

NPS Statement for SF Park and Recreation Commission Meeting on Sharp Park:

As we have previously stated, the NPS remains concerned about the long-term protection of the endangered San Francisco garter snake and threatened California red-legged frog. The City of San Francisco's preferred concept, the retention of an 18-hole golf course, appears to rely on restoring habitat for these species only in areas that the City's report has shown could be inundated by a breach of the levee and impacted by sea level rise. It does not include habitat restoration in areas between Laguna Salada and Highway One that would provide for habitat outside of the inundation zone.

NPS is also concerned about compatibility with our recent restoration and preservation efforts at Mori Point. NPS believes that both Sharp Park and Mori Point are important for long-term preservation of the species and would want to be assured that these species would not be threatened by actions taken at Sharp Park.

We would like to take this opportunity to clarify our role in the management of the golf course. We believe that we can provide a role by coordinating with the City of San Francisco and offering technical habitat restoration advice to maximize compatibility with management of Mori Point and Sharp Park endangered species habitat. We would not appropriately have a role in owning or managing areas of Sharp Park that will contain a golf course and related infrastructure features or habitats that operate as a managed system.

We encourage the City's cautious and thorough consideration of the complex information and expertise necessary for its decision. We agree with the City that a long term planning process should be concurrently convened while discussions are taking place on the short-term planning process. We would like to participate in those discussions.