



PRESS RELEASE

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## **MARIN HUMANE SOCIETY RESPONDS TO PROPOSED RULES REGARDING DOGS IN GGNRA**

NOVATO, February 24, 2016—The Marin Humane Society today expressed its strong disagreement with the proposed rules by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) governing where dogs, both leashed and off-leashed can be in the areas of Marin managed by the GGNRA and is urging dog lovers to take action.

“We’re deeply disappointed that the National Park Service is proposing such a drastic step, one which will negatively affect the lives of thousands of responsible guardians and their dogs,” said Nancy McKenney, CEO. “We strongly encourage those who feel as we do to make their voices heard.”

Beginning today, there will be a 90-day comment period on the rules, which can be found by searching [federalregister.gov/public-inspection](http://federalregister.gov/public-inspection) for “Golden Gate Dog Management.” There will also be two public hearings — March 23 from 6 to 8 pm at the Bay Model in Sausalito and March 30 from 6 to 8 pm at the Mill Valley Community Center.

The public can also learn more and sign up to receive notifications about this issue by visiting [MarinCountyDog.org](http://MarinCountyDog.org) or [CrissyFieldDog.org](http://CrissyFieldDog.org).

Responsible off-leash conduct includes making sure that dogs are under immediate and direct voice control to ensure proper recreation for all users. Fortunately, the vast majority of dog guardians in Marin who visit off-leash areas practice this.

With less than 15 dog parks for the entire county, the dog-friendly areas of GGNRA offer a safe and healthy way for guardians to exercise their dogs. For those in our community who do not prefer to recreate in areas in which dogs are off-leash, there are myriad options. In fact, 99% of trails and beaches in the GGNRA currently do not allow dogs at all.

The GGNRA dog-friendly areas aren’t simply places to congregate, they are places to be active by hiking, walking, enjoying the beauty of our natural spaces and spending time with our animal companions.

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