

To: Smith, Shirwin[shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
From: Levitt, Howard
Sent: Wed 11/13/2013 12:37:27 AM
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Fw: Dogs in National Parks
Received: Wed 11/13/2013 12:37:27 AM

prize-winning journalism.

On Tue, Nov 12, 2013 at 3:59 PM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/will-golden-gate-national-recreation-area-plan-unleash-dog-apocalypse/Content?oid=2622269>

Rolls the GMP into the mix, too, of course.

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On Tue, Nov 12, 2013 at 2:39 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:

Good points, Becky. I didn't see the 11/10 Examiner letter you are responding to, but I can get its drift. HL

On Tue, Nov 12, 2013 at 11:31 AM, BeckyE <rebecae@Exemption 6> wrote:

-----Forwarded Message-----

From: BeckyE
Sent: Nov 12, 2013 11:28 AM
To: Examiner letters
Subject: Dogs in National Parks

Mr. Engardio is well off base with his November 10 screed. A few facts:

- There is no National Park service unit called an "urban recreation area". The GGNRA is a national park in an urban area.
- San Francisco gave its parks to the GGNRA irrevocably. Period.
- No one is try to apply backcountry rules to these parks; the National Parks Service's prime responsibility is to protect the parks' resources for all users. Resources include birds and plants.
- GGNRA is one of 401 units of the national park system and no matter what the name of the park they are all bound by the same regulations. These regulations only permit dogs on leash, and only in restricted areas.
- The Park Service is trying to work out a Special Regulation for the GGNRA which would give dogs more freedom than in other national parks in the few places that will not be damaged by them. That is because that the NPS managers realize that San Francisco's canines had places to romp off-leash in the

past. But not everywhere.

- The only legal alternative to a Special Regulation is to apply the national regulations and require leashing of all dogs all the time in the area where they are allowed.

Our national parks are not under local management nor should they be.

Becky Evans
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