and Park Operations

- Maximize dog walker compliance with clear, enforceable parameters in order to improve park operations and use of staff resources in managing dog walking.

Park Operations

- Provide adaptability and flexibility so that information gathered from monitoring can be used in future decision making based on estimated outcomes, including in new park areas.
- Ensure a safe and healthy working environment for park staff.
- Evaluate commercial dog-walking, and if allowed, create and implement an enforceable policy.

Natural Resources

- Protect native wildlife and their habitat (including sensitive species and their habitat, and federally or state listed, unique, or rare species) from detrimental effects of dog use, including harassment or disturbance by dogs.
- Minimize degradation of soil and water resources by dog use.
- Preserve opportunities for future natural resource restoration and enhancement.

Cultural Resources

- Preserve opportunities for future cultural resource restoration and enhancement.
- Protect cultural resources from the detrimental effects of dog use.

Education

- Build community support for the plan to maximize management of dog walking use.
- Increase public understanding of NPS policies.

BACKGROUND OF DOG MANAGEMENT AT GGNRA

The history of dog walking in some areas of GGNRA began prior to the establishment of the park, when dog walking, including off-leash dog walking, occurred informally at sites under varied jurisdictions in San Francisco and Marin counties. Some of the lands designated as part of the new national recreation area had been formerly owned and managed by other public entities, and practices prohibited in national park system units, such as allowing dogs off-leash, had been sanctioned or allowed on those lands. In the first years after GGNRA was established in 1972, those practices continued largely uninterrupted, although park staff recognized and documented issues arising from the practice during the early years of the park's existence.

In 1978, due to public requests from dog walkers, the Commission developed a pet policy for the park. In 1979, they formally recommended the policy, which has since been known as the "1979 Pet Policy" (appendix A), to the park Superintendent. The 1979 Pet Policy, developed with input from park staff, provided general guidance for dog walking and recommended locations for both on-leash dog walking and off-leash or "voice-control" dog walking in lands owned and managed by GGNRA, although this

recommendation did not abide by the federal regulation regarding dog walking in national parks (36 CFR 2.15).

Since the 1990s, the San Francisco Bay Area population and overall use of GGNRA park sites have increased, as have the number of private and commercial dog walkers. At the same time, the number of conflicts between park users with and without dogs began to rise, as did the fear of dogs and dog bites or attacks. The hours devoted by park staff to manage these conflicts, rescue dogs and owners, dispose of dog waste, educate the public on dog walking policies and regulations at each park site, and enforce regulations also increased. In addition, since the establishment of the park, several species with habitat in GGNRA areas used by dog walkers have been listed as threatened, endangered, or special-status species requiring special protection.

Underscoring the increasing conflict over off-leash dog use, dog walking groups filed a lawsuit against the NPS in March 2000 when GGNRA closed part of Fort Funston to the public to provide resource protection and restoration. The federal district court held that the NPS had not adequately obtained public input on the proposed closure as required by 36 CFR 1.5. Upon completion of public involvement efforts, the court agreed that GGNRA had fully complied with required sections of 36 CFR 1.5 and that the need for “prompt protective action” was “genuine.” The park closed the original 12 acres in February 2001, per the GGNRA Compendium. During this period, it was clarified by the Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney, and the Department of the Interior Solicitor Offices that the voice-control policy then in effect at Fort Funston and other locations in the park was contrary to NPS regulations.

In a public meeting in January 2001, the Commission acknowledged that the voice-control policy was contrary to 36 CFR 2.15(a)(2), prohibiting off-leash dogs in national parks, and therefore illegal and unenforceable. In the year following the Commission meeting, park staff attempted to facilitate the transition into compliance with 36 CFR 2.15(a)(2) through educational outreach, new signs, and law enforcement actions including verbal and written warnings. When these measures failed to bring about compliance with the regulation, law enforcement staff issued citations in addition to warnings. During this time, conflicts between dog walkers and park staff increased significantly.

The June 2, 2005, decision by U.S. District Court for Northern California Judge Alsup (*U.S. vs. Barley* 405 F.Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. Cal. 2005)) held that GGNRA cannot enforce the NPS-wide regulation requiring on-leash walking of pets (36 CFR 2.15(a)(2)) in areas that were included in the 1979 Pet Policy until notice and comment rulemaking under section 1.5(b) is completed. In response, GGNRA revised its enforcement position to reflect that court decision, limiting enforcement of the NPS leash regulation to areas that were not included in the 1979 Pet Policy or that were identified as on-leash dog walking areas in the 1979 Pet Policy. In addition to the 2005 court decision, current dog management at GGNRA is guided by the GGNRA Compendium and the special regulation for protection of western snowy plovers (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*).

CURRENT DOG MANAGEMENT ISSUES

At the internal scoping session of NPS staff and NEPA consultants held in January 2005, observations of current issues surrounding the dog walking controversy generally fell into the following categories:

- Expectations and views of dog walkers and other visitors
- Impacts of dogs on cultural and natural resources in the park
- Visitor use and experience
- Employee, visitor, and dog health and safety

Executive Summary

- Needs of urban area residents
- Public confusion over NPS-wide dog regulation, GGNRA-specific rules, NPS mission and policies
- Public lack of understanding and confusion over regulations for dogs at GGNRA park sites, including why some park areas are completely closed to dogs while other areas allow on-leash dog walking
- Visitor noncompliance with regulations
- Ability of law enforcement staff to enforce rules

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

This plan/EIS considers the alternatives based on their impacts in individual areas, due to the complex nature of GGNRA and the various existing visitor use patterns and resource conditions. The plan/EIS therefore defines dog management actions for 21 specific sites within the park as well as new lands to be acquired by the park. A summary of alternative elements at the 21 sites and new lands is listed below in table ES-1.

TABLE ES-1. SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVE ELEMENTS BY COUNTY, NORTH TO SOUTH

(Shading Represents the Preferred Alternative)

GGNRA Site	Alternative A: No Action (36 CFR 2.15, 36 CFR 7.97 (d); 1979 Pet Policy; GGNRA Compendium)	Alternative B: NPS Leash Regulation (36 CFR 2.15 and GGNRA Compendium)	Alternative C: Emphasis on Multiple Use – balanced by county.	Alternative D: Most Protective Based on Resource Protection and Visitor Safety	Alternative E: Most Dog Walking Access/Most Management Intensive
Marin County Sites					
Stinson Beach (parking lots and picnic areas only)	On-leash	On-leash	On-leash	No dogs	On-leash
Homestead Valley	Entire site on-leash or under voice-control	Homestead Fire Road, and neighborhood connector trails that may be designated in the future: On-leash	Same as alternative B	Homestead Fire Road: On-leash	Same as alternative B
Alta Trail, Orchard Fire Road, and Pacheco Fire Road	On-leash or under voice-control from Marin City to Oakwood Valley	Alta Trail: On-leash to Orchard Fire Road Orchard and Pacheco fire roads: On-leash	Same as alternative B	No dogs	Same as alternative B
Oakwood Valley	Oakwood Valley Fire Road and Oakwood Valley Trail from junction with Fire Road to junction with Alta Avenue: On-leash or under voice-control Oakwood Valley Trail from trailhead to junction with Oakwood Valley Fire Road: On-leash	Oakwood Valley Fire Road and Trail: On-leash to junction of the trail and fire road	Oakwood Valley Fire Road: ROLA to junction with Oakwood Valley Trail. Double gates at both ends and with continuous fencing to protect sensitive habitat Oakwood Valley Trail: On-leash from junction with Fire Road to new gate at Alta Avenue	Oakwood Valley Fire Road: On-leash to junction with Oakwood Valley Trail	Oakwood Valley Fire Road: ROLA to junction with Oakwood Valley Trail. Double gates at both with non-continuous fencing where needed to protect sensitive habitat Oakwood Valley Trail: On-leash from junction with Fire Road to new gate at Alta Avenue
Muir Beach	Beach only: On-leash or under voice-control	Beach, path to beach, boardwalk, Pacific Way Trail (trail to be built as part of Muir Beach Wetland and Creek Restoration Project): On-leash	Same as alternative B	Pacific Way Trail: On-leash	Beach South Of Entrance Path from parking lot: ROLA Pacific Way Trail, boardwalk and path to beach: On-leash

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Rodeo Beach/ South Rodeo Beach	All beach areas: On-leash or under voice-control	All beach areas, access trails and footbridge to beach: On-leash	Rodeo Beach- ROLA Footbridge to beach: On-leash	Rodeo Beach North of Foot Bridge: On-leash Footbridge to Beach: On-leash	Rodeo Beach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ROLA to crest of the beach -On leash from Crest of Beach to Fence along Rodeo Lagoon Footbridge to Beach: On-leash South Rodeo Beach and Trail to Beach: On-leash
Marin Headlands Trails Trails previously opened to dog walking open to consideration of on-leash or no dogs, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal Trail from McCullough Road to Muir Beach Miwok Trail from Tennessee Valley to Highway 1 County View Trail off the Miwok Trail Miwok Trail to Wolf Ridge to Hill 88 Lagoon Trail South Rodeo Beach Trail 	On-leash or Voice-control: <u>Coastal Trail</u> : Golden Gate Bridge to Hill 88- includes Lagoon Trail <u>Coastal, Wolf Ridge, Miwok Loop</u> <u>Old Bunker Fire Road Loop</u> On-leash only: <u>Coastal Trail</u> : Hill 88 to Muir Beach <u>Battery Smith-Guthrie Fire Road Loop</u> <u>South Rodeo Beach Trail</u> <u>North Miwok Trail</u> : from Tennessee Valley to Highway 1 <u>County View Trail</u>	No dogs	On-leash: <u>Lower Rodeo Valley Trail Corridor</u> : Rodeo Beach parking lot to the intersection of Bunker and McCullough Roads via Lagoon Trail, Miwok Trail and Rodeo Valley Trail <u>Old Bunker Fire Road Loop</u> <u>Battery Smith-Guthrie Fire Road Loop</u>	Same as alternative B	On-leash: <u>Old Bunker Fire Road Loop</u> <u>Battery Smith-Guthrie Fire Road Loop</u> <u>Lower Rodeo Valley trail corridor</u> <u>Coastal Trail Bike Route</u> : including Julian Fire Road 101 to Rodeo Beach parking lot

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Fort Baker	On-leash in areas where dogs allowed.	Drown Fire Road, Bay Trail (not including Battery Yates loop), Lodge/Conference Center grounds, and Parade Ground: On-leash.	Drown Fire Road, Bay Trail including Battery Yates loop road, Lodge/Conference Center grounds, and Parade Ground: On-leash.	Lodge/Conference Center grounds and Bay Trail (not including Battery Yates loop): On-leash	Same as alternative C
San Francisco County Sites					
Upper and Lower Fort Mason	On-leash.	On leash in all areas where allowed (Great Meadow, Laguna Green, lawns, sidewalks, paved trails parking lots and housing areas)	Inner Great Meadow and Laguna Green: ROLAs with barriers to separate ROLAs from other uses. Lawn below Laguna Street path: On-leash All sidewalks/paved trails/housing areas: On-leash	Great Meadow: On-leash Laguna Green: ROLA Lawn below Laguna Street path: On-leash All sidewalks/paved trails/parking lots/housing areas: On-leash	Great Meadow and Laguna Green: ROLA Lawn below Laguna Street path: On-leash All sidewalks/paved trails/parking lots/housing areas: On-leash
Crissy Field Wildlife Protection Area	Voice-control except for seasonal leash restriction.	No dogs	Same as alternative B	Same as alternative B	On-leash

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Crissy Field	Promenade (East Beach to the Warming Hut): Voice-control	Promenade: On-leash	Promenade: Same as alternative B	Promenade: Same as alternative B	Promenade: Same as alternative B
	Airfield: voice-control	Airfield: On-leash	Airfield – middle section: ROLA between the easternmost and westernmost n/s paths. Reduce or preclude ROLA as dictated by special event. Airfield-eastern and western section: On-leash east of easternmost n/s path and west of westernmost n/s/ path.	Airfield-western section: ROLA west of easternmost n/s path. Reduce or preclude ROLA as dictated by special event. Airfield-eastern section: On-leash east of easternmost north-south path.	Airfield: ROLA. Reduce or preclude ROLA as dictated by special event.
	East and Central Beaches: voice-control	East and Central Beaches: On-leash Paths to Central Beach: On-leash	Central Beach: ROLA Paths to Central Beach: On-leash	No dogs	Central Beach: ROLA East Beach: On-leash. Paths to Central Beach: On-leash
	Trails and grassy areas near East Beach: voice-control	Trails and grassy areas near East Beach, multi-use trail along Mason Street: On-leash	Same as alternative B	Same as alternative B except no dogs in the West Bluff picnic area	Same as alternative B
Fort Point Promenade/Fort Point NHS Trails	Fort Point Promenade, Bay Trail, Andrews Road and Battery East Trail: On-leash	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A	Bay Trail: On-leash	Same as alternative A

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Baker Beach and bluffs to Golden Gate Bridge	Beach North of Lobos Creek: voice-control. All trails except Batteries to Bluffs Trail: On-leash	Beach: On-leash All Trails except Batteries to Bluffs Trail and Battery Crosby Trail: On-leash	Same as alternative B	Beach South of North End of North Parking Lot: On-leash Trails To Beach South of North End of North Parking Lot and Multi-Use Coastal Trail: On-leash	Beach South of North End of North Parking Lot: ROLA Beach North of North End of North Parking Lot: On-leash All Trails except Batteries to Bluffs Trail and Battery Crosby Trail: On-leash
Fort Miley	East and West Fort Miley: Voice-control	No dogs	East Fort Miley: On-leash in east side trail corridor	Same as alternative B	East Fort Miley: ROLA in east side trail corridor West Fort Miley: On-leash on road only.
Lands End	Voice control	El Camino Del Mar, Coastal Trail: On-leash	El Camino Del Mar Trail: ROLA Coastal Trail and steps to El Camino Del Mar Trail: On-leash	El Camino Del Mar Trail: On-leash Coastal Trail: On-leash to, and on, connector trail/steps leading to El Camino Del Mar Trail	Same as alternative C
Sutro Heights Park	On-leash	Paths and parapet: On-leash	Same as alternative B	No dogs	Paths, parapet, and lawns: On-leash
Ocean Beach Snowy Plover Protection Area (Stairwell 21 to Sloat Boulevard)	Voice control with seasonal leash restriction	Adjacent trail along Great Highway: On-leash	Same as alternative B	Same as alternative B	On-leash Adjacent trail along Great Highway: On-leash
Ocean Beach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North of Stairwell 21 • South of Sloat Boulevard 	North of Stairwell 21: Voice-control South of Sloat Boulevard: Voice-control	North of Stairwell 21: On-leash South of Sloat Boulevard: On-leash	North of Stairwell 21: ROLA South of Sloat Boulevard: No dogs	North of Stairwell 21: On-leash South of Sloat Boulevard: No dogs	North of Stairwell 21: ROLA South of Sloat Boulevard: On-leash

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<p>Fort Funston (excluding areas closed by fence or signs)</p>	<p>Beach: Voice-control,</p>	<p>Beach: On-leash with voluntary seasonal closure at the foot of northernmost bluffs when bank swallows are nesting</p>	<p>South of Beach Access Trail: ROLA North of Beach Access Trail: No dogs</p>	<p>South of Beach Access Trail: On-leash North of Beach Access Trail: No dogs</p>	<p>South of Beach Access Trail: ROLA North of Beach Access Trail: On-leash with voluntary seasonal closure at the foot of northernmost bluffs when bank swallows are nesting</p>
	<p>South of Main Parking Lot, including all trails: Voice-control</p>	<p>South of Main Parking Lot: On-leash on all trails not closed to dogs</p>	<p>South of Main Parking Lot: On-leash on sand ladder and ADA Accessible Trail</p>	<p>South of Main Parking Lot: Same as alternative C</p>	<p>South of Main Parking Lot: Same as alternative C</p>
	<p>North of Main Parking Lot, including all trails: Voice-control except for fenced wildlife/habitat protection area</p>	<p>North of Main Parking Lot: On-leash on all trails not closed to dogs</p>	<p>North of Main Parking Lot: ROLA between (and not including) Chip Trail, Sunset Trail, and parking lot On-leash on all trails except no dogs on Sunset, Battery Davis and Horse Trails</p>	<p>North of Main Parking Lot: ROLA with fencing in disturbed area north of the water fountain All designated trails on-leash except no dogs on northern end of Coastal Trail and Horse Trail.</p>	<p>North of Main Parking Lot: Create north-south corridors for on-leash and ROLA <u>ROLA corridor</u> between Chip Trail, Coastal Trail, and the western boundary of Habitat Corridor and Horse Trail. ROLA includes Chip Trail to junction with Sunset Trail <u>On-leash corridor</u> between cliffs and western edge of Chip Trail. Battery Davis – dogs on-leash on designated trails only. All other trails on-leash except Horse Trail which is closed to dogs.</p>
<p>San Mateo County Sites</p>					
<p>Mori Point</p>	<p>On-leash on all trails</p>	<p>Coastal Trail and beach within GGNRA boundary: On-leash</p>	<p>Coastal Trail, Old Mori Road, and beach within GGNRA boundary: On-leash</p>	<p>No dogs</p>	<p>Coastal Trail, Old Mori Road, Pollywog Path and beach within GGNRA boundary: On-leash</p>

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Milagra Ridge	On-leash on trails	Fire road, trail to overlook and WWII bunker, and Milagra Battery Trail – (future connector to lower Milagra): On-leash	Same as alternative B	No dogs	Same as alternative B with addition of loop to top of hill.
Sweeney Ridge and Cattle Hill – Combined (adjacent properties that share a trail system)	Sweeney Ridge: On-leash on all trails except the Notch Trail, which is closed to dogs. Cattle Hill: not currently managed by GGNRA	Sweeney Ridge and Cattle Hill: No dogs	Sweeney Ridge: No dogs <u>Cattle Hill:</u> Baquiano Trail from Fassler Avenue to, and including, Farallones View Trail: on leash	Same as alternative B	<u>Sweeney Ridge:</u> Sneath Lane, Sweeney Ridge Trail from Portola Discovery site to Notch Trail, and Mori Ridge Trail: On-leash <u>Cattle Hill</u> Baquiano Trail from Fassler Avenue to, and including, Farallones View Trail: On-leash
Pedro Point Headlands	Not yet part of GGNRA	Coastal Trail: On-leash	Coastal Trail: On-leash	No dogs	Coastal Trail: On-leash
New Lands					
New Lands	Dog walking allowed per 36 CFR 2.15	Dog walking allowed per 36 CFR 2.15. An area may be closed to on-leash dog walking.	Same as B	No dog walking allowed unless opened by GGNRA Compendium. Only on-leash dog walking would be considered. Once open to on-leash, compliance-based management strategies apply. Areas could be opened to dog walking.	New lands begin as 36 CFR 2.15 and new lands with <i>existing</i> off-leash use before acquisition may also be considered for voice and sight control in the future, per criteria established in the plan and rule. An area may be closed to on-leash dog walking. New lands may be opened to voice and sight control.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES

Alternative A: No Action (Continuation of Existing Management)

The no-action alternative is defined in the NEPA guidelines as no change from current management and current conditions. In the impact analysis of no action, the plan/EIS assumes current management would continue as it is now over the lifetime of the plan, which is approximately 20 years. Under the no-action alternative, current dog walking management and conditions would remain the same, which would include 36 CFR 2.15 (36 CFR 2.15(a)(2) applicable only in areas not part of 1979 Pet Policy—see below), 36 CFR 7.97(d), the Commission’s 1979 Pet Policy (appendix A), and the GGNRA Compendium (NPS 2001b; appendix B). The 1979 Pet Policy allows voice-control dog walking in a number of areas of GGNRA. The 1979 Pet Policy described voice or leash control as a flexible system wherein success is dependent upon the willingness of visitors and local residents to cooperate with GGNRA personnel and the willingness of GGNRA personnel to manage dogs, people, and wildlife situations; to enforce regulations; and to cite visitors (1979 Pet Policy). As a result of the 2005 federal court decision (*U.S. v. Barley*, 405 F.Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. Cal. 2005)), the NPS currently cannot enforce the NPS-wide regulation requiring pets to be on-leash (36 CFR 2.15(a)(2)) or designating an area “no dogs” for park sites that were included in the 1979 Pet Policy and where 36 CFR 1.5 was not followed (allowing for public comment). However, regulations that address disturbance to wildlife, removal of pet waste, and disturbance of other park visitors remain in effect in all areas open to dog walking in GGNRA. The GGNRA Compendium also includes provisions for the closure of park areas to dog and human use for resource or safety reasons. Under the current conditions commercial dog walkers use park lands and no permit is required.

Alternative B: NPS Leash Regulation

Alternative B realigns GGNRA dog management to the policy governing dogs at the other 391 units of the national park system, as defined by 36 CFR 2.15(a)(2). Areas closed to dogs would be further defined by a special regulation or the GGNRA Compendium. All dog walkers, including commercial dog walkers, would be allowed up to three dogs per person. All dogs would have to be on leash and no permits would be needed for dog walking.

Alternative C: Emphasis on Multiple Use—Balanced by County

Alternative C emphasizes the diversity of users of GGNRA sites and apportions dog walking geographically across Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties by allowing a variety of options in each county. In Marin and San Francisco counties, there are options for on-leash areas, regulated off-leash areas (ROLAs) (“off leash” is assumed to mean “under voice and sight control” throughout the description of the action alternatives, per the definition outlined in “Guidelines for ROLAs” (NPS 2009c, 1) in appendix E of this plan/EIS), and areas where dogs would be prohibited. In San Mateo, there are options for on-leash areas and areas where dogs would be prohibited. GGNRA is used by visitors for a multitude of purposes and alternative C would minimize potential conflicts, reduce potential health and safety issues, and protect natural and cultural resources, while providing dog walkers with recreational options. Alternative C also includes the consensus agreements resulting from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee meetings. All dog walkers, including commercial dog walkers, would be allowed to walk one to three dogs without a permit. Any dog walker, commercial or private, would be able to obtain a permit to walk four to six dogs, whether on leash or in a ROLA, as allowed by the regulation. Permits could restrict dog walking use by time and area.

Alternative D: Most Protective Based on Resource Protection/Visitor Safety

Alternative D would provide the highest overall level of protection for natural and cultural resources and the highest overall level of visitor safety. Dog management practices listed in alternative D would allow options for dogs to be exercised on leash and in ROLAs but would be more protective in areas where natural resources (plant and wildlife species) and cultural resources are located. The more protective dog management elements offered in alternative D would also provide a stronger measure of visitor protection for both dog walkers and other park visitors by reducing circumstances that would cause conflicts among users and interactions among dogs, thereby minimizing direct and indirect effects of dogs on visitors. Dog walkers would be allowed to walk one to three dogs without a permit. No commercial dog walking would be allowed under this alternative.

Alternative E: Most Dog Walking Access/Most Management Intensive

Alternative E would provide the greatest level of access for dog walkers throughout GGNRA. Alternative E would also require the most intensive long-term management to ensure that greater access for dog walkers did not impact natural and cultural resources, visitor safety, and visitor experience. Alternative E would also include the consensus agreements resulting from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee meetings. All dog walkers, including commercial dog walkers, would be allowed to walk one to three dogs without a permit. Any dog walker, commercial or private, could obtain a permit to walk four to six dogs. In a ROLA, permit holders could have up to six dogs under voice and sight control. Permits could restrict dog walking use by time and area.

COMMERCIAL DOG WALKING

Commercial dog walking is allowed under alternatives B, C, and E. Under alternative B, commercial dog walking would be regulated under the same guidelines and regulations that apply to recreational dog walkers, including the three-dog maximum. Because alternative B does not allow for dog walking under voice-control, commercial dog walking would be on-leash only. Under alternatives C and E, commercial dog walking would be allowed under the same guidelines and regulations that apply to recreational dog walkers, including the three-dog minimum. However, under these two alternatives, both commercial and recreational dog walkers could apply for a permit to walk up to six dogs. In a ROLA, permit holders may have up to six dogs under voice and sight control. Permits would restrict use by time and area. Permits would be issued for the following sites: Alta Trail, Rodeo Beach, Fort Baker, Fort Mason, Crissy Field, Baker Beach, and Fort Funston. Alternative D would not allow commercial dog walking, due to the emphasis on resource protection and visitor safety. The guidelines for professional dog walkers on GGNRA lands is presented in chapter 2.

COMPLIANCE-BASED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

In order to ensure protection of resources from dog walking activities, the dog walking regulations defined in action alternatives B, C, D, and E would be regularly enforced by park law enforcement, and compliance monitored by park staff. A compliance-based management strategy would be implemented to address noncompliance and would apply to all action alternatives. Noncompliance would include dog walking within restricted areas, dog walking under voice and sight control in designated on-leash dog walking areas, and dog walking under voice and sight control outside of established ROLAs. If noncompliance occurs, impacts to resources have the potential to increase and become short-term minor to major adverse. To prevent these impacts from increasing or occurring outside of the designated dog walking areas the NPS would regularly monitor all sites. When noncompliance is observed in an area, park staff would focus on enforcing the regulations, educating dog walkers, and establishing buffer zones, time and use restrictions, and SUP restrictions. If compliance falls below 75 percent (measured as the

percentage of total dogs / dog walkers observed during the previous 12 months not in compliance with the regulations) the area's management would be changed to the next more restrictive level of dog management. In this case, ROLAs would be changed to on-leash dog walking areas and on-leash dog walking areas would be changed to no dog walking areas. This change would be permanent. Impacts from noncompliance could reach short-term minor to major adverse, but the compliance-based management strategy is designed to return impacts to a level that assumes compliance, as described in the overall impacts analysis, or provide beneficial impacts where dog walking is reduced or eliminated.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

A preferred alternative was selected for each of the 21 sites identified in this plan/EIS (the preferred alternative for each site is identified on table ES-1). Due to the high number of sites and alternatives, a modified Choosing by Advantages process was used for choosing the preferred alternative for each site. For each site, team members from GGNRA selected the alternative that best met the objectives of the plan (defined in chapter 1). Six main objectives were used to identify the preferred alternative. Each objective included more than one subtopic for the resource. Not all of the subtopics for each objective were compatible, requiring team members to balance competing needs. After evaluating each alternative against each objective, a preferred alternative was selected that best met the objectives for the dog management plan.

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE

The environmentally preferred alternative was selected for each of the 21 sites including new lands during the Choosing by Advantages meeting. The rationale to support the decision for the selection of the environmentally preferred alternative for each site is presented in detail in chapter 2. Alternative D which is the most protective alternative based on resource protection and visitor safety was selected as the environmentally preferred alternative for all sites (including new lands) except for Upper and Lower Fort Mason where alternative B (NPS leash regulation) was chosen as the environmentally preferable alternative. In the case of Upper and Lower Fort Mason alternative B provides the maximum protection of natural and cultural resources at the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The summary of environmental consequences considers the actions being proposed and the cumulative impacts to resources from occurrences inside and outside the park. The potential environmental consequences of the actions are addressed for soils, water quality, vegetation, wildlife, special-status species, and cultural resources; other topics considered in detail include visitor use and experience, park operations, and human health and safety. A brief summary of the environmental consequences for each site is presented below and is discussed in detail in chapter 4.

The environmental consequences analysis for the action alternatives was based on compliance. If noncompliance occurs under the action alternatives, it may result in impacts that could reach short-term minor to major adverse, however the compliance-based management strategy which is discussed in detail in chapter 2 is designed to return impacts to a level that assumes compliance or provide beneficial impacts where dog walking is reduced or eliminated.

Marin County

Stinson Beach

Impacts to physical resources (soils and geology, water quality) at Stinson Beach would generally range from negligible to long-term, minor adverse for all alternatives, including the preferred alternative. However, alternative D would prohibit dogs at Stinson beach, resulting in no impact on physical resources at the site. Impacts from the alternatives to natural resources (vegetation, wildlife, and species of special status) would also be largely no impact, a result of the fact that dogs would be prohibited on the trails, beach, and creek under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and prohibited from the site entirely under alternative D. Impacts for visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would range from negligible to long-term, minor, adverse, while impacts for visitors who did not prefer dogs at the park would be beneficial under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to health and safety would be long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative and long-term, minor, adverse under all action alternatives (including the preferred alternative) except for D, which would have no impact as dogs would be prohibited at the site.

Homestead Valley

Impacts to soils at Homestead Valley are negligible for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, adverse for the No-Action alternative. Impacts to natural resources under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative range from negligible for vegetation and the Northern Spotted Owl to negligible to long-term, minor adverse for wildlife. Under the no action alternative, impacts to wildlife would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse. Impacts to visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would be long-term, minor, and adverse under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, while the impacts to visitors who do not enjoy dogs at the park would be beneficial under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and health and safety impacts would be negligible under all alternatives including the preferred alternative.

Alta Trail, Orchard Fire Road, and Pacheco Fire Road

Impacts to soils under the No-Action alternative would be long-term, moderate, and adverse for soils and the action alternatives including the preferred alternative would be long-term, minor, and adverse, with the exception of alternative D, which would have no dogs at the site, resulting in no impact. Impacts to natural resources from the action alternatives including the preferred alternative on vegetation would be negligible with the exception of alternative D, which would have no impact as dogs would not be allowed at the site. The No-Action alternative would result in long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse impacts for wildlife. Impacts to visitors who prefer dogs at the park would be long-term, minor, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative except alternative D, which would have a long-term, moderate, and adverse impact on this group of visitors. Visitors who do not prefer dogs at the park would experience beneficial impacts under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, moderate, adverse impacts under the No-Action alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives. The action alternatives including the preferred alternative would generally have a negligible to long-term, minor, adverse impact on health and safety, but alternative D would have no impact.

Oakwood Valley

Impacts to physical resources under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse, but the no action alternative for soils would result in long-term, moderate, adverse impacts. Impacts to the natural resources generally would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. The no action alternative would result in long-term, minor to moderate and adverse impacts to vegetation, wildlife and the Mission Blue Butterfly. For some of the natural and physical resources, alternatives that have a ROLA would have impacts that were increased from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. Alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative have ROLAs. Impacts to visitors who prefer having dogs at the park would be negligible under alternatives with ROLAs, and long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives that do not have ROLAs. Visitors who do not prefer dogs at the park would have beneficial impacts from all action alternatives. Impacts to park operations under all the action alternatives including the preferred alternative would be short-term, moderate, and adverse, but alternatives with ROLAs would also have long-term, minor, and adverse impacts. Health and safety would be negligibly impacted by all alternatives including the preferred alternative.

Muir Beach

Impacts to soils would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and would be long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative. Impacts to water quality under all alternatives would range from negligible to long-term, minor and adverse, with the exception of alternative D and the preferred alternative, which would have no impact. Vegetation and wildlife would have negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under the action alternatives, but alternative D and the preferred alternative would have no impacts on these communities. Impacts under the no action alternative would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse, to long-term, moderate and adverse for natural resources, while impacts from the action alternatives generally would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. Impacts on cultural resources would be negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. Visitors who preferred having dogs at the site would experience long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under all action alternatives but alternative D and the preferred alternative, which would have long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts. Impacts to visitors who did not prefer dogs would be beneficial under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse, but would also include long-term, minor, and adverse impacts in alternative E due to the presence of a ROLA. Impacts to health and safety would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse.

Rodeo Beach/South Rodeo Beach

Impacts to physical resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse under most alternatives including the preferred alternative, but would be long-term, moderate, adverse to soils under the no action alternative and long-term, minor to moderate, adverse to soils under alternative E. Impacts to natural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse under alternatives B and D. The no action alternative would have impacts that ranged from negligible to long-term, moderate, and adverse on natural resources, while alternatives C, E, and the alternative would cause impacts ranging from long-term, minor, and adverse to long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts on some coastal community wildlife and vegetation. Visitors who prefer dogs at the site would experience beneficial impacts under alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative, long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternative B, and long-term, moderate, adverse impacts under alternative D. Visitors who do not prefer dogs would experience beneficial impacts under alternatives B and D, and long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would

be short-term, minor, and adverse under all action alternatives, but alternatives C and E would also result in long-term, minor, and adverse impacts due to the ROLAs. Impacts on health and safety would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for all alternatives.

Marin Headlands Trails

Generally, impacts to physical and natural resources range from negligible to long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative, and negligible under alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative. Long-term, minor to long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts under these alternatives would occur for coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife and riparian forest and stream corridor wildlife. Alternatives B and D would result in no impacts to physical or natural resources. Cultural resource impacts would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized impacts under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would experience long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts under alternatives B and D. Visitors who do not prefer having dogs at the site would experience beneficial impacts under all alternatives, including the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Alternatives B and D would have no impact on health and safety, while alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative would have long-term, minor, and adverse impacts. Impacts to health and safety would be long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative.

Fort Baker

Impacts to physical resources at Fort Baker would be negligible for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse for the no action alternative. Impacts to natural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for all alternatives including the preferred alternative, though there would be a long-term, minor, to moderate and adverse impact from the no action alternative to coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife. No impacts would occur to the Mission Blue Butterfly under alternative D. Cultural resource impacts would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized impacts under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who prefer dogs at the site would experience negligible impacts under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the exception of alternative D, which would result in long-term, minor, and adverse impacts. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs would have negligible impacts under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative except D, which would result in beneficial impacts. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. All alternatives would result in negligible impacts to health and safety.

San Francisco County

Upper and Lower Fort Mason

Impacts to soils would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, while the no action alternative would result in long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts. Impacts to water quality and natural resources were not applicable at Upper and Lower Fort Mason. Impacts to cultural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who enjoy dogs would experience negligible impacts under alternative B and the preferred alternative, but beneficial

impacts under all other action alternatives. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs would experience long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternatives B, D, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts under alternatives C, and E. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and alternatives C, D, and E would have long-term, minor, and adverse impacts due to the presence of ROLAs. Impacts to health and safety would be long-term, minor, adverse for alternative B and the preferred alternative, long-term, minor to moderate and adverse for alternatives C, D, and E, and long-term, moderate and adverse for the no action alternative.

Crissy Field (includes Wildlife Protection Area)

Impacts to physical resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives B and D, but range from negligible to long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse for alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative. Impacts from the no action alternative would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse. Impacts to natural resources would generally be negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse, but there would be long-term, moderate adverse impacts to coastal community vegetation and the Western Snowy Plover from the no action alternative. Long-term, minor, to moderate impacts would occur to coastal community wildlife under the no action alternative and alternative E. The California Seablite would experience no impacts under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under the no action alternative. Impacts to cultural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who enjoy having dogs at the site would experience long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts under alternatives B, C, D, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternative E. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs would have beneficial impacts under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, but long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under the no action alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and alternatives C, D, E and the preferred alternative would have long-term, minor, and adverse impacts due to the presence of ROLAs. Health and safety impacts under the action alternatives would range from no impact to long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse depending on the area within the site. Impacts from the no action alternative would be long-term, moderate, and adverse.

Fort Point Promenade/Fort Point NHS Trails

Impacts to soils would be negligible for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse for the no action alternative. Water quality and natural resources were not applicable at Fort Point. Impacts to cultural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who prefer having dogs at the park would experience negligible impacts under alternatives B, C, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternative D. Visitors who do not prefer having dogs at the site would experience negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternatives B, C, E, and the preferred alternative. These visitors would experience beneficial impacts under alternative D. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to health and safety would be long-term, minor, and adverse under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative.

Baker Beach and Bluffs to Golden Gate Bridge

Impacts to physical resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse for the no action alternative. Impacts to natural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, but long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impacts would occur to coastal community wildlife under alternative E. Impacts from the no action alternative to natural resources would range from negligible to long-term, moderate, and adverse, depending on the resource. Impacts to cultural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would experience long-term, minor, adverse impacts under alternatives B and C, long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts under alternative D and the preferred alternative, and negligible impacts under alternative E. Visitors who do not prefer dogs would have beneficial impacts under all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the exception of alternative E, which would have long-term, minor, and adverse impacts. The no action alternative would result in long-term, minor to moderate and adverse impacts on these visitors. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and alternative E would also have long-term, minor, adverse impacts due to the presence of a ROLA. Impacts on health and safety would be negligible for alternatives B, C, D, and the preferred alternative, long-term, minor, adverse for alternative E, and long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse for the no action alternative.

Fort Miley

Impacts to soils would be long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative, negligible under alternative C and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse under alternative E. Alternatives B and D would have no impact on soils. Impacts to natural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for all alternatives including the preferred alternative, but alternatives B and D would have no impact on wildlife in other coniferous communities. Impacts to cultural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who prefer having dogs at the park would experience long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, while visitors who do not prefer dogs at the park would experience beneficial impacts under these alternatives. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and alternative E would also have long-term, minor, adverse impacts due to the presence of a ROLA. Impacts on health and safety would be negligible for the no action alternative and alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative. Alternatives B and D would have no impact on health and safety.

Lands End

Impacts to soils under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse, and impacts from the no action alternative would be long-term, moderate, and adverse. Impacts on natural resources from the action alternatives including the preferred alternative would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. The no action alternative would have impacts that ranged from negligible to long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse on natural resources. Impacts on cultural resource would be negligible for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized impacts for the no action alternative. Visitors who enjoy dogs at the park would experience negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, while visitors who

do not enjoy dogs at the site would experience beneficial impacts under these alternatives. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and alternatives C and E would also have long-term, minor, adverse impacts due to the presence of a ROLA. Impacts to health and safety would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse for the no action alternative.

Sutro Heights Park

Impacts to soils would be negligible for alternatives B, C, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, moderate, and adverse for the no action alternative. Alternative D would have no impact on soils. Water quality, natural resources, and cultural resources were not applicable at Sutro Heights Park. Impacts on visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would be long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives B, C, and D, and negligible for alternative E and the preferred alternative. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs would experience beneficial impacts under alternatives B, C, and D, and negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternative E and the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts on health and safety would be negligible for all alternatives including the preferred alternative with the exception of alternative D, which would have no impact on health and safety.

Ocean Beach (Includes Snowy Plover Protection Area)

Impacts on physical resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor and adverse under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and would be long-term, moderate, and adverse for soils under the no action alternative. Impacts to coastal community vegetation would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. However, impacts to the wildlife in the Ocean beach SPPA would be long-term, moderate to major, and adverse under the no action alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse under alternative E. Alternatives B, C, D and the preferred alternative would have no impact coastal community wildlife in the SPPA. Coastal community wildlife outside the SPPA would experience long-term, moderate impacts under the no action alternative, long-term, minor to moderate impacts under alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, adverse impacts under alternatives B and D. Inside the SPPA, impacts to the Western Snowy would be long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative, long-term, minor, adverse under alternative E, with alternatives B, C, D, and the preferred alternative having no impact on this species of special status. Outside the SPPA, impacts on the Western Snowy Plover would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative. Impacts to visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would be long-term, minor to moderate and adverse under alternatives B, C, D, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, adverse under alternative E. Impacts to visitors who do not enjoy dogs would be beneficial under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, and long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to health and safety would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse under alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative, long-term, minor, and adverse under alternatives B and D, and long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative.

Fort Funston

Impacts to soils would be long-term, major, and adverse under the no action alternative, long-term, moderate, adverse under alternative E, and long-term, minor to moderate and adverse under alternatives C, D, and the preferred alternative. Alternative B would have long-term, minor, adverse impacts on soils.

Impacts to water quality ranged from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse. Impacts to coastal community vegetation would be the same as those to soils, with the exception of alternative B, which would only have negligible impacts. Coastal community wildlife would experience long-term, moderate to major, adverse impacts from the no action alternative, long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts from alternatives C, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, adverse impacts from alternatives B and D. Impacts on the Bank Swallow would be long-term, minor to moderate and adverse under the no action alternative, negligible under alternatives B and E. Alternatives C, D, and the preferred alternative would have no impact on the Bank Swallow. Impacts to the San Francisco lessingia would be long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives C, D, E, and the preferred alternative, negligible for alternative B, and long-term, moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative. Impacts to cultural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse localized under all alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the action alternatives including the preferred alternative also having beneficial impacts. Visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would experience long-term, moderate to major, adverse impacts under alternative B, long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts under alternative D, long-term, minor, adverse impacts under alternative C and the preferred alternative, and negligible impacts under alternative D. Impacts to visitors who do not prefer dogs would be long-term, moderate to major, and adverse for the no action alternative, long-term, moderate, and adverse under alternative E, long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse for alternative C and the preferred alternative, long-term, minor, adverse for alternative D, and negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse under alternative B. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to health and safety would be long-term, moderate, and adverse for the no action alternative, long-term, minor to moderate, adverse for alternatives C, D, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse for alternative B.

San Mateo County

Mori Point

Impacts to physical resources would be negligible for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the exception of alternative D, which would have no impact. Impacts to natural resources would generally range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse, with alternative D having no impact. The no action alternative would have a long-term, minor to moderate, adverse impact on coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife, and a negligible to long-term, moderate, and adverse impact on the California Red-legged Frog. Impacts to visitors who prefer dogs at the park would be long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives B, C, and the preferred alternative, negligible for alternative E, and long-term, moderate and adverse for alternative D. Visitors who do not prefer dogs would experience beneficial impacts under the action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to health and safety would be negligible for all alternatives except alternative D, which would have no impact.

Milagra Ridge

Impacts on soils would be negligible for the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, with the exception of alternative D, which would have no impact. Impacts to natural resources would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the action alternatives including the preferred alternative, with alternative D having no impact. The no action alternative would have a long-term, minor to moderate and adverse impact on coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife. Impacts on visitors who enjoy dogs would be long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives B, C, and D, and the preferred alternative, and negligible for alternative E. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs at the park would experience beneficial impacts under all action alternatives, including the preferred alternative. Impacts to park

operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts on health and safety would have no impact under alternative D, and would be negligible for all the other alternatives, including the preferred alternative.

Sweeney Ridge/Cattle Hill

Impacts to soils, vegetation, and the California Red-legged Frog would be negligible for alternative E and for Cattle Hill under alternative C and the preferred alternative. There would be no impact on both sites under alternatives B and D, or for Sweeney Ridge under alternative C and the preferred alternative.

Impacts to wildlife would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse under the no action alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse at alternative E. Impacts would be long-term, minor, and adverse at Cattle Hill for alternative C and the preferred alternative. There would be no impact under alternatives B and D, or for Sweeney Ridge under alternative C and the preferred alternative. Impacts to the Mission Blue Butterfly would be negligible at Sweeney Ridge under alternative E, and long-term, minor, and adverse at Sweeney Ridge under the no action alternative. There would be no impacts at Cattle Hill under these two alternatives, and there would be no impacts at either site under alternatives B, C, D, and the preferred alternative. No impacts would occur to the San Francisco Garter Snake under alternatives B or D, or at Sweeney Ridge under alternative C and the preferred alternative. Impacts at Cattle Hill under alternative C and the preferred alternative would be negligible. Impacts under alternative E would be negligible for both sites. Impacts on visitors who enjoy dogs would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse for alternatives B and D, long-term, minor, and adverse for alternatives C and the preferred alternative, and negligible for alternative E. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs would experience beneficial impacts under alternatives B, C, and D, as well as the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternative E. Impacts on these visitors under the no action alternative would be long-term, minor to moderate, and adverse. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts on health and safety would be negligible at both sites for the no action alternative and alternative E, and negligible for Cattle Hill under alternative C and the preferred alternative. No impacts would occur under alternatives B and D, or under alternative C and the preferred alternative for Sweeney Ridge.

Pedro Point Headlands

Impacts on soils, and all natural resources except wildlife, would be negligible for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. However, alternative D would have no impact due to the restriction of dogs from the site. Wildlife would have long-term, minor to moderate and adverse impacts from the no action alternative, negligible to long-term, minor and adverse impacts from alternatives B, C, E, and the preferred alternative, and no impacts under alternative D. Visitors who enjoy having dogs at the site would experience negligible impacts under alternatives B, C, E, and the preferred alternative, and long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under alternative D. Visitors who do not enjoy dogs would experience beneficial impacts under all the action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to park operations would be short-term, moderate, and adverse for all action alternatives including the preferred alternative. Impacts to health and safety would be negligible under alternatives B, C, E, and the preferred alternative. Alternative D would have no impact on health and safety, and the no action alternative would have negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts.

New Lands

Sites that prohibit dogs would have no impacts for any physical, natural, or cultural resources. Impacts to physical resources at sites that allow dogs would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the no action alternative, the preferred alternative, and alternatives B, C, and D. Alternative E would have negligible to long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts on soils, and a negligible to long-term,

minor, adverse impact on water quality. Impacts to most vegetation communities would be negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the no action alternative, the preferred alternative, and alternatives B, C, and D. Alternative E would have negligible to long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts. The native hardwood forest/Douglas fir-coast redwood community is an exception; the no action alternative and alternative E would have negligible to long-term, minor, adverse impacts, while alternatives B, C, D, and the preferred alternative would have negligible impacts. Impacts to coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife and wetland and aquatic wildlife would be negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the no action alternative, the preferred alternative, and alternatives B, C, and D. Alternative E would have negligible to long-term, moderate, and adverse impacts under coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife, and negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts to wetland and aquatic wildlife. Coastal community wildlife would be the same as the coastal scrub, chaparral, and grassland wildlife community, with the exception that there would be negligible to long-term, moderate, adverse impacts under the no action alternative. Impacts to native hardwood forest/Douglas fir-coast redwood wildlife, riparian wildlife, and coniferous wildlife would be negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse under the no action alternative and alternative E. Impacts under alternatives B, C, D and the preferred alternative would be negligible. Impacts to species of special status would be negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse under all the alternatives.

Impacts to cultural resources at new lands would be negligible to possibly long-term, minor, and adverse for all alternatives, unless dogs are prohibited from the site, which would provide beneficial impacts. Impacts on visitors who enjoy having dogs at the park would be negligible for all alternatives with the exception of alternative E, which would have beneficial impacts. Visitors who do not enjoy having dogs at the park would experience negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse impacts under the no action alternative and alternative E, negligible impacts under alternatives B and C, and negligible to beneficial impacts under alternative D and the preferred alternative. Impacts on park operations would range from negligible to long-term, minor, and adverse for the no action alternative, alternative B, C, and D, and the preferred alternative. Alternative E would have short to long-term, minor to moderate adverse impacts. Impacts on health and safety would be negligible for all alternatives, including the preferred alternative. Under alternative E, long-term, minor, and adverse impacts would occur in the ROLA.

