SecretaryGateNorton
Dept.of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

DirectorFran P. Mainella
National Park Service
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RegionalDirectorJonJarvis
Pacific West Region
National Park Service
One Jackson Center
1111 Jackson Street
Oakland, CA 94607

SuperintendentBrian O'Neil
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Secretary Norton, Director Fran P. Mainella, Regional Director Jon Jarvis, and Superintendent Brian O’Neill:

I write on behalf of Friends of Animals, a national advocacy group founded in 1967, in support of the petition filed on August 16, 2005, submitted by a broad coalition of groups. In an effort to protect park visitors, pets, free-living animals, and our parks in San Francisco, we request that you promulgate and enforce leash laws in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

The GGNRA is the only national park in the country that does not enforce leash laws. Unfortunately the GGNRA is not a safe place for dogs to run off-leash, because there are no safeguards in place for dogs there. We recommend that this be rectified through the proposed negotiated rulemaking process. In the meantime, leads are imperative in order to stop dogs from straying, being injured, and even killed.

In order to preclude unnecessary threats to other animals, both free-living and domestic, as documented in the petition herein, we hope you will give this petition serious consideration.

Very truly yours,
Priscilla Ferial, President
Friends of Animals, Inc.

visit our web site at: www.friendsofanimals.org