

Public Law 92-589
92 Congress, H.R. 16444
October 27, 1972

An Act

To establish the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the State of California, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

ESTABLISHMENT

Section 1. In order to preserve for public use and enjoyment certain areas of Marin and San Francisco Counties, California, possessing outstanding natural historic, scenic, and recreational values, and in order to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to urban environment and planning, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (hereinafter referred to as the "recreation area") is hereby established. In the management of the recreation area, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") shall utilize the resources in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management. In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Secretary shall preserve the recreation area, as far as possible, in its natural setting, and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area.

COMPOSITION AND BOUNDARIES

Sec. 2. (a) The recreation area shall comprise the lands, waters, and submerged lands generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Golden Gate National Recreation Area", numbered NRA-GG-80.003A, sheets 1 through 3, and dated July, 1972.

(b) The map referred to in this section shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, District of Columbia. After advising the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate (hereinafter referred to as the "committees") in writing, the Secretary may make minor revisions of the boundaries of the recreation area when necessary by publication of a revised drawing or other boundary description in the Federal Register.

ACQUISITION POLICY

Sec 3. (a) Within the boundaries of the recreation area, the Secretary may acquire lands, improvements, waters, or interests therein, by donation, purchase, exchange or transfer. Any lands, or interests therein, owned by the State of California or any political subdivision thereof, may be acquired only by donation. When any tract of land is only partly within such boundaries, the Secretary may acquire all or any portion of the land outside of such boundaries in order to minimize the payment of severance costs. Land so acquired outside of the boundaries may be exchanged by the Secretary for non-Federal lands within the boundaries. Any portion of land acquired outside the boundaries and not utilized for exchange shall be reported to the General Services Administration for disposal under the Federal Property and Administrative Service Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377), as amended: *Provided*, That no disposal shall be for less than fair market value. Except as hereinafter provided, Federal property within the boundaries of the recreation area is hereby transferred without consideration to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for the purposes of this Act, subject to the continuation of such existing uses as may be agreed upon between the Secretary and the head of the agency formerly having jurisdiction over the property. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may develop and administer for the purposes of this Act structures or other improvements and facilities on lands for which he receives a permit of use and occupancy from the Secretary of the Army.

(b) Fort Cronkhite, Fort Barry, and the westerly one-half of Fort Baker, in Marin Country, California, as depicted on the map entitled "Golden Gate Military Properties" numbered NRAGG-20.002 and dated January 1972, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park

Service are hereby transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act, subject to continued use and occupancy by the Secretary of the Army of those lands needed for existing air defense missions, reserve activities and family housing, until he determines that such requirements no longer exist. The Coast Guard Radio Receiver Station, shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating. When this station is determined to be excess to the needs of the Coast Guard, it shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act.

(c) The easterly one-half of Fort Baker in Marin County, California, shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army. When this property is determined by the Department of Defense to be excess to its needs, it shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. The Secretary of the Army shall grant to the Secretary reasonable public access through such property to Horseshoe Bay, together with the right to construct and maintain such public service facilities as are necessary for the purposes of this Act. The precise facilities and location thereof shall be determined between the Secretary and the Secretary of the Army.

(d) Upon enactment, the Secretary of the Army shall grant to the Secretary the irrevocable use and occupancy of one hundred acres of the Baker Beach area of the Presidio of San Francisco, as depicted on the map referred to in subsection (b).

(e) The Secretary of the Army shall grant to the Secretary within a reasonable time, the irrevocable use and occupancy of forty-five acres of the Crissy Army Airfield of the Presidio, as depicted on the map referred to in subsection (b).

(f) When all or any substantial portion of the remainder of the Presidio is determined by the Department of Defense to be excess to its needs, such lands shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. The Secretary shall grant a permit for continued use and occupancy for that portion of said Fort Point Coast Guard Station necessary for activities of the Coast Guard.

(g) Point Bonita, Point Diablo, and Lime Point shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating. When this property is determined to be excess to the needs of the Coast Guard, it shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. The Coast Guard may continue to maintain and operate existing navigational aids: *Provided*, That access to such navigational aids and the installation of necessary new navigational aids within the recreation area shall be undertaken in accordance with plans which are mutually acceptable to the Secretary and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating and which are consistent with both the purposes of this Act and the purpose of existing statutes dealing with establishment, maintenance, and operation of navigational aids.

(h) That portion of Fort Miley comprising approximately one and seven-tenths acres of land presently used and required by the Secretary of the Navy for its inshore, underseas warfare installations shall remain under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy until such time as all or any portion thereof is determined by the Department of Defense to be excess to its needs, at which time such excess portion shall be transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act.

(i) New construction and development within the recreation area on property remaining under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Army and not subject to the provisions of subsection (d) or (e) hereof shall be limited to that which is required to accommodate facilities being relocated from property being transferred under this Act of the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary or which is directly related to the essential missions of the Sixth United States Army: *Provided, however*, That any construction on presently undeveloped open space may be undertaken only after prior consultation with the Secretary. The foregoing limitation on construction and development shall not apply to expansion of those facilities known as Letterman General Hospital or the Western Medical Institute of Research.

(j) The owner of improved property on the date of its acquisition by the Secretary under this Act may, as a condition of such acquisition, retain for himself and his heirs and assigns a right of use and occupancy for the improved property for noncommercial residential purposes for a definite term of not more than twenty-five years, or, in lieu thereof, for a term ending at the death of the owner or the death of his spouse, whichever is later. The owner shall elect the term to be reserved. Unless the property is wholly or partially donated to the United States, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of acquisition minus the fair market value on that date of the right retained by the owner. A right retained pursuant to this section shall be subject to termination by the Secretary upon his determination that it is being exercised in a manner inconsistent with the purpose of this Act, and it shall terminate by operation of law upon the Secretary's notifying the holder of the right of such determination and tendering to him an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the right which remains unexpired.

(k) The term “improved property”, as used in subsection (j), means a detached, noncommercial residential dwelling, the construction of which was begun before June 1, 1971, together with so much of the land on which the dwelling is situated, the said land being in the same ownership as the dwelling, as the Secretary shall designate to be reasonable necessary for the enjoyment of the dwelling for the sole purpose of noncommercial residential use, together with any structures accessory to the dwelling which are situated on the land so designated.

(l) Whenever an owner of property elects to retain a right of use and occupancy as provided for in the Act, such owner shall be deemed to have waived any benefits or rights accruing under sections 203, 204, 205, and 206 of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1894), and for the purposes of those sections such owner shall not be considered a displaced person as defined in section 101(6) of that Act.

(m) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall have the same authority with respect to contracts for the acquisition of land and interests in land for the purposes of this Act as was given the Secretary of the Treasury for other land acquisitions by section 34 of the Act of May 30, 1908 relating to purchase of sites for public buildings (35 Stat. 545), and the Secretary and the owner of the land to be acquired under this Act may agree that the purchase price will be paid in periodic installments over a period that does not exceed ten years, with interest on the unpaid balance thereof at a rate which is not in excess of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturities on the installments. Judgements against the United States for amounts in excess of the deposit in court made in condemnation actions shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of July 27, 1956 (70 Stat. 624) and sections 2414 and 2517 of title 28, United States Code.

ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 4. (a) The Secretary shall administer the lands, waters and interests therein acquired for the recreation area in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1, 2-4), as amended and supplemented, and the Secretary may utilize such statutory authority available to him for the conservation and management of wildlife and natural resources as he deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of this Act. Notwithstanding their inclusion within the boundaries of the recreation area, the Muir Woods National Monument and Fort Point National Historic Site shall continue to be administered as distinct and identifiable units of the national park system in accordance with the laws applicable to such monument and historic site.

(b) The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with any Federal agency, the State of California, or any political subdivision thereof, for the rendering, on a reimbursable basis, of rescue, firefighting, and law enforcement and fire prevention assistance.

(c) The authority of the Army to undertake or contribute to water resource developments, including shore erosion control, beach protection, and navigation improvements on land and /or waters within the recreation area shall be exercised in accordance with plans which are mutually acceptable to the Secretary and the Secretary of the Army and which are consistent with both the purpose of this Act and the purpose of existing statutes dealing with water and related resource development.

(d) The Secretary, in cooperation with the State of California and affected political subdivisions thereof, local and regional transit agencies, and the Secretaries of Transportation and of the Army, shall make a study for a coordinated public and private transportation system to and within the recreation area and other units of the national park system in Marin and San Francisco Counties.

ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sec. 5. (a) There is hereby established the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Advisory Commission (hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) The Commission shall be composed of fifteen members appointed by the Secretary for terms of three years each.

(c) Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(d) Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, as such, but the Secretary may pay, upon vouchers signed by the Chairman, the expenses reasonably incurred by the Commission and its members in carrying out their responsibilities under this Act.

(e) The Secretary, or his designee, shall from time to time, but at least annually, meet and consult with the Commission on general policies and specific matters related to planning, administration and development affecting the recreation area and other units of the national park system in Marin and San Francisco Counties.

(f) The Commission shall act and advise by affirmative vote of a majority of the members thereof.

(g) The Commission shall cease to exist ten years after the enactment of this Act.

APPROPRIATION LIMITATION

Sec. 6. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, but not more than \$61,610,000 shall be appropriated for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands. There are authorized to be appropriated not more than \$58,000,000 (May 1971 prices) for the development of the recreation area, plus or minus such amounts, if any, as may be justified by reason of ordinary fluctuations in constructions costs as indicated by engineering costs indices applicable to the type of construction involved herein.

Approved October 27, 1972.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT

No. 92-1391 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

SENATE REPORT

No. 92-1271 accompanying S. 3174 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Vol. 118 (1972):

Oct. 11, considered and passed House.

Oct. 12, considered and passed Senate, in lieu of S. 3174.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 8, No. 44:

Oct. 28, Presidential Statement