

Point Reyes National Seashore
Tomales Point Area Plan
Environmental Assessment Public Comments
December 2024
Comment Letters

Correspondence ID: 1

Hi there and thank you for taking the time to receive and review public comments. I was born and raised in California and have spent the last 13 years of my career in environmental and outdoor education. Point Reyes is one of my favorite places in the state, and I attribute my first backpacking trip there with launching my career. I most recently visited two weeks ago at the end of April 2024 for a backpacking trip, and it was the first time I ever saw the Tule Elk, who were grazing and resting near the Wildcat Campground. I strongly support the option to remove the fence that has kept the Elk isolated to one small part of the point. I am heartened to see you are working with a local group of indigenous people to make decisions based on indigenous land practice values. Perhaps you are curious about the interactions between the public and the Elk, as am I. But I have participated in and seen the efficacy of public outreach and education efforts on the Mountain Lion activity by Midpeninsula Open Space District (based in Los Altos, CA). I see the change as positive and an opportunity to educate the public, begin to decolonize our land management practices, and restore balance to the ecosystem. Free the elk! Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 2

After reading the NPS TRAP EA I am commenting in favor of Alternative B. I fully support the elk fences being removed and the elk populations having access to the full seashore and connectivity to the other herds in the seashore. That is the most important part of the management plan for me. I also look forward to the rerouting and enhancements to the Tomales Point Trail and the reservation system for camping there in the future.

Point Reyes National Seashore is one of my favorite places on this earth. I want it to be a place to enjoy the natural beauty of the Bay Area and be a place for the public to enjoy wildlife and wild places. People travel from all over the world to see the natural wonders of Point Reyes, not private industries such as dairies and ranches.

I believe this new management plan is a step in the right direction for the future of the seashore. Our public lands should serve the public and what the public wants is a seashore set aside for the natural world it supports. Not one pushed to the side by private enterprise.

Correspondence ID: 3

I urge the Park service to do the following:

1. Remove all fencing that constrain the movement of Tule Elk in the park.
2. Remove all commercial livestock ranching from the park. Livestock (cows etc.) are not-native animals, they have no place in a National Park. They foul the land and water with thousands of tons of manure, consume enormous amounts of vegetation, and cause conflict with native wildlife. Please - REMOVE ALL RANCHING FROM THE PARK ASAP.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4

As a resident of the Bay Area, and great supporter of wildlife and national parks, please choose Alternative B: "UNCONFINED ELK HERD, IMPROVED VISITOR AMENITIES, AND EXPLORE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF PIERCE RANCH CORE AREA "

Thank you,

Ashley Hooper

Correspondence ID: 5

I prefer...

Removal of all non-native species grazing rights

Removal of as much restrictive construction as possible including fencing, infrastructure to support non-natural activity, such as grazing, unnecessary roads, poles, towers, water systems

Removal of historically or educationally insignificant structures, roads, fencing, parking and the like as possible.

Removal of dams, ponding systems, piping, culverts, unnecessary bridges, embankment, and erosion control systems inconsistent with the free flow of natural waterways, including restricting seasonal flooding, stream wandering and channeling.

Strict prohibitions on the construction, expansion or improvement of any non-historic building.

Prohibition on any new visitor conveniences including roads, parking, shops, dwellings, campgrounds, restaurants, fuel storage, docks, piers, wetland walkways, trails, stairs, benches, tables and other outdoor furniture, lighting and signage.

Correspondence ID: 6

I am curious how wildlife management can be done with a fence in place. What is the plan if the fence does not come down? How will wildlife be affected. It seems that for full wildlife management, the fence must be eliminated and I hope it will be.

In short, please remove the fence so that wildlife can move freely.

Correspondence ID: 7

I fully support the removal of the elk fence allowing the elk to freely roam and forage and find water. I think leaving the water systems in place at least until the elk learn they can roam and find new water sources is better than taking them out prematurely. We currently have water but the droughts will return.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 8

All water sources, whether temporary or not, should be preserved.

Correspondence ID: 9

Elk first, ranching second --- the fence should come down, the elk should be allowed to roam naturally, and the ranching interests should not be given any priority. If supplemental water is needed and it would help wildlife overall, then manage as needed. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 10

Remove all ranching from the park. Restore streams. Take down all fences. Save the elk and elephant seals from pollution. Open up the whole park to visitors.

If the managers have to do something, make them restore the hills to native plants; let the forests evolve on their own. If wilderness is good for the oyster farm removal of filter feeders, wilderness is good for the removal of cattle as they are compacting soils, defecating in the water, and adding methane upwind from us all.

The free elk are doing better than the 'managed' elk. Why is that?

Correspondence ID: 11

I call for the removal of the elk fence that unnaturally restricts the movements of the elk at Tomales Point. In addition the NPS need to do much more to phase out "traditional land use" in Point Reyes. It is past time to remove dairy and ranching operations from this unique area that belongs to all Americans. These operations have already been compensated and their continued existence is preventing natural rewilding that would restore a balance to this area.

As someone who lives in a state with great free roaming elk herds it is disgusting to see wildlife contained in such a way, it is unnatural and I do not believe this should be the mission of the NPS.

There are so many appropriate places in California for dairy or ranching operations, Point Reyes is not one of them.

I do not find the ranches to be important historically and would remove all traces and restore the land for current and future generations who need truly wild places more every day!

Correspondence ID: 12

Take Down the Deadly Elk Fence! Let the Elk Roam Free! Allow Restoration of the Point Ecosystem!

Correspondence ID: 13

Hello NPS, I have written to you before, many times, and herein i will restate my continuous comments. The fence must come down, and that now is your preferred alternative B. I would add that it would not be best to

take away any supplemental water or minerals for the elk, until they have established themselves outside of the fence. You may not know it, but animals are smart and they are trainable - which means they have been subject to life behind the fence and many might not go near the fence anymore, so it will take time for them to learn that they are free. Until then, I hope you will leave their supplemental water and minerals.

Also, no one seems to be mentioning this, but all this would be moot if the ranchers continue with their cows and guns and bias against elk. The ranches have to go as well as the fence. This is the only way to bring

about restoration for the ranch degradation. It is also the best and correct way to maintain a national park. Without the miles of fencing for elk, the ranch fencing is an eyesore, as well as the bare soil and manure and ranch waste that takes up so much of our park now.

This is not anti-ranching bias - just anti-ranching bias within our national park. This must happen coincident with the removal of the elk fence and then we can watch as mother nature restores herself for all of our benefit.

Sincerely, lonna richmond

Correspondence ID: 14

Remove the fence and let them run free, the Elk. Btw the closest farm to the fenced area is no longer a dairy. The owner has no children interested in continuing on and he is now just raising young cows to sell off. I feel that at least open the fences to that area.

Correspondence ID: 15

I support the preferred alternative: let the elk run wild across the entire national seashore. After 60+ years it is high time to end cattle grazing on public lands within the seachore.

Correspondence ID: 16

Remove and fence and free the Elk

Correspondence ID: 17

Please choose Option B and remove the elk enclosure fencing, modify water features that are hazardous to wildlife, and remove invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 18

I write to you as a resident of West Marin, with relatives who farm, to support:

ALTERNATIVE B: UNCONFINED ELK HERD, IMPROVED VISITOR AMENITIES, AND

EXPLORE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF PIERCE RANCH CORE AREA (NPS PREFERRED

ALTERNATIVE)

I understand the hesitancy of ranchers and those practicing agriculture in Marin County, but I also firmly believe that the Tule Elk should be allowed to roam and forage/seek water with freedom to assure their health and survival.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 19

Regarding the boat-in camping on the west shore of Tomales Bay. The document is not clear especially on page 57. I have two requests as follows:

The Recreation.gov website map identifies 9 beaches starting at Elk Fence North Beach. However, the assessment mentions 7 beaches and Marshall and Tomales Beaches.

> Please identify the seven beaches which would require location based reservations. Please be more clear about the total count of beaches as integrated with Tomales and Marshall Beaches which are outside of the assessment area.

The current reservation system has permits as follows: 3 groups of 15-25 people restricted to Tomales and Marshall Beaches. 8 groups of 7-14 people, and 9 groups of 1-6 people. Some of the smaller beaches in the assessment area would be negatively impacted by just one group of 14 people. The total number of people currently allowed by permit is $25 \times 3 + 14 \times 8 + 6 \times 9 = 241$ people! It is not clear if the total number of campers allowed by permit would change.

> Please be more clear about the number and size of groups allowed at each beach and if/how the total number of allowed campers by permit would change

Correspondence ID: 20

Regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, I support Plan B, as a good step toward rewilding Point Reyes National Seashore. I support wildlife (including the Tule elk) access to all parts of the park. The plan would address invasive plant species as well, which is a serious problem in PRNS.

The renovation of Pierce Ranch into a modern visitor center is long overdue.

Although this plan does not address ranching in PRNS, I support the removal of ranching operations from the park. The ranch leases/subsidies were not intended to last indefinitely. Removing the private ranching, with the pollutants and destructive consequences it brings to the park's water, air, and living creatures, would allow the land to return to coastal prairie as it was before humans arrived. The removal

of ranch zones would increase public visitors. It would also allow resources that are currently spent on ranches to allow more public conservation education, and funds to be spent on preserving the flora and fauna of the park.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely, L. Stanziano

Correspondence ID: 22

I strongly encourage the Park Service to choose Alternative B - remove the existing elk fence and construct a fence to keep livestock out of wildlife areas. I also support the Park's collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Correspondence ID: 23

I grew up in Marin county I worked in the point reyes area for four years while I went to school at UC Davis. Even back in the 70s there was tension with the ranchers. I don't understand why there's still ranching in point reyes The leases have expired a long time ago, please remove the fences and get rid of the ranching which pollutes the watershed. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 24

Our family and extended family have long enjoyed the Point Reyes area, particularly around Tomales Point. Why? Because we love the flora and fauna there and the 'taste' of wilderness it provides. We urge you to please choose plan B for the upcoming environmental assessment. Please take down the elk fence that keeps the Tule elk from roaming a broader, more natural range.

Thank you, Penelope and Jack Kaczmarek, MD

Correspondence ID: 25

Please get rid of the cows and let the Elk flourish. I have visited Point Reyes and it is disgusting to see the livestock profiting off our public trust lands. Stop catering to a few rich ranchers.

Correspondence ID: 26

In order to align with the intent and purpose of the Point Reyes National Seashore, the National Park Service should implement Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that prevents the herd from natural movement, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of wildlife and riparian areas. Alternative B would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. Wildlife and ecological health should no longer be sacrificed for cattle ranching in the PRNS.

Correspondence ID: 27

Please let the Elk roam free and remove any fencing or barriers to doing this. We have enough land set aside for beef and dairy cattle, and this is the only spot for the Tule to have a place in this world. This is public land and should be used not to the betterment of a few farmers, but the whole of society. I would posit that if a true vote took place the freedom of the Elk would over rule profits of a few.

Correspondence ID: 28

YES - Choose Alternative B and REMOVE the existing elk fence that prevents the herd from ranging thru the Park - also construct a new fence to keep livestock OUT of these wildlife areas. This Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and removing invasive plant species from Tomales Point.

I support the Park Service's collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in order to incorporate tribal views & traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This should have been done long ago - but better late than never.

Please get this done - for the wildlife's sake AND for the sake of Pt. Reyes National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 29

Hello, As a former San Francisco resident and frequent visitor to Point Reyes, I urge you to implement the plan B proposal.

Thank you, Bruce Aitken

Correspondence ID: 30

Please remove the elk fence. Our national parks, monuments, wilderness areas, state parks and state areas are not for private businesses, which ranching and dairy cows are. Private businesses do not belong in the middle of the Point Reyes area. With drought, climate change, and so many weather changes, we need to have a few pieces of land that are left alone for the plants and wildlife that have traditionally been there.

Correspondence ID: 31

Please stop harnessing nature's animals. You are destroying habitats!!! Wildlife suffers!

Correspondence ID: 32

I am pleased that you are proposing to remove the elk fencing. I support the preferred alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 34

The Alternative plan to remove the elk fence is the way to go. Although probably a good idea years ago, the elk need more room as we encroach on them.

Correspondence ID: 35

I appreciate the diligent and professional work involved in preparing this NPS EA. I have visited this area and I deeply care about its protection.

I strongly support and urge NPS to adopt and implement Alternative B. I believe that this is the best alternative to reflect modern scientific information and to prepare for adaptation to the environmental changes from the climate crisis.

As you know, this alternative would properly remove the existing elk fence that has harmed tule elk and kept them from needed movements, especially during drought conditions. In addition, this alternative would provide a new fence to keep detrimental livestock grazing out of the important wildlife habitat.

I also support Alternative B because it would remove invasive plants that threaten the ecological health of the area and remove incompatible artificial water sources. And I applaud the positive NPS collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. It is appropriate and prudent to use tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge to benefit this planning process.

Overall, I ask that NPS work toward restoring the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and allowing native wildlife to roam free on the landscape. The climate and extinction crises are already serious and rapidly getting worse. Status quo management is no longer appropriate or sustainable. Bold management reforms are needed. Alternative B would help to advance those reforms.

Thank you very much for this excellent planning work and for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 36

I grew up in northern Marin County many years ago and going to Point Reyes was always a very special time for us. Whenever I go back, I cannot go without trips to Point Reyes to ease my soul. Seeing Thule elk was always an added pleasure which made the trip whole for me. The fence that artificially confines the elk is an oppressive mismanagement solely designed to appease the ranching industry. It results in starving and depriving elk of essential water sources. It is unconscionable to have ever done this and it is unconscionable to not correct the situation and remove the fencing. The public that pays your salary demand better from your agency. You need to choose alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 37

I am opposed to removal of the fences. The elk should never have been brought here in the first place. Elk belong in the wilderness in national parks of much greater size than Point Reyes National Seashore. PRNS is not a wilderness area. What are the ramifications of an overwhelming increase in elk if they are loose in the area? I have lived in Inverness for over 40 years and support the continuation of ranching in the park.

Correspondence ID: 38

Please remove the existing elk fence that keeps the tule elk herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. I support the National Park Service's collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process. This is a great opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 39

Choose Alternative B and allow for the unencumbered movement of Tule elk at Point Reyes National seashore!

Correspondence ID: 40

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. I support your collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This planning process is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. Let the Park Service know that you support their collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This planning process is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 41

Since your plan for the park was created & implemented in 1998, it might be that Plan B should be implemented and take down the fence keeping the elk from foraging more widely in the park.

Correspondence ID: 42

I am writing to ask you to select Alternative B for the Tule Elk Reserve at Tomales Point. Remove the existing elk fence that prevents the natural ranging actions of the elk herd and construct a new fence to keep livestock out of these wildlife areas. Wildlife must be given priority. I also agree with that alternative's stipulation that artificial water sources and invasive plant species be removed.

I am happy to learn that you have entered into an agreement with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria for management and stewardship of this area.

I was disappointed to see that there was no discussion of phasing out more ranching operations on NPS land. Cattle make significant and often detrimental changes to local ecosystems and to the environment. NPS historical/cultural exhibits could discuss that issue, a poignant example of the double-edged sword of land development and the need to make sure that Nature is given every opportunity available to ensure resilience in the face of climate change. Marin County has experienced two significant droughts over the last decade and the Tule Elk particularly have suffered due to the constraints on their movements.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 43

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. Let the Park Service know that you support their collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

Correspondence ID: 44

Please remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. I support their collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge.

Correspondence ID: 45

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and construct a fence that keeps livestock out of the wildlife area. Also remove artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. And I support your collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout the process.

This is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and allow wildlife to be wild.

Correspondence ID: 46

I, for many years have been concerned for the Tule Elk of Pt. Reyes. It seems that the Elk have taken a back seat in consideration and dairy farmers and livestock have received better treatment. This is not right. This area is a National recreation area and as such really should not contain commercial endeavors

I feel that Alternative B is the correct way to proceed. Removal of the fence confining the Elk from the Tomales Point area of the Point Reyes National Seashore and let the Tule Elk roam the entire area.

I truly think that all commercial endeavors should be stopped and the entire area allowed to revert to nature and the Elk. But we all know that is probably not going to happen, so please choose Alternative B. Put the Elk ahead of cows.

Correspondence ID: 47

I look forward to the removal of this fence. Please use Alternative B to implement this welcome and long overdue idea.

Please remove the fence. Tule elk and other wildlife are vital to maintain the ecological health of this park. You can clearly see the difference between the impact of wildlife and the impact of (non-native) cattle when you visit this park: the areas where the cattle graze are severely damaged with erosion and desertification, but the areas where the Tule elk roam are heathy. When you remove that fence, think of how beautiful and healthy the park will become!

There is another park north of this area, Pacheco State Park, which used to have cattle. The cattle were removed. In one short year, that park's lands were 100 percent restored to their natural state with no human intervention. How was that possible, you may ask? It was because of the elk and other wildlife there, who restored this park themselves. Point Reyes National Seashore needs to follow the direction of Pacheco State Park.

Next on the list to remove are those ranches. These ranches should have been removed years ago, back in the 1980s when their owners had agreed to do that in exchange for the hefty sums they were paid for when this region became a park. It is very disappointing that ranching is still being allowed in Point Reyes National Seashore, and not only that, that these operations will expand to include other climate change-causing industries. This park needs to be able to fulfill its original purpose: to be a 100 percent wildlife refuge. As it is now, one third of this beautiful park is being polluted by ranching and dairy operations that should have left in the 1980s, per their original agreement when they sold their property to the park.

Thank you, Patricia Huey

Correspondence ID: 48

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. I support your collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This planning process is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Please do what's right for the Tule Elk and our own native wildlife. I am a taxpayer and a regular park visitor; I want resources to protect our wildlife and wildlands.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 49

I support Alternative B including:

1. Removal of the existing elk fence so that the elk herd has further range.
2. Construction of a new fence that keeps livestock out of wildlife areas.
3. Removal of artificial water sources and invasive plant species from Tomales Point.

4. Ongoing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge.

Correspondence ID: 50

I've been to Point Reyes Park three times, twice seeing the tule elk.

Please adopt Alternative B

Correspondence ID: 51

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas.

I support the Park Service's collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

Thank you for your consideration

Correspondence ID: 52

I support Alternative B, removal of the elk fence. NPS should also remove any old, damaged and unused fencing that remains a danger to wildlife.

I also support the 1993 Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore which concluded "The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point." Allow the elk herds to be free roaming.

I support the NPS working with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of this area, as long as it does not supersede or contravene existing law, including the Wilderness Act, the Organic Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Clean Water Act, the Point Reyes Enabling Legislation, the Administrative Procedure Act, and the Freedom of Information Act.

Although I am glad to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, I note that the real problem Pt. Reyes National Seashore is suffering is the continued existence of private, for-profit ranching in the seashore. The fence issue would be a moot point if NPS had followed its legal mandates and either eliminated the ranches as originally called for, or at the least held the ranches to the terms of their leases, which would have prevented the excess pollution, conflicts with the public and the controversies over the tule elk. The sooner NPS gets rid of the ranches, the better.

Correspondence ID: 53

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and please construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. I support your collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in incorporating tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This planning process is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 54

This is all about protecting ranchers who repeatedly get their leases renewed, even though they were supposed to be over years ago. Quit subsidizing unsustainable, GHG emitters, and cruelty to native Tule

Elk. there are only remnants of native costal prairie because of grazing livestock. Point Reyes is public, visitors want to see wildlife and beautiful scenery.

Correspondence ID: 55

PLEASE adopt the pland and eliminate the fences and let the elk range. Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 56

I urge you to allow the elk confined to Tomales Point to roam farther into the PRNS. I understand that there is a historical connection to dairy farming at Point Reyes which probably complicates any decision to let the elk occupy a larger portion of their former range. But if you step back and look at the situation from afar, there are many millions, perhaps even billions, of cattle on Earth, and only thousands of tule elk. Future generations will value an intact wild ecosystem far more than the "pastoral zone," which can be found far and wide on every continent except the Antarctic.

Thank you, Larry Barnes

Correspondence ID: 57

I am writing to encourage the NPS to REMOVE all fencing that restricts the Tule Elk in the Tomales Point & Tomales Bay & Pt. Reyes National Seashore. The toxic and destructive dairy operations need to be phased out quickly - they do nothing but pollute water and soil, and contribute to habitat destruction as well as people just not wanting to visit Pt. Reyes like they used to.

Dairy operations epitomize environmental devastation as is now well understood - it is long past time for them to be removed from all national parks, monuments, seashores, etc.

Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 58

I support Alternative B proposed action, which removes the elk fence and frees the confined elk. Their die-off must stop. It affects the entire ecosystem of the area, including all of the other species.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 59

As a highly educated retired professional scientist USDA USFS, Climate change is well substantiated as getting hotter. Note this is May and 80 degrees here? Bluntly, wow.

Cattle should be banned from All public lands, that included Pt. Reyes, Tomales Point, etc. I studied this extensively in USFS as a GS-11/10 RWLFB in CA.

I have donated \$\$\$\$ to this end.

Correspondence ID: 60

As a frequent hiker in Point Reyes, I am all for removing the fences such that the elk herd can roam free and also all for introducing boat-in permits to keep the habitat clean.

Correspondence ID: 61

Once again Mother Nature is being thwarted and Tule elk is fenced off from being able to cross what is their natural habitat. It is unacceptable to keep making life harder for these wild animals and the sensible and compassionate thing to do is to take the fence down. Ordinary Americans like myself want our natural fauna preserved, and protected so please remove the fence and them freely roam. They were here before us. It is so shameful what we have done. Why do we need to do so much harm?

Correspondence ID: 62

Please free the Tule elk by removing the fence.

Correspondence ID: 63

Livestock, such as cattle, don't belong in our National Parks. Get them out.

Correspondence ID: 65

I strongly support the Parks preferred management plan B. Letting the elk roam free is the only choice that is in keeping with the purpose of National Parks. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 66

I'm grateful for the opportunity to include my comments here.

I propose that the fencing be taken down for the Tule Elk. Let's think about nature and wildlife as a partnership of living alongside one another. Wildlife and natural spaces are already living on the margins in the US, with much of the habitat developed for farming, ranches and urban sprawl. Perhaps we need to rethink outdated management of our public lands that address the public's interest more fully without lobbying/interest tipped in the favor of private businesses. Our present course seems unsustainable.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 67

I am in favor of the plan that takes down the elk fence and allows the endemic Tule elk to roam free throughout Point Reyes National Seashore.

I still would like to encourage the dairies and farms on the peninsula (the alphabet ranches) to consider closing and allowing the restoration of the coastal plains.

The seashore is for nature to be appreciated by the public and to be inspired by it. Let none of it become available to said public.

Free the elk and take the fence down.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 68

Please take down all fences and purchase all dairy ranches to make a Point Reyes area

Wilderness set for all locals!

Correspondence ID: 69

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. I support the Parks collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This planning process is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 70

Please approve Alternative B. The tule elk should be allowed to roam free. The domestic livestock are harmful and should be kept out of natural habitats. The invasive species should be eradicated or at least greatly reduced. Wilderness values should be respected. Like most Americans, I am worried about the

dangerous climate and extinction crises and I know that we need bold solutions to these crises. Alternative B would be a good step forward. Thank you very much.

Correspondence ID: 71

Please select Alternative B as the preferred alternative.

The needs of native wildlife must be given preference over exotic livestock on our public lands.

Correspondence ID: 72

COMMENTS ON THE TOMALES POINT AREA PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF MAY, 2024

Bob Johnston, Point Reyes Station, May 11, 2024

I am a retired UC Davis professor. I taught park planning, land use planning, impact assessment, public policy analysis, energy policy, and related subjects from 1971 to 2005. I have lived in Inverness since 2010 and have read all of the basic Park policy documents, relevant NPS documents, the GMPA and EIS, and the subject Area Plan and EA for the Tomales Point area. I have also read the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan and advisory committee recommendations and the annual Park residual dry mass reports.

Recommendations:

1. All significant Impacts have been considered, especially on vegetation and visitor experience.
2. A reasonable range of Alternatives has been considered, given the small area and narrow purposes of the Plan.
3. The Proposed Alternative, B. has the least adverse impacts and best serves the Purposes and Needs identified for the project. I support Alt. B. for these specific reasons, all correctly described in the EA:

--- Alt. B. best protects the overused area near to the Pierce Pt. Ranch with a Landscape Zone that guides visitor access.

--- Alt. B. will not "significantly affect the ranches," meaning the cattle and dairy leases (pg. B-4).

--- Alt. B. is best for the elk, most spp. of plants, visitor experiences, expanded trails, and Native American

sites.

--- Alt. B. is best for expanding visitor use of the historic Pierce Pt. Ranch buildings.

--- Alt. B. is best for reducing grazing damage to rare plants and for reducing the spread of invasive plants.

Please adopt Alternative B.

Bob Johnston

Correspondence ID: 73

Please let the elk roam free!

Correspondence ID: 74

Protect the Tule Elk. Please activate Alternative B and remove the fence for the Tule Elk to allow them to range freely and naturally. The elk inhabited the region long before the cattle. I further support that the

park service align their principles of land management with those of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Wildlife in this region, state, country, and world are at constant risk of being endangered, threatened, or extirpated at the hands of people invading their natural territories and pushing them into regions with poor resources causing stress to the species and decline in their local populations. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 75

I urge the NPS to remove the fence and free the Tomales Point elk for good. Elk herds should be able to roam, graze, and manage their own populations independent of human interference.

Correspondence ID: 76

My husband and I are retired, bird watchers, and traveller's. We were in Central and Northern California last year. We were there mostly to see birds, but then we were able to get close enough to see the tule elk. And the fence!! It was very distressing to know that private enterprise had more rights than native wildlife, and citizens. Please make ranchers fence in their livestock, and allow the Elk to graze free on the public lands.

I wish to add that my husband and I support full collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 77

As a frequent visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore, I am requesting that the NPS choose Alternative B of the Tomales Point management plan options and remove the Elk fence. With ongoing drought conditions and climate related reductions in forage the elk need access to maximum habitat and range. Fencing should be used to keep livestock controlled and out of elk range areas. Please consider the input of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in establishing and maintaining greater range for the Parks Tule Elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 78

Please remove the Tule Elk Fence on Point Reyes National Seashore!

I strongly support Alternative B to remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging freely and instead erects a fence to keep the livestock out of wildlife areas. Because it's an important treasured national park, it would be even better to remove all livestock as the park service was supposed to when the original ranch leases expired! I also support removing invasive plant species from Tomales Point. And the NPS should indeed collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 79

I support taking down fences so elk can get water.

Correspondence ID: 80

Removing twelve elk "enclosures" that were erected in the late 1990's for a vegetation monitoring project will remove hazard to the tule elk population and the other wildlife at Tomales Point. Removal of the structures will benefit the elk by removing dangerous man-made structures from the elk's habitat.

Correspondence ID: 81

I support Alt. B. Please remove the fence restricting the Tule Elk and instead have the ranchers, if ranching is to continue, construct a fence to restrict cattle and other introduced domestic livestock. I support collaboration with local tribes to manage the elk populations and restore Pt. Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 82

Fences destroy native species, not just deer but many other animals. Horrible way to die. Public lands should represent freedom for humans and nature.

Correspondence ID: 83

Set the Elk Free!

Correspondence ID: 84

I am in favor of alternative/plan B, with removal of the elk fencing so that they can find water even in dry spells. I grew up on a dairy farm, and have great empathy for the dairy farmers and their charges. But we must also be fair to the elk, and the public who cannot bear watching them die of lack of water and grazing.

Sincerely, Ella Woods

Correspondence ID: 85

The fence removal at the Point Reyes National Seashore is long past due. The range leases have overrun their initial deadline and to the detriment of the entire ecosystem (everything from overgrazing, erosion, the spread of zoonotic disease, etc.). Removing the fence will lessen the impact of the cattle on the ecosystem (with the removal or reduction being the most beneficial step) while allowing the elk population to access seasonal water and forage that becomes scarce in the dry summer season. The continued use of the fence and favor paid to the cattle ranching community cannot be justified.

If removing the cattle operations is not feasible, the ranchers should be required to reduce their impact on the ecosystem. Their operations can coexist with the ecosystem; if they refuse, they should not be allowed to operate.

Correspondence ID: 86

Please remove the limiting fence confining the Tule elk. Original limits on their movement did not factor into consideration climate change/drought. These animals are suffering.

We enjoyed the park while living in CA and hate to hear that such outdated policies are impacting the elk and park.

Correspondence ID: 87

Please choose alternative B and remove the elk fence.

The elk herd's ability to wander and roam as a wild animal is paramount here. It is a much greater public value and importance than private livestock producers' cows.

Let's let these elk act like wild animals in a national park instead of managing it like a high fence game park in Texas.

Thank you!

Paul

Correspondence ID: 88

I have lived in the southwestern US for the past 50 years, and have hiked, hunted, and fished on public lands all over this vast area. The majority of these lands had public grazing permittees running livestock throughout. The impact of this grazing has resulted in introduction of invasive plant species such as thistle, overgrazing as standard practice, and contamination on small streams resulting in brackish water from cattle urine, manure, and hoof shear of stream banks. I have elk hunted in fall seasons in high

meadows where livestock has grazed all summer never having required rotation of the herds by the permittee. This results in regularly seen overgrazed public lands with the rodent mounds being higher than any remaining grasses. Elk have little available forage as they move down elevations in their fall migration.

Point Reyes is a different environment than the scenario I just described, but the players are the same, wild ungulates and domestic livestock.

There may be some conscientious livestock producers, but from my observations, they are few. Most are not stewards of public lands, and whichever government agency manages these lands has limited budget funds with which to inspect and enforce the requirements agreed to by the permittee.

Because of these actual on the ground conditions, I have observed over many years in many places, I ask you to take down the existing elk fence that keeps the elk herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. Also, restore these wildlife areas to a pre-domestic grazing.

Correspondence ID: 89

Please remove the fence that unnaturally confines the Tule Elk from Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thank you, Regina Hamilton

Correspondence ID: 90

I really enjoy being able to kayak camp at Tomales Bay. I've done it twice in the past and found the dispersed nature to be very enjoyable. I know the proposals are to do away with this and I'd like to voice I hope they do not change this (Option A). Regarding the Elk fence, there are other places people can backpack and camp that have Elk, so I don't know why you cannot just remove the elk fence but still allow dispersed camping.

If you do need to choose option B and have assigned camping sites, I ask that you make sure NOT to reduce the number of permits and camps issued. It is already hard to get a permit to boat-in camp, it would be unfortunate if it was even more difficult.

I also was very disappointed to learn that as of May 30, 2023, pets are not allowed on any of Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches along Tomales Bay. I had no idea. I find that very sad and hope you reconsider that policy as it was very fun to bring my dog kayak camping here in the past, and I didn't even realize that had changed until I heard about these changes.

Thanks,

Justin

Correspondence ID: 91

Please specify how the population of the elk will be managed in each proposed management plan. If elk are to be killed to maintain a carrying capacity. The meat should be harvested and not just left to rot on the ground.

Correspondence ID: 92

You said you are taking down the fence...So TAKE DOWN THE DAMN FENCE.

Correspondence ID: 93

I strongly favor Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 94

I have hiked, camped, kayaked, and enjoyed the lands of PRNS for over fifty years. I am writing to urge you to adopt Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) as soon as possible. Removing the fence, water troughs, and mitigating/upgrading trails and other infrastructures will allow the Tule elk herd to maintain a stable population in the face of increasing challenges from more frequent droughts, wildfires and other aspects of climate change. Fence removal will possibly allow for an increase in beneficial foraging for the elk and other species. The plan also supports important updates for managing invasive plant species, and increasing areas for beneficial cultural burns. Please adopt this plan as soon as possible.

Susan Aaron

Correspondence ID: 95

My request is to have the 2-mile fence taken down and the elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 96

I live in Petaluma and for 35 years have hiked almost weekly in Point Reyes National Seashore, and have visited Pierce Point on many occasions.

I support proposed alternative B which will best protect the elk, restore the natural landscape, and best serve the needs of the public, who after all are the owners of the Seashore.

Please adopt alternative B.

Eberle Ewing

Correspondence ID: 97

My family and I are SF Bay Area residents and frequent visitors to Point Reyes National Seashore. We visit Point Reyes to hike, birdwatch, camp and kayak as well as enjoy the amenities in the towns of Inverness and Point Reyes Station. I am writing to share my comments on the recently released Tomales Point Area Plan developed by the National Park Service. Point Reyes National Seashore is an ecological and recreational treasure. As outdoor enthusiasts we have widely and explored many national parks and preserves. Point Reyes Area has some of the greatest diversity of habitats, and species of flora and fauna we have ever encountered, including many that are endangered or threatened. Over the years at Point Reyes Seashore my family and I have observed tule elk, coyotes, mountain lion, osprey, peregrine falcons, murrelets, pileated woodpeckers, leopard sharks, sea lions, elephant seals, gray whales, to name only a few. After reading the TPAP Environmental Assessment document, I strongly support the NPS-preferred Alternative B. Specifically, I support removing the tule elk enclosure fence and allowing the elk to range freely over the entire Point Reyes Seashore. This approach is consistent with the recommendation from the 1993 Scientific Advisory Committee which recommended "the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore." As outlined in the NPS EA document, this alternative would allow the tule elk herd to grow without artificial management support, such as water and supplemental minerals, as well as reducing grazing pressure in the Tomales Point area. Allowing the elk herd to roam over the entire Point Reyes Seashore would also enhance the wilderness experience of many visitors who would encounter them while hiking or camping but may not visit the Tomales Point Area. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the TPAP Environmental Assessment. Point Reyes National Seashore is an extraordinary resource and in the interest of preserving its environmental and recreational assets, I urge you to implement Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 98

I am in favor of Alternative B which is a manmade solution to a manmade problem - namely the near-

extinction of a native species, the introduction of a non-native species and a misguided attempt to “manage” the outcome of those two decisions.

I suspect that in another 10 years (or less) you will be looking for new solutions to whatever problems arise from the changes made.

Correspondence ID: 99

I have lived in Inverness for 25 years and as a long time resident believe that we need to have a healthy community and environment both of which are possible by accommodating the dairy farmers and ranchers who work SO HARD to provide the local, Bay Area and greater California with healthy, organic food and farm products. We need a thriving economy to sustain these rural small towns and residents.

The National Park Service has been a very unreliable and poor partner for our farms and communities. They reneged on their promises to the Oyster Farm and destroyed a valuable business and source of cleanly produced protein! They have been less than honest in their dealings and negotiations with farmers who need clarity and long term contracts so they can continue to build and manage their dairies and ranches. WE NEED FARMS AND FARMERS!

We do NOT need elk roaming the land!!!! This will be an ecological disaster for cattle and for the rest of us. The elk were transported here improperly and have continued to multiply with NO PREDATORS to keep the population balanced. If held were allowed to roam freely they will endanger cattle, and people. They will multiply unchecked-maybe it is time to declare a HUNTING SEASON FOR ELK TO KEEP THE POPULATION UNDER CONTROL!

And we certainly do NOT need more tourists coming to gawk at the elk! They have overrun our communities, trails and beaches. There are thousands of miles of trails and recreation spots for them already, PLEASE SAVE OUR FARMING COMMUNITY!

Correspondence ID: 100

Please choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. Remove artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. I also support collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

Correspondence ID: 101

People come to the Pt.Reyes National Seashore for its natural beauty, including seeing the tule elk. Getting to experience a free-roaming herd of elk is a thrill, seeing these wild creatures penned behind a fence is not. Take down the fence at Tomales Point. It will be good for the elk, for visitors and for the environment.

Correspondence ID: 102

Although I support removing the fence at Point Reyes I also believe that private ranching within the seashore is incomparable with the original vision for the area and causes water pollution, affecting biodiversity. The seashore should be rewilded, along with ensuring public access to the entire park area.

Correspondence ID: 103

I support the Alternative B action that removes the fence and frees the Tule elk.

My first sense of awe and connection with nature was experienced within Point Reyes National Seashore. I camped at Glen Camp and soon I hiked every trail and camped at every campground. I got to know Point Reyes and while some areas were so filled with wildlife and a thriving ecosystem, it

became apparent that much of the park was poorly managed cattle grazing land. In fact, I wasn't even aware at first that the ranch land was the same park.

The Tule elk are an iconic, and important species. Each individual elk is important and has inherent value. Especially since the genetic diversity is so important for their long-term survival.

It is beyond cruel to trap the world's largest herd of Tule elk behind the 8-foot fence. They are no longer wild in those conditions. They are left alone to fend for themselves in a confined space through climate change's worsening and dramatic conditions of drought. The elk have suffered. They have had mass die offs. They have been ill. And they are completely innocent.

Please move forward with your plan to take the fence down and give the Tule elk a better chance to survive.

I would like to add my support to go through the process of re-introducing predators to the park as well. Having top predators within the seashore is a missing link for the elk to have more natural behavior. It will help restore elk behavior and speed the process of full ecosystem recovery including the native prairie-- one of the most biodiverse and climate positive lands in the world. What could be better for future generations to come?

Thank you so much

I look forward to visiting the FREE elk in the future.

In best regards,

Diana Oppenheim

Founder of ForELK

Correspondence ID: 104

I support the option B that removes the elk fence as per the recent study showing its many benefits to the land and visitors and most of all the elk. The ranchers are opposed because it is against their self interest. they are not neutral parties here. If longevity on the land is the rationale for remaining there than even by that standard the native people and elk come before cows and the ranchers every time. The ranches are a blight on the landscapes. Those dairies have no environmental or aesthetic benefit. they are not beautiful places. They are among the most polluting of all animal agriculture and don't belong in a national park. I know this comment section is not about ranch removal, but removal of the fence will be opposed only by the ranchers.

Please take down the fence, it is the right thing to do for everyone but the cow ranchers. let them dairy elsewhere.

Correspondence ID: 105

The. current plan is shortsighted and has much self-interest by the ranching community. I very much want to see the fences down and the ranches better monitored.

Please note that I am not against cattle, personally eating beef regularly.

Over the years we have learned more about how our knee-jerk responses to human desires to control nature often have unintended long-term consequences. I believe this is the case here.

Correspondence ID: 106

Federal law requires the protection of the Point Reyes elk, and it is heartening to learn this may finally become a reality in the park service management.

As you focus on wildlife, all the plants in the area, the naturalness of the wilderness, and opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation, taking down the fences will benefit animals and visitors alike enormously.

Coast Miwok Indians have inhabited the now west Marin County for at least 3,000 to 4,000 years before any ranchers arrived.

Historically, Teddy Roosevelt and others were intent on saving the nearly extinct elk in the West. Some accounts found that fewer than thirty elk remained in a single herd in the Bakersfield area in the mid-1870s.

Preservation has worked. Let the elk roam as nature intended. Take down the fences, give the fences to the ranchers and let freedom ring for the elk.

Correspondence ID: 107

The NPS needs to remove the dairies from the national park in order to fulfill its' stated mission: NPS "preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations." The dairies infringe on the natural habitat of the elk and black deer. Please remove the elk fence AND the dairies.

Correspondence ID: 108

Hello - I am against culling of Tule Elk due to their lack of adequate natural food sources since the solution is to remove the fence that is currently preventing them from grazing. The park needs to plan for climate change and so it is likely that more droughts will occur and the elk will need more land to graze just to maintain a healthy population.

I am a frequent visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore and want to see this park encourage the natural habitat of Tule elk, which I think requires more space due to climate changes.

Correspondence ID: 109

Dairy has no place in a National Park. Removing the fence is the only responsible option. As a 5th generation Marin resident, I sympathize with the Ranchers who have a long family history in Pt. Reyes, but their presence within the park is antithetical to the values of the National Park Service and Marin County as a whole. Removing the fences and allowing the elk to reclaim their natural habitat is a first step to fully restoring one of the greatest remaining wild estuaries in North America. I encourage the NPS to adopt Alternative B!

Correspondence ID: 110

Initial Impressions: Would like to support the preferred alternative, however I have reservations.

1. Lack of confidence in the Park Service "preservation of wilderness character." What we see demonstrated in other areas of the Park is the use of plastics (barriers, fencing, cones), excessive signage/displays, and park vehicles somewhat routinely on roads also used for hiking. Examples include Bear Valley Trail, Drakes Beach. Cumulatively these practices disrupt an experience of wilderness and do not represent or steward best ecological practices (e.g., alternatives to plastics).

2. The same lack of confidence applies to Park Service management of visitor capacity and use management. We need examples of how this would be implemented so that it again does not further

disrupt the wilderness character and that environmentally friendly solutions are considered. This requires broader input and expert consultation than the Park Rangers/park alone can provide.

3. While respecting the Tribal need for privacy and confidentiality, it is difficult to understand a plan without information on areas that may be potentially restricted. Perhaps this could be more broadly displayed via mapping of designated areas.

4. There is already notable restricted access to many sites along Tomales Bay, and more so to anyone not having access to a boat. Such restrictions are the result of private access roads or ranch roads, use access restrictions (such as the PRNSA/Park Research station cove), plus restrictions resulting from maximum capacity routinely reached during high use periods at public access points/parking managed by County or State Parks (e.g., Chicken Ranch, Shell and Hearts Desire Beaches). There is also the unknown of what might occur with discussions of Felix Cove (both alteration and/or restricted access). The entirety of access, restrictions, capacity limitations across jurisdictions needs to be evaluated prior to further restrictions.

5. Specifics are needed on a reservation system.

6. Specific information on preserving historic Pierce Ranch. What exactly is being proposed? It is beautiful now and would like a presentation of proposal in advance for public input.

Other:

7. While in support of Tribal Partnership I am not fully comfortable with the way the tribal partnership was seemingly bundled under the topic of Tomales Point/Elk management, rather than stated as standalone co-stewardship or partnership that is involved in park-wide issues.

8. Use of controlled burns to protect native species is appreciated. It is unfortunate that the Park does not consider the same where the Park borders high risk and highly vulnerable residential areas.

Correspondence ID: 111

Hello ,

I am commenting on the proposal to eliminate the elk fencing at Point Reyes to allow the wild elk to roam free and to have access to additional grassland and water. I am supportive of you taking down the fence that separates the wild elk from the cattle ranchers so the elk have more land to roam and eat grass and drink water to survive.

This area is supposed to be a preserved area for wildlife with elk and other wild animals so the cattle and the cattle ranchers need to move to another location and allow the elk and other wild animals to exist and thrive without cattle and cattle ranchers. The cattle and the cattle ranchers did not belong in this area in the first place.

I am giving my input because I visit Point Reyes area frequently and enjoy seeing the elk and other wildlife.

I am also concerned about the survival of the existing elk there and that they are able to survive with enough food and water without competition from cattle and cattle ranchers.

I hope that you will be able to take the fence down and relocate the cattle and cattle ranchers elsewhere very soon.

Correspondence ID: 112

I fully support giving more room to the Tule Elk and Deer and helping to make Pt Reyes what it always was supposed to be open natural wilderness space. Some states are bringing back beavers to enhance their water supplies and tame fire hazards, both of which are better with beavers on the land. I think we need to be very careful about the amount of human and recreational use. We also need to be careful about the amount of push back from the dairy farmers. While I know we need the farmers, they weren't here first, and they won't be here last.

thanx for listening and keep up the good work, only faster - our environmental timeline is diminishing.

Correspondence ID: 113

Hello, I ask you sincerely to please choose to remove the 2-mile fence in the Point Reyes National Seashore that has been keeping the Tule elk confined. Removing the fence is the humane thing to do for the elk, who are a local treasure, and the best thing for the area's environment. Please permanently remove the fence so these elk can roam freely as they should be!

Thank you for your time,

Ashley Lewis

San Anselmo, CA

Correspondence ID: 114

choose Alternative B and remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. Let the Park Service know that you support their collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

This planning process is an opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 115

I am in favor of alternative B. The limited resources in the Tomales Point area and the lack of incoming resources (i.e. no streams) make the long term viability of the Elk herd in this area questionable.

Correspondence ID: 116

My vote goes to Alternative B. Let the elk roam more freely and don't purposely kill them for population control if possible. I did kayak camping for the first time last year and it was a great experience. I wouldn't mind specified boat-in camping spots rather than the first come first served system currently in place.

Correspondence ID: 117

I am writing regarding the National Park Service (NPS) Tomales Point Management Plan of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

When the previous management plan was written back in 1998, it did not take into account nor anticipate the effects that climate change would have on the region in general and on the Tule Elk Reserve specifically. After two historic droughts over the last decade, it is clear that confining a naturally roaming animal to small piece of land at Tomales Point is not practical nor humane.

That is why I support and encourage the NPS to choose Alternative B from the options presented. Alternative B removes the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging and constructs a new

fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 118

Considering the two historic droughts in Marin County over the last decade and the dire impacts to tule elk and other resources within the Tule Elk Reserve at Tomales Point, the existing management guidance for this area did not anticipate these drought conditions or consider climate change when it was written in 1998, but it's now clear that elk need room to roam throughout the Seashore.

Please choose Alternative B, remove the existing elk fence that keeps the herd from ranging, and construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. The Alternative would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales Point. I appreciate and support the Park Service in their collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge throughout this process.

Please take this opportunity to restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and to allow all to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 119

Approve proposed B to take down fences

Correspondence ID: 120

I am writing to you to support the Alternative B proposed action. Management of Point Reyes should prioritize wildlife over agriculture, and allowing the elk to roam freely instead of being narrowly confined is consistent with this philosophy.

Correspondence ID: 121

Point Reyes is such a unique biological habitat, and the current management situation is appalling. If you venture off the beaten path into the areas the cattle are more intensively grazed in, you can see horrific erosion, gobs of invasive thistles, and rare native plants being trampled. The sole population of *Vaccinium ovatum* in this part of the state is almost exterminated - my last visit found only one specimen clinging to life between two cattle trails. The streams are disgustingly polluted with bacteria from the cattle feces. And a number of rare coastal lichens populations are dying of nitrogen poisoning from the cattle feces - the California Lichen Society has raised this issue repeatedly with the park to no avail.

The answer is simple: NO MORE CATTLE IN PT REYES. Allow the elk free rein of the entire park - it is incredibly cruel to keep them fenced into a tiny portion of the park, and allowing them to die slow deaths of dehydration, as you were happy to do in previous years.

National parks are supposed to protect our natural beauty and resources, not serve as a support network for a bunch of private cattle farmers.

Correspondence ID: 122

I support Alternative B. Take down the Tule Elk fence. I think the US Government should consider payment for livestock feed damage to producers. It's done many parts of the West to mitigate conflict. The elk need to have room to feed, to water.

Correspondence ID: 123

I support plan B to take down the fence restricting the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 124

I strongly support the NPS proposal to allow the Roosevelt elk to roam free and to coordinate

management of the herd with the Graton Ranchería. As a long time park user, I have always been distressed to see the damage caused by the current cattle operations, which I believe should be curtailed or eliminated.

Thank you, Deidre Harrison

Correspondence ID: 125

I support the option of letting the elk run free. It seems to me that there are lots of cattle in this world, but very few tule elk. Instead of fencing the elk, why not fence the cattle?

Correspondence ID: 126

Approve proposed alternative B to remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 127

Approve plan b to take the fence down

Correspondence ID: 128

Approve the proposal to remove the fence and let the Tule Elk roam free

Correspondence ID: 129

Totally in favor of removing the fence. I would also like officials to consider moving small herds to remote California areas with an environment they can flourish in

Correspondence ID: 130

How about take down the fences bring them water and regulate camping? And then get rid of the ranchers

Correspondence ID: 131

Please allow the tule elk to roam freely and remove the fences causing them to starve. Also work with the Federated Tribes to help effectively manage the land.

Correspondence ID: 132

Remove the deadly Tule Elk reserve fence and cattle ranches from Point Reyes National Seashore, and realize the National Park Service founding vision for a wild Point Reyes National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 133

In reviewing the plans proposed for Point Reyes, Plan B is the first step in the right direction of managing Federal lands for the good of all. This plan would finally upend the current policy of locking up the native animals and protecting the cattle. It sounds as though the major objection of disease is fairly moot, as Johne's disease has been found in both elk and cattle in the area.

The Tule Elk have been held in zoo-like conditions for long enough. Allowing them to roam free will help the health of the herd, and help repair the damage done to the land they have been confined to, as well as the lands of Point Reyes that have not been grazed by elk for many years.

Yes to Plan B. The sooner the better.

Janis Hall

Correspondence ID: 134

Ceasefire in gaza now

Correspondence ID: 135

I support the adoption of ALTERNATIVE B in the management of the Tomales Point Area Elk herd. Please

remove the fence! Favor the well-being of the elk over that of cattle and the convenience of ranchers. We need to promote and protect biodiversity, keep our water free of fecal contamination and adopt a more regenerative approach to the area's management.

Please support ALTERNATIVE B!

Thank you, Glenda Corning

Correspondence ID: 136

I urge you to allow the elk confined to Tomales Point to roam farther into the PRNS. I understand that there is a historical connection to dairy farming at Point Reyes which probably complicates any decision to let the elk occupy a larger portion of their former range. But if you step back and look at the situation from afar, there are many millions, perhaps even billions, of cattle on Earth, and only thousands of tule elk. Future generations will value an intact wild ecosystem far more than the "pastoral zone," which can be found far and wide on every continent except the Antarctic.

Thank you, Larry Barnes

Correspondence ID: 137

Hi,

I am thrilled to hear that the preferred alternative is for the Elk Fencing to finally be removed from Public Park Lands. I wholeheartedly support this.

And, thrilled to hear there are improvements proposed for the P.Burton Wilderness areas and that you will be working with the indigenous groups of the area to guide management of the land.

Correspondence ID: 138

I have lived on the Inverness Ridge for 25 years. I support continued ranching in the Park, and control of the Tule elk population. I do think fences can be removed. Can the elk population, which was reintroduced by the Park, be managed through contraception, relocation or culling?

To quote Judy Teichman in the Point Reyes Light of May 16, 2024:

"If the dairies and ranches leave the park, lost to the park and the public will be the wildfire risk-reduction service provided by cattle grazing the grasslands. Lost to an underfunded park will be agricultural partners who can share in the labor and costs of maintaining historic buildings and the scenic landscape. Lost will be opportunities for carbon farming methods that improve the health of the soil, increase water retention and restore native grasses. And lost will be the human community that has long populated the peninsula."

These are my sentiments, exactly. Thank you, Cheryl Higgins

Correspondence ID: 139

Yet again I will say that I do not think more should be done to increase the territory of the elk without proper maintenance and upkeep of the grazing area. It's pointless keep expanding the area and letting it be overrun with poison oak bramble and coyote brush. I'm totally fed up with the park service inability to maintain the area they have and still want more and more land. The farmers actually did a better job maintaining their ranchers than the park service does in maintaining point reyes. I'm sure this would just be the first step to another land grab by the park service and people who know little about how to maintain the area.

Correspondence ID: 140

I support the collaboration of the Federated Tribe of the Graton Rancheria and the Seashore.

I know this plan will be adopted and I also regret the impact the fence will have on further difficulties for farming on the peninsula.

I understand the concerns of environmentalists and the Coast Miwok tribe and at the same time, I appreciate what the people who work the land bring to our communities.

I hate to see West Marin end up all White and monied living near the Park which is what we are increasingly becoming with the already diminished ranching let alone the dairies/ranches that may close with the tule elk grazing their lands.

I imagine that those with the means to spend time in Point Reyes to hike and kayak will have more land to enjoy as will the native and not-so-native plants and animals.

I will miss having a bit of diversity in our community and culture.

Correspondence ID: 141

Please choose plan B and take down the fence. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 142

Thank you for considering our input. I support your plan B removal of the elk fence.

I wanted to suggest we leave the water troughs in place for as long as it takes for the elk to find new sources of water.

Also, please, no fences should inhibit the movement of animals in our national seashore. So all the fences should be removed.

Private cattle operations that pollute and destroy our national park lands should be removed. We are subsidizing the destruction of our park. When I visit Pt Reyes, I come to see nature and animals not cows and barren lands.

Thank you for listening.

Correspondence ID: 143

Subject: Support for Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment

National Park Service,

I am writing to express my strong support for Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its Environmental Assessment, which includes the removal of the 8-foot-tall fence surrounding the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore. It is crucial to release this largest of the park's three herds of Tule elk from their fenced confinement.

1. Removal of Fences:

a. Fences do not belong in Point Reyes or in any other national park unit. They alter animal behavior, sometimes subtly, sometimes fatally, affecting the natural migrations, foraging, and mating of wildlife. Moreover, fences can cut, injure, or even kill animals attempting to cross them.

b. Additionally, the park should remove the 300 miles of barbed and straight wire fences. These fences, including recently installed ones, are not wildlife-friendly. All cattle fences should be removed.

c. These cattle fences restrict public access to 28,000 acres of Point Reyes, amounting to one-third of the entire park. These areas have been fenced off for private businesses, which should not operate within a national park.

2. Rescind Current NPS Regulation on Elk Population Control:

The current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan that permits shooting elk as a population control measure should be rescinded. With the Reserve fence removed, the park's three herds may naturally intermingle, promoting herd health. I oppose all lethal management of any wild animals at Point Reyes.

3. Delay Removal of Supplemental Water Sources:

The Environmental Assessment for Tomales Point recommends removing the current water tanks and troughs. This action should be delayed for at least two years from the date of fence removal. Drought conditions may return, and supplemental water might be needed to prevent elk deaths due to thirst, particularly in the northernmost herds at Tomales Point. It is both efficient and economical to leave these tanks and troughs in place should the need arise to refill them. Over time, they can be removed once the elk have adapted to accessing natural water sources.

4. Removal of Private Cattle Operations:

The park's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all private cattle operations are removed. Cattle operations expose elk to numerous hazards, including massive amounts of fecal bacteria that contaminate soil, streams, and ponds. Cattle diseases, such as Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the park's ranches and can infect elk.

5. Address Johne's Disease Concerns:

A 1979 study cited by the NPS found that half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease. Ranchers often blame elk for infecting their cows, despite cows being the original source of this wasting disease. The park's private cattle have infected the park's wild elk, not the other way around. It is the ranches that have brought Johne's disease to the Point Reyes peninsula.

6. Personal Experience:

I visit Point Reyes to enjoy the wildlife, not the private cattle operations that degrade the land, pollute the water, harm and kill wildlife, and are privately-owned eyesores.

I respectfully request that the NPS dismantle the 8-foot-tall, 3-mile-long fence of the Tule Elk Reserve at Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thank you for considering my comments and for your commitment to preserving the natural beauty and wildlife of our national parks.

Sincerely, Hillary Liband

Correspondence ID: 144

Our family, vigorously, supports the "National Park Service" 's, preferred, "Alternative B" in the "Tomales Point Area Plan" and its "Environmental Assessment", to remove the, 8-foot-tall, fence of the "Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve" at "Point Reyes National Seashore"! YES, PLEASE release this largest of the Park's 3 herds of Tule elk from their, fenced, confinement!

Fences do NOT belong in “Point Reyes” or, in, any, other, National Park unit! Fences alter animal behavior, sometimes, subtly, sometimes, fatally! Fences can affect the, natural, migrations, foraging, and, mating of wildlife! Fences can cut or, otherwise injure — and even kill — animals who attempt to cross between them, or, jump over them!

An, additional, 300 miles of barbed and straight, wire fences MUST, also be removed; they do NOT belong in this National Park, or, any, other! Many of them, including, recently, installed fences are NOT, wildlife, friendly! ALL, cattle, fences MUST be removed!

In addition, ALL the cattle, fences restrict the public's access to 28,000 acres of “Point Reyes” — which is 1/3rd the, entire, Park — have been fenced off for these, private, businesses which have NO place in a National Park!

Please, officially, rescind the, current, “NPS”, regulation in the “Point Reyes General Management Plan” which allows shooting elk to death in the, other, two herds as, population, control measures! Because, with the Reserve, fence gone, the Park's, three, herds will intermingle, as they should, for, herd, health! We oppose ALL, lethal, “management” of, ANY, wild animals at “Point Reyes”!

The “NPS” “Environmental Assessment”, for “Tomales Point”, recommends removing the, current, water, tanks and troughs (aka, supplemental, water) from the Reserve — but, this action MUST be delayed for, at least, two years from the date of the, fence, removal! Drought conditions may return, and, more, elk might die of thirst, especially, in the, northernmost, herds, at “Tomales Point”, so, supplemental water will be needed again. It is, both, efficient, and, economical, to leave the tanks, and, troughs, in place, should the need arise to refill them! Over a few years time, they can be removed, once, ALL the Reserve's elk have learned they can, now, with the fence removed, move, naturally, to, additional, water sources in times of drought.

The Park's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and, safe until all the, private, cattle, operations are removed! Cattle operations expose elk to, numerous, hazards, including, massive, amounts of, fecal, bacteria, from cattle, which contaminate the soil, streams, and, ponds! Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the Park's ranches, and, can infect elk!

The “NPS”, itself, cites a 1979 study that found half of the Park's, dairy, ranches were infected with Johne's disease. Ranchers, often, blame the Park's elk for infecting their cows with this disease, despite their cows being the, original, source of this, wasting disease, which is common in cattle! The Park's, private, cattle have infected the Park's, wild, elk, not the other way around! Ranchers, then, blame the, victimized, elk, when it is their filthy, crowded, businesses (which exploit cows too) that are responsible for bringing Johne's disease to the, “Point Reyes”, peninsula in the, first, place!

Our family visits “Point Reyes” occasionally, and, we come to enjoy the wildlife, NOT the, private, cattle operations which degrade the land, pollute the water, harm, and, kill wildlife, and, are, privately-owned, eyesores!

Thank you, “National Park Service”, for your consideration of the public's comments on this humane issue!

Correspondence ID: 145

Our family appreciates the opportunity to communicate to the NPS” our, overwhelming, preference for dismantling the elk fence, AND, for removing the, ecologically, destructive, private, cattle, businesses (which is what the Park's founders envisioned back in 1962; a National Park for wildlife, not, livestock!

The, cattle, industry is, politically, powerful. It, also, has a giant, public relations, machine that pollutes the public's mind as effectively as its operations pollute the Park. That "P.R." machine sells a, false, narrative about "small" "family" "farms" that create jobs, and, contributes to the economy — despite most of this being misleading or an, outright, lie!

The, harsh, reality of the beef, and, dairy, operations at "Point Reyes" is that they are responsible for, indirectly, killing hundreds of, wild, animals at "Point Reyes", and, not, only, elk! And, poisoning, countless, more, animals from, cattle, manure, pollution of land, water (streams, lagoons, bays) and, the atmosphere.

The conflicts and damages that, cattle, operations do inside this, relatively, small, SF Bay Area, National Park unit are, only, a microcosm of the, massive, damages the cattle, industry does to literally, millions more acres of America's, public, land!

Correspondence ID: 146

I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its Environmental Assessment, to remove the 8-foot-tall fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Fences alter animal behavior, sometimes subtly, sometime fatally. Fences can affect the natural migrations, foraging and mating of wildlife. Fences can cut or otherwise injure — and even kill — animals who attempt to cross between them or jump over them. An additional 300 miles of barbed and straight wire fences should also be removed; they do not belong in this national park, or any other. Many of them, including recently installed fences are not even wildlife friendly.

All the cattle fences restrict the public's access to 28,000 acres of Point Reyes — which is 1/3rd the entire park. It has been fenced off for these private businesses which have no place in a national park.

Please officially rescind the current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan which allows shooting elk to death in the other two herds as population control measures. Because, with the Reserve fence gone, the park's three herds may intermingle, as they should for herd health. I strongly oppose ALL lethal "management" of ANY wild animals at Point Reyes.

Also, the NPS' Environmental Assessment for Tomales Point (viewable [HERE](#)) recommends removing the current water tanks and troughs (aka, supplemental water) from the Reserve — but this action should be delayed for at least two years from the date of the fence removal. Drought conditions may return and more elk might die of thirst, especially in the northernmost herds at Tomales Point, so supplemental water may be needed again. It is both efficient and economical to leave the tanks and troughs in place should the need arise to refill them. Over a few years time, they can be removed, once all the Reserve's elk have learned they can now, with the fence removed, move naturally to additional water sources in times of drought.

Thank you for your consideration of the public's comments on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 147

We support removing the existing elk fence that keeps the Tule elk herd from ranging (and which should have never been constructed), and to construct a new fence that keeps livestock out of these wildlife areas. We also support removing livestock that continue to cause extensive damage in the park. Then no fences would be needed. This is a National Seashore and should managed as such; it is not a livestock operation or feedlot. It is disgraceful how the NPS has managed this land causing severe ecological

damage, while supporting exotic livestock. Hundreds of elk have died because of this malfeasance. It is time to remove all livestock.

Correspondence ID: 148

Several years ago I was driving to Pierce Ranch and a young elk was outside the elk fence and it was on the road. It was scared of our car and it tried to jump over the fence beside the road to get back to the other elk that were inside the fence. It could not make the jump over the fence and it fell to the ground. It got up and tried again, this time getting over the fence but falling on the way down and getting its legs caught in the fence. It was hurt and terrified as it tried to get its legs free of the fence. After a struggle it did get free of the fence. We found a phone at Pierce Ranch and called the Park Service to report the incident. I feel that it is cruel to imprison these wild animals inside a fence and I want to see the fence come down.

For many years I have had the experience of seeing elk herds roam freely in Estes Park Colorado, just outside of Rocky Mountain National Park. The elk are a major attraction of the area, especially in the fall during rut season. My family has owned a home in that area for generations and I have never heard of the elk being a problem, only a delight to see for residents and visitors alike.

Please free the elk at Tomales Point by removing the fence. They are magnificent animals and deserve to live their lives free of human captivity.

Correspondence ID: 149

- 1) Take the elk fence down by the end of 2025.
- 2) Repair the Tomales Point Trail.
- 3) Thank you all at the Park Service for all of your hard work!!!

Best,

Sven

Correspondence ID: 150

If there was a place on earth where farming is inappropriate this is one of them. The original owners of the property were fairly compensated years ago. It also seems appropriate that the elk fence be removed to allow restoration of a truly more natural environment.

Correspondence ID: 151

Take Elk Fence down by the end of 2025. Do not delay this.

Repair the Tomales Point Trail/ finish building trail to viewpoint.

Stop giving leases to the cattlemen

Thank You.

Correspondence ID: 152

I support Alternative B

I would like to see the elk fence come down and the Tomales Point trail repaired in particular.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 153

The resources of California are a valuable asset that deserve serious respect. The Tule Elk are among

some of the most endangered and it's my intention to bring attention to their conservation. They contribute to a very unique and precious ecosystem. Their extinction would be detrimental to the environment and to the history of our beautiful state. The generations to come deserve the opportunity to appreciate and revere the species and protecting them now is of the utmost importance. When a protected species is lost the deficit goes beyond the obvious and it's the job of everyone to do their part for the betterment of this beautiful place we live. Countless efforts have been made to preserve this beautiful asset and I personally will not let this be in vain

Correspondence ID: 154

My family and friends think highly and fondly of the ranchers on the Pt. Reyes peninsula. We don't think they are ruining the Park - we think the Park is healthy and beautiful. We, like many others, enjoy recreating in the Park.

We think the extremist rancher opponents are cherry picking irrelevant facts and greatly exaggerating negative impacts they say were caused by ranchers.

A truthful dialog between the different sides would be nice.

Art Tyson

Correspondence ID: 155

I support Alternative B, to remove the 3 mile fence.

Also please remove the cattle ranches and their 300 miles of fence. Neither of these belong in a National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 156

Dear Forest Service,

By keeping cows on Point Reyes are you not going against President Biden's Executive Order on climate change?

Why is the American taxpayer subsidizing cow ranchers with cheap grazing?

Do ranchers of cows share their profit with American taxpayers?

The numbers of cows on the land degrades the National park.

Why don't the ranchers of cows use their own land?

Do you allow ranchers escrow accounts on their permits with the Forest Service?

Is Forest Service trying to eradicate the Tule Elk?

Why don't the forest Service listen to the public?

Forgive me, but I thought the fence had come or is that a different fence?

All questions I am sure will be unanswered ,but need to asked of the Forest Service.

Sincerely, Alison James

Correspondence ID: 157

Please please please do the right things and remove the fence so the elk can roam freely

Correspondence ID: 158

I support the removal of the elk fence immediately.

Correspondence ID: 159

Please be stewards of the land and native wildlife, not the ranchers.

It is time to take down the fence penning in the Thule elk that sentences the elk to die-offs because the ranchers won't share the park resources with the wildlife.

It is time to move the ranchers to private lands where they pay a fair rent for leasing land and won't foul the water and park space with cattle waste.

I'm happy to organize a volunteer teams to assist taking down the fence. Let's do it this summer!

Correspondence ID: 160

Take down the elk fence already. It's an embarrassment and totally inhumane. There is no excuse for delaying a decision that an overwhelming majority of the public supports. These are wild animals, and this is a national park. It isn't a zoo or a private peninsula for Marin's landed gentry of entitled ranchers. Take it down already. The dairy will have to adapt, and if they can't, they should go. This should be an easy decision. Take the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 161

May 19, 2024

Superintendent Craig Kenkel

National Park Service

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Department of the Interior Region 10

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan.

Firstly, I want to thank NPS for taking action, and especially for identifying a preferred action that prioritizes the natural environment over ranching in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Please implement Alternative B and remove the elk fence.

The elk fence should have been removed long ago, with or without droughts and elk-die-offs. In 1993, the Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore concluded, "The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point. [The National Park Service] and [California Department of Fish and Game] should develop a long-range management plan with the goal of achieving a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population subjected to a minimum of management intervention."

Thank you for referencing this document in the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) Environmental Assessment (EA.)

Please note that California Fish and Wildlife, which has jurisdiction over tule elk across the state of California, has an explicit management goal to reduce the number of confined tule elk herds and reduce the frequency for removing excess animals. (California Fish and Wildlife Elk Conservation and Management Plan, December 2018, p 454.) NPS at Point Reyes should align with CAF&W objectives, with which it has affinity both in goals and public service, rather than continue to conflict with its sister agency goals on behalf of inappropriate private interests in our Seashore.

I am opposed to cattle fences as described under Alternative B. There should be no cattle to fence away. Fences are inappropriate in national parks and seashores except where necessary for visitor safety and other logistics related to stated purposes of national parks. Cattle operations are no longer appropriate in Point Reyes and should be ceased to honor the true charter of our Seashore, stated in the Point Reyes Enabling Legislation as “the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area,” and in the Organic Act of 1916 as to “provide for the enjoyment of the scenery, natural and historic objects, and wildlife in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

Of course, the public is asked to comment on the TPAP without knowing the resolution of the ongoing settlement talks for the park area south of the fence, and the disputed General Management Plan Amendment. In my opinion, it was convoluted and improper to separate these two planning activities. It is one Seashore, the fence is artificial and problematic, and much of the charter and associated principles for Point Reyes should be applied to the entire park, not piecemeal. The cattle operations are the problem, and are the justification for the deadly fence in the first place.

In other words, this approach described in the EA is problematic and possibly in violation of park policy: “The NPS limited the range of issues and impact topics evaluated in this EA because the project scope includes only lands within, and activities that occur on, Tomales Point. Ranching operations are excluded from evaluation as they occur outside of the planning area. Several impact topics were also eliminated from further consideration.”

This approach just defies common sense and stubbornly refuses to acknowledge the movement of wildlife, interactions between wildlife and cattle, the spread of invasive plants, etc.

Concern: If there after the elk fence is removed, is a cattle fence put in place, sooner or later, its placement should be determined by the furthest south remaining cattle operation. In other words, if Kehoe Dairy and other operations south of the elk fence are closed, the cattle fence (if there is one) should be moved as far south as possible, to enlarge the unimpacted range of the elk and enhance the wilderness and recreational opportunities on the Point.

Concern: the NPS management agreement with FIGR is prominent in the EA. FIGR leader Greg Sarris has spoken publicly and described the management relationship as 50/50 and implied there will be an arbitration process for deadlocked disagreements. Although it is good that NPS is consulting with the Tribe, and TEK should be applied where appropriate, NPS cannot abdicate its management responsibilities under any such agreement and must follow the law. For example, controlled / cultural burns and cultural hunting in designated wilderness areas may well be in violation of the Wilderness Act. Agreed approaches between NPS and FIGR are not necessarily legal by fiat.

I have a concern regarding this language on the NPS website: “The NPS will make a final decision based on the alternative with the best combination of strategies to protect both natural and cultural resources, achieves desired conditions for the planning area, is consistent with National Park Service management policies, and furthers park purposes as expressed in the enabling legislation and legislative history for Point Reyes National Seashore.”

Concern: NPS is again refusing or failing to acknowledge the precedence of natural resources over cultural resources in its management responsibilities. The PRNS Enabling Legislation which says:

§459c-6. Administration of property

(a) Protection, restoration, and preservation of natural environment ... the property acquired by the Secretary ... shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area... 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6.

NPS has a habit of talking about a balance of cultural and natural resources, especially where ranching is concerned. The Enabling Legislation is explicit that the latter supersedes the former. Please include this notion in the remainder of the planning activities.

Furthermore, where the above NPS website language says, "and furthers park purposes as expressed in the enabling legislation and legislative history for Point Reyes National Seashore," I have a concern about Legislative History. The legislative history is not law, and comprises around a century of meetings, testimonies, and correspondences, much of which is difficult to find and cite, may be self-contradictory, and which can easily be made to represent various purposes and ideas at odds with the law and overriding park principles. It is a matter of great controversy whether ranching was supposed to continue in Point Reyes in perpetuity or not. NPS should of course honor the law, but intentions to honor the legislative history as such may result in accommodations and hedging in management plans that do not conform to the law and invite further litigation and public opposition.

Concern: the plan should mandate testing the cattle for Johne's disease, at the expense of the ranch leaseholders (as long as there are cattle there), and not the public. The elk got the disease from the cattle, not the other way around, and the long-term detriments and expenses associated with this harm are being borne by the natural environment, the assets of the park, and the public.

Thank you for considering my comments. Please execute Alternative B with modifications which further prioritize the true purposes of NPS over continued inappropriate pollution and impairment.

Sincerely, Kenneth Bouley

Correspondence ID: 162

Alternative B seems the only common sense approach.

The one aspect that has never been mentioned: limit/control traffic through use of public transportation - trolley or small bus system. That would allow visitor access, but limit wildlife encounters, control for invasive plant and animal species and ensure rangers know exactly how many people are in the area at any given time...

Correspondence ID: 163

Point Reyes:

Please remove the elk fence!

(Cows do not belong in this park.)

Correspondence ID: 164

The Point Reyes Seashore is a very special, significant piece of geography which is why it has been deemed a National Seashore. The ultimate goal should be to restore this property back to its natural

state before white Europeans altered its landscape and destroyed it. There are very few places on earth where Tule Elk thrive. This should be the priority in this area. They were long part of the natural landscape before it was carved up for agricultural. It is imperative that fence be removed and the Tule Elk be able to roam freely throughout the entire Seashore property. At a minimum the elk should be able to have access to fresh water so that a significant amount don't perish again in a drought. The biological diversity should be able to have unfettered access to thrive. This is the request of the original "owners" of the land as well, the Miwok people.

As to the ranching and ranchers, out they go!! Leave! Go elsewhere. The ranchers can; the elk cannot. The ranchers were generously paid for their land long ago. Their subsidized ranches need to go elsewhere. There is so much subsidized land for ranching throughout the United States it is criminal. Their ranching operations continue to pollute the land and the only real way to end the pollution is to get rid of the ranches. The ranches say they are part of a historical legacy. This is laughable as the Miwok were the original guardians of the land. The ranches are on borrowed land and do not wish to leave because of the favorable financial conditions. It is time for their gravy train to end. They were bought out many years ago. Please finish the process.

Please remove the elk fence to start and then remove the ranches. It is the will of the people and the ecological correct thing to do.

Sincerely, Carla Mocerri

Correspondence ID: 165

I am writing to voice my support for the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, which would remove the 8-foot-tall wire and post fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Release this largest of the park's three herds of Tule elk from fenced confinement. Fences to confine any animals do not belong in Point Reyes or any national park unit.

In addition, please officially rescind the current regulation in the General Management Plan allowing killing of elk in the other two herds, because herds may intermingle when the fence is removed. I oppose all lethal "management" of any wild animals at Point Reyes and in any national park.

Finally, the Seashore's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed because they expose elk to numerous hazards; massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the privately owned ranches in the park. The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease.

Hundreds of miles of wire and barbed wire fences do not belong in this national park or any other. They restrict the public's access and negatively impact the free movements of wild animals which the park is legislated to value above all other considerations — especially commercial, for-profit businesses that only lease land in the park.

I thank the National Park Service for requesting and considering public comments on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 166

Good morning,

Fencing in wild animals on their native habitat is treating them like zoo animals. This is a legal and ethical grey area, if not a violation, that goes against the NPS whose mission is to provide a safe haven for wildlife that live there. Preferential treatment of livestock over native wildlife wasn't always the case. In 2012 the NPS decided against renewing a lease for an oyster farm situated in an estuary designated as a 'potential wilderness.' The debate over renewing their lease or closing it down caused a rift in surrounding communities as neighbors took sides. It was decided the farm caused ecological damage to the park and was shut down. It was agreed by the park service that the oyster farm caused damage that far outweighed any benefits but ranching always gets a pass.

You MUST remove the fence and let the rare NATIVE Tule Elk live as intended. Outside for profit private businesses DO NOT AND SHOULD NEVER be allowed on public land.

I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its Environmental Assessment, to remove the 8-foot-tall fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore. Yes, please release this largest of the park's 3 herds of Tule elk from their fenced confinement.

Fences do not belong in Point Reyes or in any other national park unit. Fences alter animal behavior, sometimes subtly, sometime fatally. Fences can affect the natural migrations, foraging and mating of wildlife. Fences can cut or otherwise injure — and even kill — animals who attempt to cross between them or jump over them.

A survey of over 7,600 park visitors, commissioned by the National Park Service, revealed that 91% want Tule elk in the park, but not cows — results ignored in developing the park's new 2021 General Management Plan which favors ranchers, keeps half the seashore's elk trapped inside a small, fenced Reserve, and now allows shooting to death some elk living outside the Reserve.

Please officially rescind the current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan which allows shooting elk to death in the other two herds as population control measures. Because with the Reserve fence gone, the park's three herds may intermingle, as they should for herd health. I oppose ALL lethal "management" of ANY wild animals at Point Reyes.

The Park Service is there to PROTECT OUR LAND AND NATIVE WILDLIFE THAT IS YOUR MISSION AND SHOULD BE YOUR ONLY PRIORITY

The NPS' Environmental Assessment for Tomales Point (viewable [HERE](#)) recommends removing the current water tanks and troughs (aka, supplemental water) from the Reserve — but this action should be delayed for at least two years from the date of the fence removal. Drought conditions may return and more elk might die of thirst, especially in the northernmost herds at Tomales Point, so supplemental water may be needed again. It is both efficient and economical to leave the tanks and troughs in place should the need arise to refill them. Over a few years time, they can be removed, once all the Reserve's elk have learned they can now, with the fence removed, move naturally to additional water sources in times of drought

The park's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed. Cattle operations expose elk to numerous hazards, including massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle which contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the park's ranches and can infect elk.

I visit Point Reyes often [or only occasionally] and come to enjoy the wildlife, not the private cattle operations which degrade the land, pollute the water, harm and kill wildlife, and are privately-owned

eyesores. Why on earth would anyone spend money in an economy for ranchers who only destroy the earth, water and air when they could spend it elsewhere.

Correspondence ID: 167

Regarding Pt. Reyes National Seashore, Tomales Point Area Plan, I fully support Alternative B - remove fencing blocking the Elk from free movement. Starving or killing (culling) our native Elk herds is NOT something the NPS should be engaged in.

Further, in keeping this a true National Park, the cattle ranches and their additional fencing should be removed from the park. The ranches were purchased years ago, in order to create and maintain a wilderness area. Ranchers who wanted to stay were given 25 year leases if they agreed to continue living and operating on their original properties. Those original leases expired years ago. The NPS should stop "extending" these leases.

Correspondence ID: 168

I strongly support Alternative B, the NPS preferred alternative that removes the elk fence. I urge NPS to act upon this plan immediately and have the fence removed by next year. In addition to repairing the trail to Tomales Point, trail access to Tomales Bay is also desired by the public.

In light of the disastrous 2021 General Plan passed despite overwhelming public objections, I find this plan for Tomales Point a breath of fresh air. One hopes that the NPS is approaching its stewardship duties with a renewed sense of environmental responsibility and that soon we will all experience truly wild Point Reyes free of commercial ranching and farming.

Sincerely, Thomas Bachand

Correspondence ID: 169

Dear NPS,

Tule elk are native to California and deserve to roam freely. After decades of rebound after being driven to the brink of extinction at the hands of humans, the least we can do is allow them access to natural resources and provide them the opportunity to socialize with other herds, as genetic diversity is key to survival.

Dairy cows are not native, and they have spread disease to native animals. Ranchers are grazing their "commodities" for a mere fraction of what they should be paying, thanks to access to tax-payer supported public lands. Please remove the fence at Tomales Point AND ensure the animals are protected from retaliation from ranchers. These animals have been through enough suffering, and if we are to call ourselves stewards, we must move forward with this plan.

I trust that the NPS will do what is right, as quickly as possible. I would be happy to help with the removal of the fence when the time comes.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 170

As a hiker, forager and a broadcaster on a community radio station headquartered in Point Reyes, I have a strong interest in the Point Reyes National Seashore and particularly in the health of the tule elk, about which I have done two radio shows. In an ideal scenario the ranchers would be removed completely from the park. Their facilities look bad, and quite frankly smell bad. I would much rather see the elk roaming broadly over the park's territory. If you feel incapable of making this happen then I definitely support the removal of the fence.

Julie Motz

Hot Tech - Cool Science

KWMR FM

Correspondence ID: 171

I and my family of seven people support Alternative B to completely remove the INFAMOUS and already clearly cruel 3-mile fence. It is cruel and unfair. I have never discussed the situation and had someone tell me they are in favor of the fence. Every single person has said it is cruel and the whole ordeal is giving the Park Service a bad name and a terrible reputation. Also, everyone (with the exception of the cattle owners, of course) is in favor of removing the cattle ranches and the 300 miles of fencing. The park was never intended to nor imagined to fence in cattle on U.S. park lands NOR fence people out so cattle take precedence over all of us who pay taxes but are not welcome in parts of the park. Clearly the park service is not responsible enough to manage the Tule Elk as this became clear when so many elk STARVED or DIED OF DEHYDRATION! Despicable, Cruel, Irresponsible,....I, like everyone I know in West Marin is HORRIFIED by what the Park Service did to kill the elk. SHAME SHAME SHAME What is next? Going to resort to shooting the elk? Shoot to cull is reprehensible! Get the darn cows out. Let their owners deal with their cattle. Do not dare shoot to cull the elk. Imagine trying to explain to our children what the National Park has already done and possibly plans to shoot the elk. REWILD the PARK! It was never, ever meant to be a commercial cattle ranch. DO THE RIGHT THING!!! FROM OUR FAMILY.

Correspondence ID: 172

I support increasing the number of the herd.

They are beautiful and natural to California.

I visited the area for the purpose of seeing the elk and

supported the area's tourism with hotel and meals.

I Support the NPS Alternative B proposed action to remove

the elk fence and free the confined elk.

Correspondence ID: 173

Save Our Seashore

A 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization (EIN 94-3221625)

Founded in 1993 to Protect Marin County's Ocean, Coasts, Estuaries, Watersheds and Creeks

40 Sunnyside Dr, Inverness CA 94937

May 20, 2024

To: Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS)

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) Environmental Assessment (EA)

Save Our Seashore, consistent with our scoping letter of 9/12/23, supports the Preferred Alternative B (co-existence of ranching, dairying and elk in PRNS) with the following comments:

I Save Our Seashore supports management of the Tomales Point elk herd, but

a) TPAP proposes management consistent with that proposed for the Limantour herd in the PRNS General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA) Record of Decision (ROD). However, elk management for the Limantour herd (which is adjacent to beef operations where the ROD's elk management would discourage but not prevent increased range size and numbers) is less vigorous than that proposed for the Drakes Beach herd (which is adjacent to dairies where the ROD's elk management would vigorously maintain stable range size and numbers). Thus TPAP has prioritized the less important fact that the Tomales Point herd (like the Limantour herd) is adjacent to designated wilderness, but has ignored the more important fact that the Tomales Point herd (unlike the Limantour herd) is adjacent to operating dairies. If organic dairies and elk are to coexist in PRNS, Save Our Seashore urges that the elk management for the Tomales Point herd should be consistent with the ROD's proposed management plan for the Drakes Beach (not the Limantour) herd.

b) Given that the ROD expanded the Scenic Landscape Zone to mitigate impacts of the Drakes Beach herd on the C-Ranch Dairy, then Save Our Seashore urges the TPAP similarly create a Scenic Landscape Zone to mitigate elk impacts of the Tomales Point herd on the K-Ranch Dairy. Given that the McClure dairy has closed, this could be accomplished by moving heifer use of J-Ranch pastures to the former McClure pastures and re-designating J-Ranch as a Scenic Landscape Zone. Such a Zoning change would reduce the monitoring and mitigation efforts for elk impacts to K-Ranch. Further, such change in use from heifers to elk would clean up the Tomales Beach, which is immediately below the J-Ranch pastures, whose persistent trespassing heifers have caused locals to refer to Tomales Beach as "Cow-Shit Beach."

c) The statement that "Neither the Limantour nor the Drakes Beach herds have been found to significantly impact historic ranching operations" is misleading because elk at numbers analyzed in the 2021 GMPA (~600) may not have a significant impact on beef ranching, but the TPAP's projected 2800 elk may. Further this statement applied to dairies is inconsistent with Ben Becker's GMPA study that concluded only that the Drakes Beach herd would not impact the ability of the C-Ranch Dairy to uphold the organic certification's requirement that organic milk cows obtain at least 30% of their diet from in-ground forage. But the Becker study did not address loss of forage outside the 30% limit that would not impact that certification but would require purchase of added supplemental feed. That study also did not address non-forage elk impacts such as damage to fences and equipment. The ROD's more vigorous elk management of the Drakes Beach herd acknowledges that dairies are significantly more impacted by elk than beef ranches. The TPAP statement does not.

II Save Our Seashore supports the proposed rehabilitation of Pierce Point Road, but...

a) The proposed 24 feet of paved surface, a roughly 20% increase, is excessive given the traffic counts. The proposed augmenting of the existing insufficient sub-base offers the opportunity to completely re-design the current undesirable road conditions such that the new Pierce Point Road is consistent with Pacific Watershed Associates (PWA) Handbook for Forest, Ranch and Rural Roads rather than consistent as currently proposed with the Federal Highway's "Rural Minor Collector" designation.

b) The proposed 24 feet of pavement presumably includes the two existing 10-foot travel lanes plus two 2-foot newly-paved shoulders. Save Our Seashore urges that the shoulders should instead remain unpaved.

c) The proposed repair/replacement of 36 culverts will perpetuate undesirable conditions. Save Our Seashore instead urges (per PWA) out-sloping the road with rolling dips to eliminate all 36 culverts and their ongoing maintenance costs.

d) The PG&E power lines to Pierce Point Ranch have environmental impacts due to the need for on-going maintenance, and also create the risk of un-intentional fires. Those wires should be eliminated,

preferably by the proposed micro-grid. But if such is not feasible then the augmenting of the existing insufficient sub-base should require PG&E to underground its wires to Pierce Point Ranch.

III Save Our Seashore supports the proposed change to location-based camping, but...

a) Currently, 20 specifically authorized boat-in camp sites require permits, so it is not clear that the proposed "location-based" camping is a change, except for a likely a reduction in the number of authorized sites. Information is needed concerning the number and location of the TPAP proposed boat-in camping sites.

b) Reducing boat-in sites in the TPAP project area may push campers to un-permitted sites outside the TPAP planning area, including State Park sites and east shore sites owned by Audubon Canyon Ranch. In the long-term as the location-based camping program becomes more accepted, less enforcement will likely be needed, but in the short-term, more enforcement will be needed to implement the change, including coordination with State Parks and Audubon Canyon Ranch. Enforcement is already stretched to cover illegal camping on the east shore of Tomales Bay. Thus Save Our Seashore urges that the TPAP authorize not only less environmentally/culturally-sensitive sites but also cap the number of those sites commensurate with the ability of enforcement to regularly cruise both east and west shorelines to check for unpermitted camp sites and to check approved sites for proper use and permits.

IV Save Our Seashore supports the TPAP's trail proposals, but... urges that the Tomales Point Trail and its new spur trail be ADA compliant to the extent (length) possible.

V Lastly, Save Our Seashore supports the TPAP's prescribed fire proposals but... given that unforeseen wind conditions could start a wildfire outside the TPAP planning area, Save Our Seashore urges that the TPAP add a means to access a significant amount of water for fire suppression (re-purposed pond or new dry hydrant in the Pastoral or new Scenic Zone).

Thank you for considering our suggestions for the TPAP EA.

Gordon Bennett, Save Our Seashore President

Former GGNRA/PRNS Citizen's Advisory Commission member, representing Marin

Correspondence ID: 174

I have been following this situation for years -- the fence is the cause of the die off of animals and must be removed.

I strongly support Alternative B proposed action. This plan removes the elk fence and frees the confined elk.

Please do this quickly to prevent more needless death and suffering.

Correspondence ID: 175

I am opposed to removing the elk fences. Despite this environmental report, it is clear that elk can rapidly overpopulate many areas which threatens ranching as well as habitat that cattle control by grazing. Ranchers in the park use sustainable methods to care for the land, and visitors enjoy the cultural experience.

Correspondence ID: 176

As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express

my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts, and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you for your consideration,

Correspondence ID: 177

The National Park service needs to act in the interest of the tule elk in Point Reyes, not the ranchers. It is time to take down the Tule Elk reserve fence. 152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach.

The National Park Service's mission is to: preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

Key word in the mission being unimpaired! NPS needs to act in Point Reyes as it as done in other places over the decades (making us proud in the process). Placing the welfare of the wildlife first!

Correspondence ID: 178

As a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

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I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B which includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

My father, Ed Hummel, was regional director of the western region of the USNPS and I know that he, as do I, would consider it a travesty to keep this fence up and to continue the inhumane conditions it creates for these elk.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely, **Correspondence ID: 179**

I support option B with free roaming elk herds. Current status with the geographical restrictions (option A) and the proposed culling of the elk (option C) are barbaric, backwards, and it is embarrassing that they are even being considered.

I would also hope you will include more Coastal Miwok cultural and historical information and experiences.

And finally it is time that you greatly restrict or remove all the commercial ranching activities from the park as a whole. These operations are miss-using a treasured land, depleting the soil, polluting the waterways, damaging endangered habitats and species.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 180

I am writing to voice support for removing the fences that restrict the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd. I've hiked there and witnessed the lengths at which the park service have to work to supply water for the herd, and it all seems so unnatural and cruel to keep them locked in this zone in this manner. I know that farming families have lived on the point for decades, but I don't understand why they continue to live on subsidized land and the government continues to extend their land rights. It's all such a ridiculous situation — the land doesn't look healthy, the animals aren't healthy, it all needs to come to an end. I hope your assessment can look reality in the eye and make the necessary changes that have been apparent for so long. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 182

As a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts, and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely, **Correspondence ID: 183**
NO FENCE FOR THE TULE ELK!!!!

Correspondence ID: 184

I am writing to ask support for alternative B, the removal of the 8 foot fence which has been confining the Timalas Bay elk herd. The cruelty needs to stop. Cattle ranchers aren't the only ones to have a say in how wildlife are managed.

Correspondence ID: 185

To Whom It May Concern,

Please remove the Tomales Point fence. The poor elk need to be able to reach water and food that are not available to them now. To keep them trapped in the area they are in causes stress and suffering and even death. They suffer, just like we do when the basic needs for life are not available to them. Please have it in your heart to help them out.

Thank-you

Vickie Mowry

Correspondence ID: 186

As a lifelong Bay Area resident, for 73 years I have spent much time at Point Reyes and seen the Tule elk. On February 23, 2014, the plight of the elk was brought home to me during a hike off Pierce Point Road. We found a small spring with handfuls of water, after years of drought and a dry winter. The park ranger told us only 300 to 350 elk were present, compared to 500 the prior year due to lack of vegetation as a result of drought. There at the spring were two skeletons and fur of a dead adult elk—grim and tangible evidence of the death of these elk and the loss of 40% of the population in a single year—and the fence is a death sentence. I have detailed notes and drawings I made that day, indelible reminders of hard realities. of the elk situation. The fence causes death and starvation. This is inexcusable in a national park where elk are a native species which should be allowed to forage in their range. Compare this to the winter feeding program for migrating elk in Jackson Hole—a program to conserve elk there that has continued for decades. Clearly we can do better than fencing the elk and watching them starve to death by the hundreds at point Reyes due to our inaction and poor choices regarding fencing. —
Robin G. Pulich

Correspondence ID: 187

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Correspondence ID: 188

The fence must be removed immediately, it never should have been put up. This land and the wildlife which inhabit it belongs to the American people, it is not there for private individuals to graze their livestock and the. NPS made a mistake by putting up the fence in the first place. Stop killing the elk, let them have access to water, which is their right. Stop sacrificing our wildlife to placate ranchers.

Correspondence ID: 189

As a long time resident of the area, I have watched in horror as so many tule elk died because they could not access water and food. I am amazed that there are tule elk still remaining in Point Reyes. Please remove the fences as soon as possible, so that the few remaining tule elk are free to roam and forage as they once did.

Correspondence ID: 190

I support their Alternative B proposed action, which removes the elk fence and frees the confined elk.

I have witnessed mass die off of tule elk present behind the fence without any source of available water. What so ever.

National park service has put out a couple of water troughs with no flow that become toxic within days.

They are toxic, algae, bacteria, and fungus, parasites pits. This is not acceptable.

The ponds dry up and that will be it for the elk many will die of dehydration.

The incredible cruelty to be imprisoned from vital supplies of water just so wealthy cattle ranchers can benefit more than they already do with their incredible welfare programs offered to graze by the NPS.

Cattle ranching and dairy ranching have no proper purpose and point Reyes national park.

NPS is supposed to be stewards of our natural resources that includes wildlife.

It says on your own mission statement.

Nowhere should private cattle ranching, private business operations, take priority over anything in the park including the few hundred remaining endangered tule elk that live in pt reyes..

Hundreds of elk have died from starvation due to improper foraging behind their imprisonment, dehydration, and Jonas disease that comes from cattle that are privately owned property.

National park service had actually had falsely claimed that the hundreds of tule elk that died were due to natural causes.

This obviously is false.

Please stop the suffering. Please ask ranchers to take their private owned cattle back home on their own private lands.

No Dairy and no cattle operations on our national parks.

I support their Alternative B proposed action, which removes the elk fence and frees the confined elk.

Correspondence ID: 191

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 192

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 193

You should remove the fence and let the elk roam free. Point Reyes is special, and not because of the cows and ranchers. I believe that doing things that benefit wildlife and biodiversity ultimately brings more indirect benefits to more people than actions that benefit ranchers and farmers that use and abuse the land.

Correspondence ID: 194

I strongly support the NPS Alternative B, which would permanently remove the 8-foot fence that has kept the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd trapped without sufficient water or nutrition since 1978.

I believe that removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach.

Thank you for considering my views.

Correspondence ID: 195

Please take the humane action to remove fencing and permit tule elk to move beyond Tomales point. Most American support wildlife protection and humane treatment of animals.

I support the plan to remove the fencing.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 196

I urge you to take down the fence in West Marin that is causing great harm to the elk. They are dying slow, horrible deaths from thirst and starvation. This cannot continue.

Correspondence ID: 197

p WildCare support the National Park Service's "preferred alternative," which includes the removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water. p WildCare support the National Park Service's "preferred alternative," which includes the removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

WildCare support the National

Park Service's "preferred alternative," which includes the removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Correspondence ID: 198

It's time to follow what a true wilderness is and let the Tule Elk roam this natural paradise for all to see. The ranchers were paid for their lands and the leases have expired. Don't let a chosen few dictate the land use. One of the reasons National Parks were created for people in our country was to preserve the history and natural beauty that is being eliminated by man. Not to many places left where animals can escape and roam free without running into humans. Time to make it a wilderness area.for all to enjoy..

Correspondence ID: 199

I support opening the way for elk herd access to appropriate sustainable environment.

Correspondence ID: 200

As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts, and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lynette K. Henderson

Correspondence ID: 201

As someone who has been hiking out on Tomales Point and being thrilled by the sight of Tule Elk off in the distance for the past 30 years, I am devastated by the idea that these beautiful wild animals have been contained to an area that has not enabled them to thrive, or even survive -- and that the National Park Service is considering plans to either kill them or allow them to die of thirst and/or starvation.

I feel very strongly that the fence containing the elk to an area that is too small and thereby lethal to their survival is morally/ethically wrong, and that said fence should be REMOVED -- thereby increasing the Tule Elk's access to food, water, and a healthier life.

I firmly believe that removal of the fence currently containing the Tule Elk out on Tomales Point is the only humane response, and that this should be the National Park Service's plan.

Correspondence ID: 202

Fine-tune Alternative B or introduce some of your own:

Provide a timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for the removal of the elk fence.

Identify any sites where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible identify future activities for volunteers, and/or new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (for example, invasive plant identification and control training and/or volunteer days).

In the appropriate areas, provide additional wayside signage and environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc., in the planning area to minimize immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 203

Please adopt Alternative B, removing the elk fence, improving habitat connectivity, working with tribal partners, making sure the elk have enough water and forage, improving visitor facilities, etc.

I look forward to visiting that area again as soon as the elk fence comes down. Please provide a timeline for when this will happen. Please use Best Management Practices when re-configuring visitor facilities.

Will the cattle be removed from the park? If so, when? It's wrong to cede park service property, which we all own as U.S. citizens, to private landowners who have plenty of other options for cattle grazing.

Thank you for finally proposing to do the right thing. It's been a long time coming.

Correspondence ID: 204

As a Certified Wildlife Biologist who has followed the reintroduction of tule elk to the PRNS since 1978, I favor Alternative B. I commend the Park Service for its efforts to restore and preserve the natural environment at the Seashore. As the conservation co-chair of the Marin Audubon Society, we support Alternative B to take down the elk fence and manage the habitat for natural values.

Correspondence ID: 205

I support the NPS preferred "Alternative B" which would remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore.

In addition, please officially rescind the current regulation in the General Management Plan allowing killing of elk in the other two herds, because herds may intermingle when the fence is removed. I oppose all lethal "management" of any wild animals at Point Reyes and in any national park.

Finally, the Seashore's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed because they expose elk to numerous hazards; massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the privately owned ranches in the park. The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease.

Hundreds of miles of wire and barbed wire fences do not belong in this national park or any other. They restrict the public's access and negatively impact the free movements of wild animals which the park is legislated to value above all other considerations — especially commercial, for-profit businesses that only lease land in the park.

I thank the National Park Service for requesting and considering public comments on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 206

Thanks for the steps you've taken thus far! I am writing to support for Alternative B, the only alternative that meets the Park Service's mission and goals.

Correspondence ID: 207

I unconditionally support the complete removal of all impediments to allowing tule elk free range within Point Reyes National Seashore. Impediments include fences, dairy and ranch operations, and any means to detect or harass elk through radio or digital technology transmitters.

Correspondence ID: 208

Please let the Elk free! Cattle Ranchers do not own the land...We do. The Elk are ours too and what makes this part of California beautiful... still wild and free. I beg you to do the right thing! Many have died in the last few years...stop this injustice before its too late!

Correspondence ID: 209

Thank you so much for the steps you have taken already on behalf of the Tule elk!!

I have listened in to the zoom webinar about their plight, and I have some further Ideas to share with you:

Provide a timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for the removal of the elk fence.

Identify any sites where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible identify future activities for volunteers, and/or new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (for example, invasive plant identification and control training and/or volunteer days).

In the appropriate areas, provide additional wayside signage and environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc., in the planning area to minimize immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 210

Dear Park Service,

I support Plan B because it prioritizes the well-being of wildlife and will allow the Tule Elk to be unconfined. Natural areas where wildlife are protected and can thrive are rare and need to be preserved. The purpose of our national parks is to have natural places to appreciate. I applaud the Park Service for this change and you have my full support. Thank you.

Jeanine Strobel.

Correspondence ID: 211

I support and appreciate Alternative B. I hope Alternative B is approved. And I hope that NPS will include the following suggestions in the final plan:

Please provide a timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for the removal of the elk fence.

Please identify any sites where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible identify future activities for volunteers, and/or new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (for example, invasive plant identification and control training and/or volunteer days).

In the appropriate areas, please provide additional wayside signage and environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point.

Please ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc., in the planning area to minimize immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife.

Many thanks for this critically important planning work and for your attention to my comments.

Correspondence ID: 212

Now living in New York, i was a lifelong Californian, sixth generation. I lived in the Bay Area from 1971 until 2015, and hiked many miles in Point Reyes over the years. Along with thousands of other residents I am appalled at the starvation and dehydration deaths of tule elk due to their being confined to a small area. The 2020 deaths were the latest but it's not the first time it's happened. Clearly putting in salt licks and water troughs is insufficient, to say the least.

This is unconscionable and must stop.

Please remove the fences.

Shirley Freitas

<https://www.necessarystorms.com/home/the-san-francisco-oil-spill-of-1971>

Correspondence ID: 213

The public has overwhelmingly been demanding that the tule elk fence be removed and shooting off the elk cease. The public has also been overwhelmingly against the continuation of ranching on OUR PUBLIC LANDS. We have seen the environmental damage to water, soil, wildlife, birds caused by the ranchers and their thousands of cattle. We have been told lie after lie about the ranchers and their (poor) practices. Pt. Reyes National Seashore is an iconic property beloved by the entire country. We are disgusted by the National Park Service's disgraceful ongoing complicity with the eco-wrecking freeloaders who have been living a subsidized lifestyle at the expense of the taxpayers and the environment.

1. Take down the tule elk fence
2. Stop killing the native tule elk
3. Get private ranches OFF our public land
4. Clean up the National Park Service's relationships with private interests.

Correspondence ID: 214

As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express

my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts, and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Correspondence ID: 215

Although I am no longer a permanent resident of the beautiful bay area, I wanted to write to show my support for Alternative B, which to my understanding will remove the fencing that currently severely limits the free, open movement of the Tule elk. I strongly support letting this native wildlife access everything they need for a healthy population, including food and water sources, and allowing for more genetic diversity of the herds over time.

Thank you for considering my comments in your review process.

Correspondence ID: 216

To whom it may concern,

Point Reyes National Seashore is the most beautiful and vibrant place in San Francisco Bay Area. I visited in numerous times by myself and with kids. Watching Tule Elk is my kids favorite activity, and as a wildlife amateur photographer I admire these animals as well.

With sadness I learned recently, that Tomales Point Area has elk fence that is build to separate elk from cow postures, and that often separates these animals from their herds, and animals are suffering with no way to come back to their habitat. I believe we can do better and make it that elk can roam free and thrive in the area versus being confined to a small piece of land. Thank you for your time.

Alitsiya Yusupova

Correspondence ID: 217

The Parks Dept has destroyed the Tule Elk.

The ELK must be granted freedom to exist-

To have free access to water and land.

The Parks Service has lost ALL respect and value

Grant freedom to Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 218

Please do the right thing and use Plan B to remove the elk fence. It breaks my heart to have the elk suffer so.

Correspondence ID: 219

I've been coming down to Point Reyes to shoot wildlife photography for years. Every time I see an elk there, I wonder if it will still be alive the next time I visit or will die from dehydration, starvation, or disease because of the fence and factory farm waste in the park.

It is time to remove the fence and let the elk, and all wildlife that is supposed to be protected, free to roam!

I fully support the Alternative B plan that includes the fence removal. It is time to finally do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 220

Hello,

I support the park's current preferred alternative, Alternative B. I visited for the first time in December with my children on a guided tour with a naturalist. The natural beauty and the area is clear. It was sad to see the fences catered to livestock make such a detrimental impact on roaming animals like the elk. Removal of the fence would provide elk with greater access to their food and water resources. This in general adds to best m management practices to minimize the impact to existing wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 221

Hi,

I'm writing in support of "Alternative B" (removal of the Elk Fence) in Point Reyes. As a frequent visitor, I'm very excited at the prospect of allowing native elk to foraging grounds and water, as well as the adjacent opportunities to remove invasive species and improve overall public access to native wildlife..

It's also great to see that the plan allows sufficient opportunities for existing cattle while separating them from wildlife. Please consider implementing this alternative!

Thank you in advance for your time.

Best,

Geoffrey Brooks

Correspondence ID: 222

Dear National Park Service,

I am writing to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) and provide suggestions to enhance its effectiveness in supporting the tule elk population and overall ecosystem health.

I strongly advocate for the removal of the existing fence to provide elk with better access to essential forage and water resources. Furthermore, it is crucial to ensure that habitat improvement efforts include the creation of corridors to allow elk to roam freely, thereby promoting better genetic diversity.

Focusing on the removal of invasive species and replacing them with native plants will significantly improve habitat quality. Additionally, increasing volunteer participation can greatly support these restoration efforts and foster community engagement.

Implementing Best Management Practices is essential to minimize any adverse impacts on existing wildlife during habitat improvements. The use of wildlife-friendly fencing is also vital to ensure safe passage for elk and other wildlife while keeping livestock out of designated areas.

Thank you for considering these suggestions to enhance the TPAP for the benefit of the tule elk and the broader ecosystem.

Sincerely, Clay Bolt

Correspondence ID: 223

Hello,

I am a regular visitor to this area and greatly appreciate the beautiful natural wonders of Tamales Point. I'm very happy and excited to know that the NPS is considering a new management plan. This would greatly improve multiple factors the area and the wildlife are suffering from and I support your "Alternative B" with the removal of the fence allowing native wildlife greater access to forage and water. One of the ways this could be accomplished is by using wildlife friendly fencing allowing safe passage. I would also support furthering efforts to remove invasive species from the area and ensuring cows are kept out of the planning area.

Thank you and I look forward to learning how greater volunteer participation would assist in this area.

Sincerely, Alain

Correspondence ID: 224

I support Alternative B !! Please take the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 225

Hi - I love visiting the area and appreciate an opportunity to comment.

I do support the park's Alternative B to remove the 3-mile elk fence. I believe they should be able to roam and have greater access to water. I also support the idea of wildlife-friendly fencing to help wildlife safety and restrict cows from certain areas

as always, it's important to continue using Best Management Practices as well as educate the visiting public to do the same. Perhaps increase the opportunities for volunteer as well. All which may contribute to the preservation of nature - flora and fauna.

Thank you for considering.

Correspondence ID: 226

Let the elk go! It's unethical to trap wildlife within the national park. The park was established for the wildlife, not ranchers.

Correspondence ID: 227

Why have you put cows above elk? What are you thinking? It is time to be humane, take down the elk fences, allow them to roam and eat and have the water necessary to live. Ranchers and cows have overstayed their welcome.

Thank you for taking the fence down,

Sue Peisert

Correspondence ID: 228

I support permanent removal of the Tomales Point elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 229

I support Alternative B!

Correspondence ID: 230

I am strongly supportive of Plan B, that includes the removal of the elk fence. The following actions are important points for consideration:

- * Removal of the fence to provide elk with greater access to forage and water
- * Ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity
- * Focus on removing invasive species
- * Discuss opportunities for greater volunteer participation
- * Ensure Best Management Practices are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife
- * Ensure wildlife friendly fencing is used to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area

Regards,

Corey Raffel

Correspondence ID: 231

Please consider removing the fencing allowing greater access for the elk and other native species and removing invasive plants. We need more genetic diversity and separation or reducing elk populations is not going to be a good long-term solution. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 232

I believe it is shameful that this park was created with the stipulation that farming would end at point and it was never enforced. Such a special place and one I would return to as a traveler often.

Correspondence ID: 233

Please remove the elk fence. They need free access to food and water.

Correspondence ID: 234

Today, more than 14 members of the U.S. House of Representatives introduced legislation that would prohibit organizing, sponsoring, conducting or participating in wildlife killing contests on more than 500 million acres of U.S. public lands.

Ten states — Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Vermont and Washington — have already outlawed wildlife killing contests within their borders. The Humane Society of the United States conducted undercover investigations into these competitions in more than a dozen states, spurring significant public outrage against the events.

Additional cosponsors of today's legislation are Reps. Earl Blumenauer (OR-03), Cori Bush (MO-01), Gerald Connolly (VA-11), Diana DeGette (CO-01), Lloyd Dogget (TX-35), Adriano Espaillat (NY-06), Raul Grijalva (AZ-07), Jared Huffman (CA-02), Ted Lieu (CA-36), Betty McCollum (MN-04), Grace Meng (NY-06),

Jerrold Nadler (NY-12), Katie Porter (CA-45), Melanie Stansbury (NM-01), Rashida Tlaib (MI-13) and Dina Titus (NV-01).

This above action underscores a growing sentiment and trend to protect and to do no harm to our wildlife and natural habitats. Society and communities are making their voices heard and requiring action. The park's proposed preferred plan (PlanB) of completely removing the fences to allow the elk and other wildlife to naturally forage for food and water and to encourage their genetic diversity is a related and a strong endorsement of continuing this important trend of doing the right thing. So yes, please join in and do the right thing and give wildlife and nature the environment they deserve as they compete for survival. Arbitrary ranching fences and herds of

grazing cows present unfair obstacles for the survival of our natural areas and wildlife. They already are struggling against the same things that we humans are struggling with, such as air, land, and water pollution, and climate change. We need to do all we can not to layer on additional negative factors. We need to encourage bio-diversity while we still have it. Thank-you for taking the time and interest to read my comments.

Correspondence ID: 235

I fully support the park's current preferred alternative, Alternative B. Whatever you can do to provide the elk with free range, food and water is good. Preserve what we and they have. They come first, visitors second.

Thanks, Linda St. Claire

Correspondence ID: 236

I've enjoyed the Tule elk for decades on my visits to Pt Reyes, and have been happy to share this amazing place with visitors from around the world. It's been distressing to see the Tule Elk confined behind inappropriate and dangerous fencing. It must be removed to allow the herd access to water and grass, and to give visitors more opportunity to see them in context.

Correspondence ID: 237

I support the proposal of permanently removing the fence.

Correspondence ID: 238

Hello, I write in support of the park's current preferred alternative, Alternative B. It is imperative that elk are able to provide themselves greater access to forage and water. In following this situation as it developed over the past 10 years, first as a bay area resident and thereafter as a park visitor, it has always seemed inconsistent with the national park's charter to choose cattle over elk. The elk need to have corridors for the ability to move freely. When we close the areas off from movement and natural migration, we thereby limit the genetic diversity which is necessary for a long term survival of this unique species of elk. In addition, it seems problematic to use fencing which is not wildlife friendly, even as cows should be restricted from planting areas. Why not remove the cattle? I don't believe that the taxpayer should be subsidising the cattle industry in this manner at the expense of wildlife. It is tantamount to maintaining the value of our national park to take these steps, so again, i am in favor of Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 239

It's very gratifying that an improved Tomales Point Area management plan has advanced in a way that offers the Tule Elk a more promising, sustainable, and natural future.

I am commenting to strongly advocate for Alternative B, including the removal of the elk fence to allow the elk improved access to forage and water. The Tomales Point Area is a unique entity in California and the world that should be treated with an approach befitting its distinctiveness and aimed at the restoration of its natural state. Cattle ranching, while presenting its own benefits, is hardly unique anywhere and should not be permitted to push out indigenous wildlife.

Fortunately, Alternative B includes provisions enabling Tule Elk and cattle ranchers to beneficially co-exist. The addition of wildlife-friendly fencing to keep cows and elk each within their own safe spaces is an elegant solution.

Please support Alternative B to ensure the beneficial coexistence of all inhabitants of the Tomales Point area.

Correspondence ID: 240

To whom it may concern,

Point Reyes National Seashore has long been a beacon for nature and agriculture to live in harmony. In order to protect public image, as well as support biodiversity, it is essential that Alternative B comes to fruition. It's inhumane to let these once endangered species to be subject to a lack of water and other resources for during inclement times. This is not just an environmental issue, but an animal welfare issue. Please, take down the fence and let this National Seashore be what it is, open, free and an icon of our state. Thank you.

Sincerely, Andrew Lincoln

Correspondence ID: 241

Please remove the fences! Let the elk exist on the land that has always been there's to live and thrive! Can't believe this is even a discussion! Cattle over elk? Why? There is zero shortage of cattle or beef products. Fencing in wildlife is nonsense!

Correspondence ID: 242

Thank you for giving the public the opportunity to comment on your plan for the Tule Elk.

I write in support of Alternative B.

1. I want the 8 foot fence on Tomales Point removed so the Elk are free to access all of Point Reyes National Seashore,

After almost 50 years of confinement, the animals are conditioned to the area and may move slowly. Please give them time to adjust.

2. Please consider retaining the water stations. Presently, there may be water on Tomales Point but shortages may occur later in the

year. Weather patterns are now unpredictable, after so much rain this year, a drought could occur next. Please plan for this contingency.

3. PRNS has been drenched in cattle manure and pee for 50 years. Independent studies have shown that ranch and cattle waste

has impacted water purity. Tule elk from the Tomales Point may face exposure to the toxins that have been found in the Kehoe area water. There, E.Coli has been measured at 10 times over the health limit,

Fecal Coliform bacteria 23 times over the health limit, and Enterococci bacteria 30 times over the health limit.

Please, ensure the well-being of the wildlife by removing cattle and include closing the ranches in your future plans.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 243

It seems at this point the only clear answer is to remove the fence. Then, it becomes a multifaceted effort to do the following:

1. Ensure ongoing habitat availability for the elk
2. Ensure that they will not be harmed or become ill from any contact with cattle or ranch-related waste in the area
3. Enforce and expand restrictions on environmental impacts of cattle ranches in the protected seashore and aggressively capping the number of cattle per acre and number of ranches.

Correspondence ID: 244

I strongly support implementation of Alternative B (UNCONFINED ELK HERD, IMPROVED VISITOR AMENITIES, AND EXPLORE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF PIERCE RANCH CORE AREA), which is the park's current preferred alternative for the Tomales Point Area Plan. Removing the fence will provide elk with greater access to forage and water and allow the elk to roam freely and thereby promote genetic diversity. This alternative will enable the park to remove invasive species and ensure that optimal management practices are used to minimize impacts on existing wildlife. Finally, wildlife-friendly fencing will enable the safe movement of wildlife within the park while keeping cows out of the planning area. I strongly oppose Alternative A (continuation of the current management plan), and I urge you to implement Alternative B. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 245

I would like to comment on Point Reyes National Park. I am hoping you will select the option to remove the fence, and make improvements that allow free movement of the elk to increase genetic diversity.

Also prioritize removal of invasive species, and minimize impact to existing wildlife.

I also think wildlife fencing is important to keep cows out of the planning area.

Thank you, Joe Niehus

Correspondence ID: 246

Point Reyes has been a destination point for me for the past 15 years. I live in NY, but visit family in CA every couple years in the Stockton area and always make it a point to travel, lodge and spend at least 3 days exploring, hiking and photographing wildlife in Point Reyes. The protection and habitat access for the diverse wildlife has been a concern for years. Especially the tule elk who have been confined by fencing in such a tiny space. This National Park is for everyone and we don't visit and spend our money to see, smell and be fenced out of huge areas of the park by livestock farmers. I support Alternative B, and every effort to remove fences, open up natural habitat and add additional trails for visitors to enjoy the park. Now is the time to reverse the negative impact of livestock farming in the National Park. Bring it back to what it was meant to be, before it's too late. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important and sensitive topic.

Correspondence ID: 247

The 3-mile Elk Fence needs to be removed.

Removal of the fence will provide the (indigenous) elk needed access to forage for food and water (access that is currently denied to them by the fence). Further, fence removal will ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity.

This fence removal can also further work to ensure wildlife-friendly fencing is used to give elk (and other local species) safe passage while keeping cows in the areas where they should be.

Correspondence ID: 248

I'd like to see elk and Pronghorn restored to their natural range throughout Marin and Sonoma counties and beyond. Cattle herding or keeping cattle in pens is not an innovative agricultural practice. In fact, studies have shown that cattle can be especially bad grazers and contributors to climate change.

I think the NPS should better protect tule elk, by giving them free reign to roam and repopulate our area. I do NOT support should not use hazing, harassment, or culling techniques for management of tule elk if the elk fence is removed.

The removal of the fence should be a top priority as it would enhance genetic diversity among the elk, improve wilderness character, and fulfill the NPS mission.

I am opposed to cattle from ranches being able to access the park. I am opposed to the NPS leasing park lands for the purpose of cattle ranching. All leases should be terminated.

The elk population on the point should be marketed as a tourist attraction and guided tours should be offered to allow for viewing of these animals.

Thanks, Gavin Waters

Correspondence ID: 249

I applaud the NPS reset as represented by preferred alternative B-- removing the elk fence, protecting native wildlife, restoring degraded park facilities and ecosystems, and educating park visitors. In finalizing the Tomales Point Area Plan, please include:

1. A timeline for removing the elk fence.
2. Maps showing where restoration activities will be focused and timeline for restoration activities.
3. Interpretative signage describing the history and role of elk in the park.
4. Interpretative signage about Native American history and traditional management techniques the NPS will adopt
5. As written the plan discusses eradicating invasive plants, but not proactive restoration such as replanting native flora.
6. In alternative C, NPS proposes improving conditions of and wildlife access to seeps and streams at Tomales Point. This should be added in alternative B.
7. A meaningful role for volunteers in the Seashore's restoration.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 250

Please protect the Tule elk! They are native Californians and are supposed to be protected - they have a right to live, eat and drink. I have been to the region many times and am always inspired when I am lucky enough to see one of these magnificent creatures. The idea of them starving to death or dying of dehydration is horrible. Please protect them!

Correspondence ID: 251

Save the Elk - forget the cows!

Correspondence ID: 252

Endangered Habitats League supports Alternative B, the only alternative that meets the Park Service's mission and goals.

We appreciate the steps to date and recommend the following improvements:

Provide a timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B.

Identify any sites where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 253

The National Park Services' preferred alternative for a new management plan for the Tomales Point Area proposed in the Tomales Point Area Environmental Assessment to protect the Tule elk would be best because:

Removal of the existing fence would:

Provide elk with greater access to forage and water;

Ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity;

Focus on removing invasive species;

Discuss opportunities for greater volunteer participation;

Ensure best management practices are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife; and

Ensure wildlife friendly fencing is used to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area.

Bob Callahan

Correspondence ID: 254

Dear People,

I bought my forever home 5 1/2 years ago in this area because I absolutely love it here. We have a deep respect for the area, the wilderness, and especially the Elk. Just going to see them is one of our favorite things to do in the whole world. That they've been brought back to starve is unthinkable torture. We want to strongly urge you to consider option B, let's take down that fence!!!

Lynette & Jeffrey La Mere

Correspondence ID: 255

“alternative B.” Please remove the Elk fence

Correspondence ID: 256

My/our tax dollars are paying millions of dollars into the National Park System. However, the United States tax payer's, visitors to Pt Reyes National Park and locals are being discriminated against because we are not the “chosen few-Ranchers” of Pt Reyes who have had lease extensions beyond what is legal. Instead we are being excluded from full enjoyment of our national park. We are being treated like the imprisoned Tule Elk, unable to access our park fully.

I implore the Elk fence to be removed. For the Pt Reyes ranches to cease operations immediately and free our United States tax-paid lands so they may return to the wild, natural with beautiful wild flowers, fauna and natural habitat for all American's and visitor's enjoyment. Just like at all National Parks!

Correspondence ID: 257

i support alternative B the proposal to remove the elk fence and let the tule elk herd roam free!

Correspondence ID: 258

Please remove this fence. Causing elk deaths is a detriment to the herd and ourselves. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 259

Please take down the fence

Correspondence ID: 260

I strongly support the proposed Plan B. The following changes need to be implemented:

Removal of the fence will provide elk with greater access to forage and water

Ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity

Focus on removing invasive species

Discuss opportunities for greater volunteer participation

Ensure Best Management Practices are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife

Ensure wildlife friendly fencing is used to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area

I feel it is also important to take this opportunity to express my conviction that the native Tule Elk population's well-being must be prioritized over any need or demands of dairy farmers or ranchers. I do not believe dairy farming or ranching have any place in our national seashore and every effort should be made to phase out these operations.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 261

Please remove the fence. The tule elk have the right to live and have access to water and food.

Correspondence ID: 262

I am in favor of the proposed Alternative B Plan.

Correspondence ID: 263

Please, please take down the fence so the tule elk can access water and forage in drought years, "alternative B!" I cannot understand why this wasn't done ages ago.

Correspondence ID: 264

Please remove the fence. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 265

Please go ahead and proceed with Plan B at point reyes. I hate the idea of the animals being fenced in. That is not a good look for a national seashore. The animals deserve to be able to roam free.

Correspondence ID: 266

I support the park's current preferred alternative, Alternative B - remove the elk fence! Give them greater access to forage and water, please!

Correspondence ID: 267

I am strongly in support of Alternative B and urge NPS to enact the plan with publicly available dates on deliverables.

I especially would like the Elk Fence to be removed as soon as possible. Please schedule the removal to begin this year if possible, and at the latest in 2025 if it cannot be done earlier. Please also make this date public so we are aware of progress made.

Additional top priorities to me are for the Tomales Point Trail to be repaired and to finish the trail to the viewpoint.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 268

My wife and I love Point Reyes Seashore, especially the area off Pierce Point Road, and visit often. I am writing to express strong support for Alternative B, removing elk barriers (I am hoping that there will be wildlife-friendly ways of preventing cattle access and corridors to allow local elk to mate with other elk), removing invasive species, and tribal co-stewardship.

Correspondence ID: 269

Please remove the fence and protect the elk.

Correspondence ID: 270

I support Alternative B, the only alternative that meets the mission and goals of the Park Service.

Thank you for the steps taken so far.

Some suggestions on how NPS can adjust Alternative B:

Timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for removal of the elk fence.

Identify any locations where native coastal grasslands or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible, identify future activities for volunteers and/or new ways the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (e.g., training in plant identification and control invaders and/or volunteer days).

In appropriate areas, provide additional roadside signage and environmental education programming to interpret the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural, and historical significance of the tule elk at Tomales Point.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur before, during and after construction associated with the anticipated reconfiguration of parking, visitor facilities, utility works, etc., in the area planning to minimize immediate and long-term impacts. long-term impacts on wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 271

I support Alternative B, the only alternative that meets the mission and goals of the Park Service.

Thank you for the steps taken so far.

Some suggestions on how NPS can adjust Alternative B:

Timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for removal of the elk fence.

Identify any locations where native coastal grasslands or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible, identify future activities for volunteers and/or new ways the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (e.g., training in plant identification and control invaders and/or volunteer days).

In appropriate areas, provide additional roadside signage and environmental education programming to interpret the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural, and historical significance of the tule elk at Tomales Point.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur before, during and after construction associated with the anticipated reconfiguration of parking, visitor facilities, utility works, etc., in the area planning to minimize immediate and long-term impacts. long-term impacts on wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 272

Missing from the Preferred Plan: It's vital that for the planned option B, the NPS consider the possibility that elk might have "learned" not to venture south of the fence and might not do so after the fence is replaced by the cattle fence: they will still see a fence. It seems there should be a transition period until they figure out they can go through the new fence. The water tanks could remain a bit longer. My comment/question is whether this issue was considered and would the NPS monitor the elk's movement in this regard and allow for a transition period.

Thank you.

L. Stanziano

May 22, 2024

Correspondence ID: 273

Hi,

To whom it may concern:

I support the removal of the fence and the herd not be managed.

Correspondence ID: 274

I support the Parks current preferred alternative B.

I would like the elk to have greater access to food and water by removal of fences.

Corridors for the elk are vital, and should be part of the park improvement, to allow them to roam freely and promote better genetic diversity.

Please ensure that there are the best management practices to minimize the impact on wildlife.

Invasive species should be removed.

Correspondence ID: 275

It's amazing to see progress in protecting and sustaining the park and the wildlife in Point Reyes! This place is such a unique treasure for all those that visit or live nearby. I support Alternative B and I'm excited to see that this is also the National Park Service preferred alternative, also! There is so much farm and pasture land in this country, we can afford to protect these special places such as Point Reyes! Please choose Alternative B.

Thank you!

Don

Correspondence ID: 276

Please use plan B

Correspondence ID: 277

Alternative B is my choice! I agree with the National Park Service. Removal of the fence to provide elk with greater access to forage and water is the humane thing to do. This will ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity. Win, win for the elk, FINALLY!

In addition, a focus on removing invasive species will enhance the park and elk habitat and open up opportunities for greater volunteer participation. Win, win for the PARK!

Use Best Management Practices to minimize impact to existing wildlife and wildlife friendly fencing to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area.

I applaud the National Park Service for their Alternative B choice. Thank you from the bottom of my heart! It is time to do what is right for Tule elk and all wildlife in the Tomales Point Area.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Correspondence ID: 278

Please adopt option B that includes removing the fence that encloses the Tule Elk herd in Point Reyes National Seashore. the National Park Service has endorsed that option and it is the best option for ensuring the health and long term survival of the elk which are a threatened species endemic to California. The fence has prevented the elk from getting to forage and water sources, and during drought years this has resulted in large numbers of deaths.

Please adopt option B to protect the elk and their habitat.

Stephanie Klein

Correspondence ID: 279

Dear Superintendant Kenkel:

As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts, and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely, **Correspondence ID: 280**

- * Removal of the fence to provide elk with greater access to forage and water
- * Ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity
- * Focus on removing invasive species
- * Discuss opportunities for greater volunteer participation
- * Ensure Best Management Practices are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife

Correspondence ID: 281

To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for revisiting the issue of the thule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore.

I have been following the work of Resource Renewal Institute (RRI) since its inception and received their email about this issue. I am writing now to say that I support Alternative B to remove the elk fence and let the tule elk herd roam free. I trust that RRI's comments have merit and will be considered carefully by you.

Thank you for considering my request.

Marilyn Price.

Correspondence ID: 282

I am a wildlife lover, photographer, former president of a Bay Area wildlife rescue organization and still a

Board Member. Point Reyes National Seashore is both a wonderful treasure that I enjoy as often as possible and one that has been allowed to be tarnished by uses that are inconsistent with its charter and intent. It was set aside to protect its assets of beauty and wildlife habitat, not commercial farming or agriculture.

I am writing in support of action to help return it to its core purpose, specifically Alternative B, under consideration in the new management plan for the Tomales Point Area. The Tule Elk are locals who have been short changed and harmed by restricting access to forage and water. Please remove the fence that causes this departure. Take this action, in accordance with the original purpose of the park, to preserve and help its wild inhabitants.

Correspondence ID: 283

I support option B, removal of the Elk Fence, but with the caveat of continuing to monitor health of the elk, and supplying water in the event of severe droughts drying up their usual sources of water, for at least a few years. In addition remove all the other fences in the Park, along with all the rundown "historic" housing. Allow the Park to recover from years of overgrazing by cattle.

Correspondence ID: 284

Please adopt Alternative B - for the health of the tule elk, for the health of our magnificent West Coast lands, and restoring faith in the National Park Service's acknowledgement of public wishes.

Correspondence ID: 285

Finally, an environmental solution in tune with the mandate of Parks. I support the park's current preferred alternative, Alternative B. Nature loving people have worked hard on behalf of the tule elk, an exceptional attraction and a beautiful iconic species that delights all visitors to the park. How can we not remove fencing that leads to starvation and dehydration of these animals? It's time for the Park to implement a solution in keeping with the entire purpose behind preservation of these wild areas. Having grown up in the Bay Area, lived in West Point Reyes, and spent countless days wandering those spectacular shores, I am deeply committed to seeing sensible actions taken that ensure proper wildlife management and sustainability. Alternative B achieves that. Thank you for finally moving toward this step. I feel hopeful now that this result is now possible.

Correspondence ID: 286

I am in full support of removing the Elk fence and allowing the elk more space to roam naturally. instead of being locked in this existing giant cage.

Thank you.

Michael Pace

Correspondence ID: 287

Let me start by thanking the National Park Service for the steps taken thus far to listen and consider requests to evaluate the circumstances at Point Reyes National Seashore related to Tule elk and impact of commercial animal agriculture at the coast. I am submitting my approval for the plan currently under consideration referred to as Alternative B. Despite inspirational plans to restore Tule elk habitat in their native environment, the recovering elk have struggled at Tomales Point. Concerned scientists forewarned that forage and water were insufficient for the confined herd to thrive, and sadly, as predicted, hundreds of elk have suffered and died during the historic droughts in recent years related to climate change.

I'm hoping that if passed, Alternative B will include:

- 1) An approximate timeline for the removal of the elk fence.
- 2) An emphasis on re-wilding the coastal land where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.
- 3) Identify activities for volunteers, and new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (for example, invasive plant identification and control training and/or volunteer days).
- 4) In the appropriate areas, provide signage and environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point.
- 5) To minimize immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife, ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc., in the planning area.

Sincerely, Paula Lecht

Correspondence ID: 288

Please remove the elk fence so the elk can access forage and water during hard years. This will reduce or eliminate elk die offs. I ask that you implement Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 289

The purpose of the National Park is the preservation and management of wild life. The fences that support the ranches should be removed because they are cruel and harm the elk. I believe that the Point Reyes National Seashore has been neglecting their proscribed purpose in favor of the ranches. The ranches must allow for elk to roam freely, or the ranches must go.

Correspondence ID: 290

Please remove the fence and allow the elk to roam freely across the park. Consider removing invasive species and enlisting volunteers to help the park rangers return the park to its natural state. If cows are to remain in the park, please ensure that that there are safe wildlife passages and animal-friendly fencing around the enclosures, and that the waste products do not materially impact the local ecosystem. Excited to see the progress here!

Correspondence ID: 291

James A. Coda

May 19, 2024

Superintendent Craig Kenkel

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Comments on EA for a Proposed Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

I have read your Environmental Assessment (EA) for a Tomales Point Area Plan and have the following comments.

The EA reads much like the request for scoping comments. Because my scoping comments apply equally to the EA, I will not be preparing a completely new set of comments. Instead, I am incorporating my scoping comments herein as an addendum to this letter. I do have a few new comments, however, which I will discuss next.

I have a background that is especially suited to commenting here. I spent 35 years as an attorney in the federal government. I began my career as an attorney for the Department of the Interior. When the rancher at Pierce Point Ranch/Tomales Point sued NPS in 1978 over the reintroduction of tule elk to Tomales Point and the termination of his ranching operation, I was the Interior Department attorney who defended the case and got it dismissed. I ended my federal career as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, mostly defending federal agencies in their management of federal lands in California. That included several cases where NPS was the defendant, including one case where the Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, canceled a rancher's lease. I got that case dismissed as well. NEPA was the most common issue in my cases, but they also involved other laws, such as the Wilderness Act, which also applies here.

In retirement, I have spent my time photographing wildlife. While I have spent much time photographing wildlife far from the Bay Area, my favorite area close to home is Point Reyes National Seashore. I think of it as my local "Yellowstone" because it has elk, deer, coyotes, and badgers, which I am used to photographing in Yellowstone. It also has a good population of bobcats which I love to photograph and never see in Yellowstone.

The two areas of the Seashore where I do all my photography are (1) the ranching area, because it is comprised mostly of open grasslands which make it easier to spot wildlife, and (2) Tomales Point which is also mostly open grasslands. Since January 2010, I have spent well over 200 days in the Seashore and every one of those days has been limited to the ranching area and Tomales Point.

While ranching has not occurred on Tomales Point since the elk were reintroduced there, ranching is still the biggest problem for Tomales Point because it is the only reason there is an 8-foot-tall woven wire fence that keeps the elk (and deer) locked up behind it like zoo animals, and thus unable to reach better and much larger habitat on the other side of the fence.

I have participated in not only every chance to comment regarding the recently completed GMPA for ranching, but the same is true for the Comprehensive Ranch Management Plan, which preceded the ranching GMPA, and now this Tomales Point Area planning process. I have read every document produced by the Seashore for these planning proposals and most of the related documents, like the 1980 GMP and the 1998 Tomales Point Elk Plan and EA.

I provided the Seashore with an 11-page scoping discussion which I submitted on September 25, 2023. As I stated above, because the EA makes virtually no changes to the request for scoping comments laid out by the Seashore then, my scoping comments are as applicable to the EA now as they were to the request for scoping. Consequently, I am incorporating those comments into this letter as an Addendum. See below.

Finally, in re-reading my scoping comments (the Addendum below), I now realize I overlooked something important then and now. While I explained in detail there why the fence violated the Wilderness Act and the resource protection language in the 1916 NPS Organic Act and the Seashore legislation, I only now realize that because the fence is illegal, NPS doesn't have the discretion to decide whether to keep

it in this GMP planning process. Any alternative involving whether to keep something that is illegal is not a viable alternative. NPS must remove the fence as a matter of law both from its physical location and from this planning process.

Sincerely, James A. Coda

ADDENDUM

James A. Coda

September 25, 2023

Superintendent Craig Kenkel

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Scoping Comments on Your Proposed Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

INTRODUCTION

I am responding to your undated "Public Scoping Newsletter" (PSN). In it you state that you are developing a land management plan for Tomales Point.

[T]he Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) . . . will provide updated management for the preservation of park resources, indications of the type and intensity of allowed development, and guidance for visitor use and capacities at Tomales Point, in addition to the management of tule elk in this region of [the] park.

PSN at 1.

You ask that we "share [our] thoughts on the information presented in your PSN, including the proposed action and alternatives, potential issues with park resources, and any other ideas or concerns [we] feel are relevant and important to this process." Ibid.

I am pleased to see by the block quote above that you are going to be preparing a GMP or amendment to the 1980 GMP as opposed to your previous idea of just updating the 1998 Elk Management Plan. I am also pleased to learn that your proposed action, Alternative B, is to remove the elk fence and free the elk from 45 years of confinement. I wholeheartedly support Alternative B. I note that since you identified removing the fence as the proposed action you have also decided to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) instead of an environmental impact statement (EIS). If you do ultimately decide to choose the fence removal alternative (Alternative B), and not another alternative to keep the elk captive, an EA seems legally sufficient. Furthermore, as I assume you know, the California Department of Fish & Wildlife's Elk Conservation and Management Plan of 2018 provides that all tule elk now captive (including Tomales Point) should be managed in a free-roaming state to the maximum extent possible. Retaining the fence would be in conflict with that management policy. The state plan also provides that steps must be taken to improve the habitat of captive elk pending their release. Also, confining the elk, as is now occurring and would continue to occur under Alternatives A and C, violates the Wilderness Act. Finally, given the problems with Alternatives A and C, you need more feasible alternatives. More on all of that below.

COMMENTS ON PUBLIC SCOPING NEWSLETTER

The PSN states on page 1 that “[i]n furtherance of its government-to-government relationship with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (Tribe), the NPS will continue to collaborate with the Tribe to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point.” I support that sentiment, generally.

However, you must keep in mind that Congress has delegated to the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service the legal authority and responsibility for managing the units of the national park system and that authority cannot be redelegated outside NPS. Everything you do must be in compliance with all laws applicable to the National Park System, including, especially, the Organic Act and the Seashore legislation which both provide and require the protection of natural resources as the highest management priority. Any Tribal views or traditional ecological knowledge the Tribe wishes to be applied to the Seashore must be reviewed and determined by you to be consistent with those laws and must be adopted by you as the product of NPS's careful consideration and decision making. Such determinations must be made in writing at the time they are made and must be a matter of public record.

Tomales Point: History and Management

The PSN states on page 3 that “[i]n 1980, the NPS prepared a General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore to provide guidance on the future management of the Seashore, including the Tomales Point area.” I have read the 1980 GMP several times over the years, including just now in writing these comments. It says nothing about how Tomales Point should be managed in the future, let alone how (and where) the newly arrived elk at Tomales Point should be managed in the future. There was only one mention of elk in the Seashore at all which was, simply:

Restoration of historic natural conditions (such as re-establishment of Tule elk) will continue to be implemented when such actions will not seriously diminish scenic and recreational values.

1980 GMP, page 96.

Not only does this tiny snippet of text about the elk in Point Reyes National Seashore involve no discussion and decision about the appropriateness of keeping the elk captive at Tomales Point, it also shows NPS planners had no idea that protecting and restoring natural conditions/natural resources was and still is the highest management priority in all units of the national park system under the 1916 NPS Organic Act and that scenic and recreational values, and all other values, are legally subservient to the protection and restoration of natural resources. For more on this point, see page 8 below.

The 1980 GMP said very little that was specific as to any area of the Seashore. The vast majority of things covered in that GMP were specific to GGNRA. Only if there were such a decision in the 1980 GMP to keep the elk at Tomales Point under captive conditions would the 1998 Elk Management Plan have been appropriate under NPS planning policy. That is beyond question in reading NPS planning policy.

The PSN goes on to state as follows:

The current planning effort will update the 1980 General Management Plan (GMP) for the Tomales Point area as an amendment to the 1980 GMP. The new plan will address the statutory elements required for a GMP.”

PSN, at 3.

At the beginning of this planning process PRNS talked of updating the 1998 Elk Management Plan and then going up the planning pyramid and, in a result-oriented fashion, changing the 1980 GMP to be consistent with a lower-level implementation plan which an updated 1998 Elk Management Plan would be. My previous letter of April 27, 2022, in response to your request for pre-scoping comments, dealt primarily with this point. That letter is incorporated herein by reference.

What is a GMP? A GMP “is a broad umbrella document that sets the long-term goals for the park.” https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf, at 22. (Emphasis Added.)

Thank you for correcting this mistake and putting this planning process on the correct GMP upper-most level planning path. However, since the 1980 GMP did not consider or decide in any way how the Tomales Point area should be managed, let alone that the elk at Tomales Point should be kept locked up there, you should treat this as a new GMP, not as an amended GMP. The difference may seem minor to you, but it is important.

EA or EIS

Of course, now that we are on the correct course of dealing with a GMP, GMPs normally require an EIS as you did for the ranching area. In your initial scoping request in 2022, you stated that you anticipated doing an EIS. You have changed your thinking and are now going to do an EA. You have also changed from not stating what your alternatives would be in 2022 to saying you now propose removing the fence and managing Tomales Point as a national park unit is supposed to be managed with the first priority being the protection of natural resources, including the elk. The protection of natural resources is the highest priority in units of the national park system. *Bicycle Trails Council of Marin v. Babbitt*, 82 F.3d 1445, 1453 (9th Cir. 1996).

A GMP, and any amendment to a GMP, normally requires an EIS. That is because GMPs and amendments thereto normally have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment under NEPA's language. NPS's NEPA Handbook provides as follows:

A. EISs for general management plans

It is standard NPS practice and policy to prepare an EIS with your park's GMP . . . The implementing legislation for NPS, unlike that for other land and resource management agencies, requires conservation of park resources . . . Another important reason parks should prepare GMP EISs is that they are used to narrow the range of future choices. In other words, parks often use the GMP NEPA document to “tier” (see section 7.4) to more site-specific projects that implement some part of the GMP.

NPS DO-12 Handbook at 85 (Emphasis added.) <https://www.nps.gov/goga/learn/management/upload/-1939-NPS-2001-DO-12-Handbook.pdf>

“[M]ore site-specific projects that implement some part of the GMP” in the above quote refers to implementation plans under NPS's planning policies.

Implementation Plans — These plans provide project-specific details needed to implement an action [from the GMP] in an area of a park and explain how the action(s) helps achieve long-term goals [of the GMP].

https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf, at 23.

Implementation plans, such as the 1998 Elk Management [Implementation] Plan, carry out in detail the more general decisions as to long-term goals made in their earlier, higher level, GMP. However, there was nothing in the 1980 GMP that decided that the elk should be confined to Tomales Point which would

have triggered the need for a later implementation plan like the 1998 Elk Management Plan. Thus, there was no basis for the 1998 Elk Management Plan.

If you were proposing either your Alternative A or C, as opposed to Alternative B, an EIS would be required. But when you specify that the proposed action is to remove the elk fence and manage Tomales Point in a natural way that all units of the national park system are required to be managed, that raises the question of whether an EIS is necessary. I concur in your apparent belief that an EIS would not be necessary for Alternative B. More on this under my Alternatives discussion below.

Purpose and Need

Under Purpose and Need on page 5 are the following two statements:

Key components of the proposed plan include tule elk management, wilderness management, visitor use at Pierce [Point] Ranch and co-stewardship with the Tribe.

The NPS has a General Agreement with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria that has established a partnership between the Tribe and the NPS for natural and cultural resource protection and stewardship, use of traditional ecological knowledge, education, research, revitalization of community and tradition, and the overall stewardship of Seashore lands and places.

(Emphasis and bolding added.)

Again, as on page 1 of the PSN, the PSN makes statements as to the role of Graton Rancheria regarding management of the Seashore which are troubling. My comments on page 1 above regarding the Tribe are incorporated herein by reference. I am all in favor of the Tribe and other Native Americans having a special role in the protection and management of Native American history, culture and artifacts, not to mention, of course, a general role, like all others, in commenting on other issues regarding park management or in volunteering assistance to PRNS in terms of things like the water tanks and troughs. But to the extent the Seashore appears to be delegating to the Tribe a management role that is independent of PRNS management and decision-making, that would be outside PRNS's authority to allow. That is not to say the Tribe can't propose something to PRNS that PRNS agrees with and implements after determining it is consistent with the laws and policies PRNS administers and is subject to (e.g., NEPA).

Alternative A: No Acton.

Also on page 5 is a discussion of the first alternative, Alternative A, the no action alternative. The PSN describes this alternative as follows:

This alternative, as required by NEPA, would continue the current management of Tomales Point and would not update zoning or land management guidance. The Tomales Point tule elk population would be managed as a confined herd, consistent with the State's original requirements for reintroduction and the 1998 tule elk management plan. The elk fence would remain at its current location and be maintained. Supplemental water infrastructure would remain in place and would be operated as needed.

PSN at 5. (Emphasis and bolding added.)

There are at least three reasons why PRNS cannot choose this alternative.

First, regardless of whether retaining the fence would be consistent with any alleged State requirement back in 1978 to have an elk-proof fence at Tomales Point, it is not consistent with the State's position today, which is what matters. The California Department of Fish & Wildlife's "Elk Conservation and Management Plan December 2018," rejects the idea of confined herds (there were three confined herds when the 2018 plan was prepared, including Tomales Point). Furthermore, the State's 2018 Plan requires some measures to provide increased forage for the three captive herds pending their release from captivity. PRNS claims NPS management policies prohibit it from providing forage for elk and/or other wildlife in times of drought or otherwise, but PRNS has never shown where in NPS's policies is a prohibition from providing forage to wildlife when they lack adequate forage and water, and they are being held captive, like animals in a zoo. The current PRNS policy of confining the Tomales Point herd and not doing anything to provide them with adequate habitat or forage is now clearly contrary to these new State policies. <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=162912&inline> at 451-464.

As the Cal F&W plan states, "[t]he management goals for the confined herds, [including Tomales Point] are to: 1) reduce the number of confined herds . . . and 2) enhance habitat within enclosures [of the confined herds]." Ibid, at 454.

With respect to that first goal of reducing the number of those three confined herds, Cal F&W goes on to state:

[A]rtificial conditions associated with their confinement are undesirable in the long term. The Department should shift objectives to emphasize managing tule elk in a free-roaming state to the maximum extent possible, as specified in the Management Plan for the Conservation of Tule Elk (Tule Elk Interagency Task Force 1985)."

Id. (Emphasis added.)

With respect to that second goal, Cal F&G's Plan states:

Habitat conditions within enclosures should be enhanced to provide a healthy environment for elk . . . Enhance elk habitats by at least 5% by 2028 . . . Work with NPS to identify/establish specific vegetation management thresholds for Tomales Point. Expected completion: 2021.

Id., at 456. (Emphasis added and red font in original.)

Tule elk are resident wildlife. As such, the State of California has primary jurisdiction over them and, thus, the plan applies, as a matter of policy, to the captive elk at Tomales Point. 43 C.F.R. Part 24. The EA should address all of this, including the status of discussions with Cal F&W regarding releasing the elk and enhancing their habitat until they are released. For example, please discuss whether the task of working with Cal F&W to "identify/establish specific vegetation management thresholds for Tomales Point," as identified in the last quote above from the State Plan, has been completed.

Second, if PRNS were to ultimately choose this alternative of no action it would require a finding that an EIS is needed. A FONSI would not be justifiable. GMPs normally require EISs as discussed above. The only reason it can be argued that an EIS is not needed for Alternative B is because, unlike Alternatives A and C, it has virtually no significant negative impacts on the environment. It is an environmental correction of a very bad natural resource management policy that has had significant negative impacts to the Tomales Point environment for over 40 years and, if chosen, would continue to do so.

Third, keeping the elk locked up in a wilderness area also violates the Wilderness Act. The Wilderness Act defines Wilderness as follows:

(c) A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable.

16 U.S.C. §11131. (Emphasis added.)

The Act defines "wilderness" in part as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man." NPS defines the word untrammelled as follows: "Essentially unhindered and free from the intentional actions of modern human control or manipulation." NPS Reference Manual #41. https://www.nps.gov/subjects/wilderness/upload/NPS-W-Defs_508.pdf

While the fence itself is located just outside the wilderness boundary, it has tremendous effect on the "earth and its community of life" inside the fence. Elk, deer, and other wildlife cannot move freely, as they would do naturally. This also leads to overgrazing of the habitat ("earth"). The elk and other wildlife inside the fence are also not "unhindered and free" because of the fence and the fence exists due to "the intentional actions of modern human control or manipulation."

The definition goes on to state that a wilderness is an area that is "protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions." A fence built to hold wildlife captive in an area is not preserving "natural conditions." Wildlife can't move or migrate as they would in nature and habitat suffers.

Does the area behind the fence, including the elk and other wildlife, "generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable"? No. The elk and other wildlife held in by the fence are being affected primarily by the fence ("man's work"), not the "forces of nature." The habitat is also affected by the fence, especially when elk and deer are forced to overgraze, especially during droughts. If nature controlled, elk and other wildlife would be free to move outside the fence for food, water and breeding.

Alternative B. Unconfined Elk Herd and Pierce Point Ranch Core Area (NPS Proposed Action)

Preservation of Park Resources

Alternative B begins on page 6 and has three subheadings. The first subheading is preservation of park resources. It has eight bullet points.

The first bullet point states: "Remove existing elk fence. Consider adding a fence to exclude cattle from Tomales Point."

I strongly support the Alternative B and this bullet point. Please specify that any cattle exclusion fencing would be of wildlife-friendly design.

The second bullet states: "Discontinue provision of supplemental water and minerals for tule elk. Remove all existing, non-historic supplementary water systems."

Please specify that this would not include removal of the old stock ponds.

Also, there should be some discussion as to how quickly the water tanks and troughs should be removed. While the south elk herd is probably familiar with the elk fence, the other three herds are likely not familiar with it. The four herds have been captive for almost 45 years. It will take time for all herds but the south herd to learn that in times of drought moving far enough south will provide them with greater possibilities for water and forage.

The bullet point under Alternative C to enhance the availability of naturally occurring water at the springs and seeps at Tomales Point should be adopted here as well. Given that the elk at Tomales Point have always been held captive at Tomales Point since their ancestors were brought there 45 years ago, it will take a long time before numbers eventually come into equilibrium with the habitat in the northern portion of Tomales Point. The EA should discuss how to best compensate for the fact that some of these elk, especially those at the far north end of the peninsula, may never leave there even if it would be in their best interests to leave.

Finally, please discuss whether relocating some of these elk from the northern half of the peninsula to Limantour/Drakes Beach and vice versa may be worthwhile. Relocating for genetic benefits was discussed, as I recall, in the 1998 Elk Management Plan.

The third bullet states: "Retain historic, cultural landscape features, unless they are incompatible with natural resources." (Emphasis added.)

It's nice to finally see PRNS write that preservation of natural resources is the highest management priority in units of the national park system under the Organic Act, not to mention the Seashore legislation. The courts have already said that as to the Organic Act. *Bicycle Trails Council of Marin v. Babbitt*, 82 F.3d 1445, 1453 (9th Cir. 1996).

And, as the Seashore legislation states:

(a) Protection, restoration, and preservation of natural environment

[T]he property . . . shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment.

16 U.S.C. § 459c-6. (Emphasis added.)

As stated in the quote, recreation, historic preservation, etc., must be "consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment."

Alternative C: Maintain Elk Fence and Actively Manage Elk Population

The last alternative, Alternative C, is discussed on page 7. It would "include the same management recommendations as the NPS proposed action (Alternative B) with [certain] differences" as described in five bullet points.

The first bullet point states that the elk fence would not be removed. This sounds more like Alternative A, the no action alternative, than Alternative B, which calls for removing the fence.

The second bullet point provides that excess elk numbers would be shot instead of dying during droughts due to lack of adequate rainfall and forage. Such an action would require a permit from Cal F&W. 43 C.F.R. § 24.4 (5) (ii).

Like Alternative A, this alternative, if chosen, would be inconsistent with the State's 2018 Elk Conservation and Management Plan for the reasons given in my discussion under Alternative A. It would also require an EIS, not an EA, for the same reasons I discussed under Alternative A. My discussions regarding Alternative A as to the State's 2018 Elk Plan and NEPA are incorporated herein by reference. Finally, keeping them locked up is a violation of the Wilderness Act as explained under Alternative A above which is incorporated herein by reference.

The third bullet point calls for removing non-historic supplementary water systems but calls for enhancing the availability of naturally occurring water at the springs and seeps. This is something that should be done under Alternative B as well because while elk in the south herd may move southward to some degree in the relatively near future after the elk fence is removed, the degree to which the other three herds will migrate at all is entirely unknown.

More alternatives

In my view, there are so many things wrong with Alternatives A and C that you need to come up with more alternatives to meet NEPA requirements. One possible alternative would be to improve the natural springs and seeps like you mention in Alternative C, plus add relocating some of these elk from the northern half of the peninsula to Limantour/Drakes Beach and vice versa. Relocating for genetic benefits was discussed, as I recall, in the 1998 Elk Management Plan.

CONCLUSION

I am pleased to say that I can support this latest administrative action by the Seashore, assuming the proposed action is chosen. Adopting Alternative B is the only alternative that supports not doing an EIS. It is also the only alternative that is consistent with Cal F&W's Elk Conservation and Management Plan of 2018 and the Wilderness Act.

Sincerely, James A. Coda

Correspondence ID: 292

Grateful the NPS preferred alternative includes removal of the inhumane elk fence on Tomales Point. There have been too many tragedies with elk suffering hunger and thirst with ample supplies across the fence, and the interim solution of supplying water only contributed to turning wildlife into ranch animals. There is adequate forage for both cows and elk, and it's time for the ranchers to live in peace with native wildlife from their privileged positions in a national park. Rather than culling elk, NPS should consider re-introduction of mountain lion as well.

Correspondence ID: 293

Thank you so much for the work you have done to consider the best way to manage point raise. I am so glad that you are considering taking down the fence, Alternative B. As a national park/seashore, I look forward to PR once again being a natural spot where the elk can roam, free and human beings are not stopped by a big fence, hoping you will continue in your efforts to protect the Fana and Flora of race and work to eradicate invasive species.

Correspondence ID: 294

Recommend Alternative B

Correspondence ID: 295

Please get rid of fences

Let elks roam free

Correspondence ID: 296

As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts, and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lynne Coulson

Correspondence ID: 297

This fence has had a devastating effect on the animals -- the elk and the other animals have literally been killed by the fence despite pleas to have it removed.

It is vital the fence be removed immediately -- I support Alternative B. Please approve this.

Correspondence ID: 298

Removal of the fence is necessary to provide the elk with greater access to forage and water. We need to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity. Focus on removing invasive species, not fencing in the elk. Ensure Best Management Practices are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife. Provide wildlife friendly fencing to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area.

Correspondence ID: 299

Dear NPS:

RE: Management Plan for Tomales Point Area

I write to support "Alternative B" in your proposals to remove the elk fence.

Removal of the fence will provide greater access to the elk that are otherwise trapped behind a 3-mile fence that limits their access to water and nutrition. The removal and assurance of corridors is a habitat improvement and will allow the elk to roam freely and promote better genetic diversity.

Thank you,

David Lichtblau

Correspondence ID: 300

I support removing any fences at Tomales Bay Point that prevent Tule elk access to water and food and/or providing them wildlife-friendly corridors to access resources. Aside from that main goal, I support focus on increasing biodiversity, reducing invasive and non-native species, and increasing human access and enjoyment in ways that do not impinge upon the native wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 301

I support Alternative B. In addition these other items are of great importance to me:

Removal of the fence to provide elk with greater access to freely roam, forage and obtain water 24/7.

Ensure corridors are PROVIDED immediately via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity. Start public education about invasive species and begin removal of invasive species.

Provide opportunities for greater volunteer participation, including high school, grade school, and elderly volunteer projects

Ensure Best Management Practices that have been developed with the consultation and approval of the local Indian tribe leaders are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife.

Eliminate all cattle ranching in the National Park.

Ensure that cattle ranching or any other exploitation of the National Park for monetary gains by companies and/or individuals never happens again.

Take down ALL "Historic Ranch" signage, it is grossly misleading as the Native Americans are the true historic figures of this land.

Thank you, Siobhan Duff RN,BSN,PHN,MSN

Correspondence ID: 302

My husband and I live and work on a cattle ranch in Sonoma County where he has managed the cow/calf operation for over 25 years. I am also a wildlife rehabber/advocate and frequent visitor to PRNS, so I feel I have a unique insight into both 'sides' of the Point Reyes elk fence issue.

First I would like to say that I support the park's current preferred alternative Alternative B, which would remove the elk fence.

What stands out to me about this issue is that, regardless of the arguments made in support of the elk fence by the ranching community, certain realities remain. Point Reyes National Seashore is a National Park, and as such it has a responsibility to prioritize the well being and interests of the native wildlife within the park and the interests of the general public, over the commercial interests of a few select individuals.

In a world where wildlife have fewer natural spaces to exist in than ever, America's National Parks should provide a place where our native wildlife can roam unmolested, and a place where wildlife lovers can view these animals in their natural environment.

Sadly for the wildlife and for the general public, PRNS has fallen short in this regard. For years native elk have been contained unnaturally behind a fenced area, rendering the elk unable to meet their nutritional and behavioral needs.

Allowing elk to roam freely will strengthen the herds and the ecosystem as a whole, as elk, unlike cattle, are biologically suited to exist on this landscape. It will also provide the public with the viewing experience most people visit National Parks to witness; which is animals existing freely in their natural environment.

Thank you for your consideration,

Keli Hendricks

Correspondence ID: 303

I support Alt 2. The elk fence should be removed and the native elk should be allowed all over the park. There should not be any cattle grazing in the park; all the ranch leases should be terminated. Its a National Park, not a commercial grazing site.

Correspondence ID: 304

Alternative B is absolutely essential for the long term genetic health and wellbeing of our native Tule Elk at Point Reyes NS. Removing the elk fence and allowing the currently captive herd to roam free is essential for these elk which have suffered over the last few years due to severe drought conditions. With the challenges of climate change, this captive situation for our native endemic Tule Elk will only continue to get worse as weather extremes become more frequent.

These Tule Elk will also be essential in restoring the native landscape within the seashore as Tule Elk co-evolved with the native habitat and ecosystem at PRNS.

Also Alternative B best reflects and honors the true "Mission" of our National Park Service Lands which are the most protected lands on Earth! This decision by the NPS provides an excellent opportunity for the public and our students to learn more and observe all our native Tule Elk in a natural setting on our public lands as well as the true mission of our NPS system!

This will also be an excellent opportunity to study and observe the elk population as it responds to this historical moment of the fences coming down and adapting to roaming free.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 305

I support taking down the fence that prevents tule elk from roaming freely. Please take the fence down for the health of elk.

Correspondence ID: 306

I strongly support the implementation of alternative B. It's a small step, but better than the options the NPS has provided thus far.

It's past time to shut down the commercial agricultural operations in PRNS and allow the public access to the land that taxpayers purchased decades ago.

Correspondence ID: 307

I strongly support the Park's alternative plan B. I strongly support this because:

* Removal of the fence provides the elk with greater access to forage and water

* Ensures corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity

* Ensures wildlife friendly fencing is used to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area

Correspondence ID: 308

I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its Environmental Assessment, to remove the 8-foot-tall fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore. Yes, please release this largest of the park's 3 herds of Tule elk from their fenced confinement.

Fences do not belong in Point Reyes or in any other national park unit. Fences alter animal behavior, sometimes subtly, sometime fatally. Fences can affect the natural migrations, foraging and mating of wildlife. Fences can cut or otherwise injure — and even kill — animals who attempt to cross between them or jump over them.

An additional 300 miles of barbed and straight wire fences should also be removed; they do not belong in this national park, or any other. Many of them, including recently installed fences are not even wildlife friendly. All cattle fences should be removed.

In addition all the cattle fences restrict the public's access to 28,000 acres of Point Reyes — which is 1/3rd the entire park — have been fenced off for these private businesses which have no place in a national park.

Please officially rescind the current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan which allows shooting elk to death in the other two herds as population control measures. Because with the Reserve fence gone, the park's three herds may intermingle, as they should for herd health. I oppose ALL lethal “management” of ANY wild animals at Point Reyes.

The NPS' Environmental Assessment for Tomales Point recommends removing the current water tanks and troughs (aka, supplemental water) from the Reserve — but this action should be delayed for at least two years from the date of the fence removal. Drought conditions may return and more elk might die of thirst, especially in the northernmost herds at Tomales Point, so supplemental water may be needed again. It is both efficient and economical to leave the tanks and troughs in place should the need arise to refill them. Over a few years time, they can be removed, once all the Reserve's elk have learned they can now, with the fence removed, move naturally to additional water sources in times of drought

The park's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed. Cattle operations expose elk to numerous hazards, including massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle which contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the park's ranches and can infect elk.

The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease. Cows-for-profit are the source of the disease problem, not wild elk. Ranchers often blame the park's elk for infecting their cows with Johne's, a “wasting” disease, despite their thousands of cows, crowded together, being the breeding ground for this and other ungulate diseases, which are common in cattle operations.

The park's private cattle have infected the park's wild elk, not the other way around. Ranchers then blame the victimized elk, when it is their filthy, crowded businesses (which exploit cows too) that are responsible for bringing Johne's disease to the Point Reyes peninsula — and infecting the Tule elk herds — in the first place.

I visit Point Reyes occasionally and I come to enjoy the wildlife, not the private cattle operations which degrade the land, pollute the water, harm and kill wildlife. Cattle businesses are brutal on cows, are eyesores in the park, and have no business being here in a national park.

Thank you, National Park Service for considering my, and the public's comments on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 309

PLEASE TAKE DOWN THE FENCE! The Elk are suffering. It should have been removed years ago.

Correspondence ID: 310

Remove the fencesfor Mother Nature to be held hostage by cows is irreconcilable with the whole idea of GGNRA,theNPS and any other California service with saving species ,land water etc.in mind.

Correspondence ID: 311

This is a letter in support of the NPS preferred alternative: ALTERNATIVE B: Unconfined Elk Herd, Improved Visitor Amenities, and Explore Adaptive Reuse of Pierce Ranch Core Area

In particular,

- 1) Please take the Elk Fence down before December 2025
- 2) Repair the Tomales Point Trail and finish building the trail to the viewpoint.
- 3) Re Reuse of Pierce Point Ranch Core Area, consider an interpretive display of native plants on Pt. Reyes by the California Native Plant Society

As someone who used to visit Point Reyes every weekend for decades, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Correspondence ID: 312

I'm against ranching in our national park. Why do we need this business operating? It has no place in a national park. I has appalled when the leases were renewed. Now we see the ranchers are not able or willing to mitigate all the negative effects.

Correspondence ID: 313

I support alternative B

Correspondence ID: 314

I support removing the fencing and designating the current area utilized by ranchers as open to the tule elk. As a visitor to our National Seashore, the ranching operations are disturbing and not in line with the mission and goals of a public park. Driving by the open road and viewing the rows of newborn calves crying for their mothers and crated in small pens with bottles attached is disturbing. The life of a diary cow and a calf born on a dairy farm is driven by profit. Viewing this disregard for animal welfare in a public park is counter to why we visit wild spaces. Explaining this sad scene to children is necessary, but should it be endorsed by our national park service? We should have standards of care for human and animal welfare for leaseholders at our national parks, just like we have standards and expectations and rules of conduct for vendors, visitors,and guests. Remove the fencing, let the elk and other impacted wildlife have access to the park and limit private uses that are not environmentally or socially acceptable for our public space. , Remove the fencing and phase out dairy farming at Pt. Reyes N S.

Correspondence ID: 315

I was vice chair of the Federal Advisory Commission for PORE and GOGA at the time the Tule Elk were

introduced to the Seashore. We gave little thought to their reproduction, being just glad to help with the survival of a species.

I support the NPS Preferred Alternative for the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

I am glad the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria can collaborate with the NPS to improve the preservation, use and enjoyment of this part of the national park.

I am glad the plan calls for the removal of the fence separating 2900 acres from the rest of the park.

I think a broad effort over the next several years, as described in the Plan, will lead to better natural resource conditions, better use of the Pierce Point ranch, more opportunities for education and recreation, and more understanding of local culture and Wilderness.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 316

I am writing in support of Alternative B. I travel from Virginia to Point Reyes to see the beautiful Tule elk. Please protect them.

Correspondence ID: 317

I strongly support Alternative B because of its alignment with the creation of the desired conditions for the area and its support for the current health and future growth of the tule elk and black tail deer herds. Ranching, farming and cattle grazing are activities that should have been curtailed many years ago. Water resources should be preserved and enhanced to benefit natural species like the tule elk and deer.

I am pleased that Alternative B is the preferred alternative of the National Park Service.

Correspondence ID: 318

I support the park's current preferred alternative, Alternative B.

Free the elk!

- * Removal of the fence to provide elk with greater access to forage and water
- * Ensure corridors are considered via habitat improvement to allow elk to roam freely to promote better genetic diversity
- * Focus on removing invasive species
- * Discuss opportunities for greater volunteer participation
- * Ensure Best Management Practices are used to minimize impact to existing wildlife
- * Ensure wildlife-friendly fencing is used to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area

Correspondence ID: 319

The Park Service here at Point Reyes has been grossly negligent in its care of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore and the FENCE MUST COME DOWN NOW. During the drought the NPS allowed many Elk to die of starvation and thirst as this was a convenient way to cull the herd. This is all well documented although the NPS puts it out on their press that they brought in mineral licks and water troughs at the time HOWEVER this ONLY HAPPENED after activists in desperation to save the ELK brought in water troughs on their own.

Then the Park Service ACTUALLY removed them leaving the Elk again without water in the drought. I myself called the Ranger Station and asked to speak to a Ranger and asked why did they remove the Elk's water and the Ranger actually said to me," they might have been placed on a native plant". I was stunned that the NPS considered the life of a plant more important than a living 4 legged being whom they were supposed to be the custodians of.

Only after tremendous public outcry and calls to Rodoni and other officials did the Park Service finally put out water troughs and mineral licks. The NPS has been grossly neglectful and keeping the Elk behind this fence is a crime.

Culling the Elk by rifle is completely unacceptable. This is supposed to be a National park not a shooting range. When the NPS killed all the White Deer, so beloved by so many, I just lost all respect for them. I don't buy the native species kill everybody else program.

I used to be a supporter of the Ranches but it has become more and more evident that the beef and dairy operations are corrupting the National Park with water contamination, wrecking the land not to mention greenhouse gas emissions and leaking septic.

It would be wonderful to see the Seashore returned and become the National Park it was intended to be once again.

So I support alternative B. GET FENCE DOWN AND CARE FOR THESE CREATURES AND PROVIDE WATER IF NEEDED AND MINERAL LICKS.....DO YOUR JOB PLEASE

Correspondence ID: 320

Please take down the fence

Correspondence ID: 321

Hello..

I am writing you today about the Tule Elk and asking you to choose Alternate B to remove the existing Elk fence that deprives

the herd from ranging and to construct a new fence that will keep livestock out of the wildlife area also the removal of invasive plants and artificial water sources.

I support your collaboration with Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate their views and ecological knowledge.

Let's restore the wildness of Point Reyes National Seashore and appreciate the wildlife being free in this beautiful landscape.

Thank you

Suzanne P

Correspondence ID: 322

Please remove the fence. The Tule elk have been suffering and deserve to be able to have access to food and water. They are gorgeous and a major reason that I visit pt reyes many times per year. This is a good opportunity to right the wrong done to these animals and restore their rightful place.

Correspondence ID: 323

As a fairly frequent visitor to and hiker in the Tomales Pt. area of Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I appreciate the wisdom behind NPS's proposed Alternative B. It is indeed time to remove fencing that for

some 150 years has separated the endemic tule elk population from reliable sources of graze and clean water, and which has severely limited genetic diversity in the surviving elk population.

By adopting Management Alternative B, the Park Service would no longer be condemning these native herbivores to periodic debilitating famine and death from insufficient food or dehydration, to the benefit of no one besides cow-calf operations, which from an ecological perspective should never have been introduced onto fragile terrain that is periodically afflicted by crippling drought, or that in other years receives such heavy storms that flooding causes liquified cow manure to course across park roadway and contaminate the water supply on which the elk depend.

Deployment of wildlife-safe exclusionary fencing to keep cattle out of prime tule elk habitat should reduce the current competition between these two species of herbivores, one indigenous and the other introduced. In an era of declining biodiversity, it is good to see NPS proposing solutions that put wildlife protection on an equal footing with industrial-scale agriculture.

Correspondence ID: 324

I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, which would remove the 8-foot-tall wire and post fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Release this largest of the park's three herds of Tule elk from fenced confinement. Fences to confine any animals do not belong in Point Reyes or any national park unit.

In addition, please officially rescind the current regulation in the General Management Plan allowing killing of elk in the other two herds, because herds may intermingle when the fence is removed. I oppose all lethal "management" of any wild animals at Point Reyes and in any national park.

Finally, the Seashore's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed because they expose elk to numerous hazards; massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the privately owned ranches in the park. The National Park Service itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease.

Hundreds of miles of wire and barbed wire fences do not belong in this national park or any other. They restrict the public's access and negatively impact the free movements of wild animals which the park is legislated to value above all other considerations - - especially commercial, for-profit businesses that only lease land in the park.

And since other species do not belong to humans at all, the least we can do is assiduously try to protect them as much as possible, after all the harm people have inflicted on them.

I thank the National Park Service for requesting and considering public comments on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 325

This is not an easy issue and I thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am not endorsing any specific plan but rather urge you to consider the following if you choose to expand the elk free range area (removal of fences). There are no apex predators to naturally control the herbivores, such as the elk. By removing the fences/expanding the elk range, you are simply kicking the can down the road. At some point, there will be too many elk in the park. Even if all the cows are removed, the problem is not solved. It is merely delayed. There must be a natural balance in this ecosystem. Without apex predators, the NPS will face the same problem it faces now--too many elk in a defined space.

Correspondence ID: 326

Our family is telling the "National Park Service" that we support your, own, "preferred Alternative B" which would dismantle the, 8-foot-tall, 3-mile-long, fence of the "Tule Elk Reserve" at "Tomales Point" at "Point Reyes National Seashore"!

While, technically, this is NOT a vote, or, a, popularity, contest, it IS a way for the public to communicate to the "NPS" our, overwhelming, preference for dismantling the, elk, fence, AND for removing the, ecologically, destructive, private, cattle, businesses (which is what the Park's founders envisioned way back in 1962; a National Park for wildlife, NOT, livestock)!

The, cattle, industry is, politically, powerful. It also has a, giant, public relations, machine that pollutes the public's mind as effectively as its operations pollute the Park! That P.R. machine sells a, false, narrative about, "small", "family" "farms" that create jobs, and, contributes to the economy — despite most of this being misleading, or, an, outright, lie!

The, harsh, reality of the beef, and, dairy, operations, at "Point Reyes", is that they are responsible for, indirectly, killing hundreds of, wild, animals at "Point Reyes", and, not only, elk. And, poisoning, countless, more, animals from, cattle, manure, pollution of land, water (streams, lagoons, bays) and, the atmosphere!

While the "NPS" is asking, only, for "Public Comments" about their, so-called, "Tomales Point Plan", for the elk, we, activists, use, every, opportunity to enter our preferences into what is a, federal, public, record! Because the conflicts and, damages that, cattle, operations do inside this, relatively, small SF Bay Area National Park, unit are, only, a microcosm of the, massive, damages the, cattle, industry does to, literally, millions more acres of America's, public, land!

Correspondence ID: 327

I support the ranchers of Pt Reyes. They need our support. The ranchers want their lands to be healthy. The campaign against them is a broader coalition to remove ranchers across Marin and Sonoma and beat them down with constant lawsuits full of misleading figures. We need farmers and ranchers in Marin for our local food supply. I've lived in Marin 74 years and I clam, fish, crab, hike out here and I'm still healthy from the fresh products raised and grown here. Praise to those hard working people who tend the land. I believe we can all live together without the harsh measures trying to remove them from our food source and enjoyment.

Please support Marin farmers and ranchers..... and those of us who rely on and love their they're bounty.

Correspondence ID: 328

I support Alternative B to remove the elk fence at Pierce Point & to let the Elk roam free while fencing off the cows from interfering with wildlife. I would like to see a timeliness for when this will be accomplished. I would also like to see the areas where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded by human activities, ID'd in the planning area & subsequently restored to a predisturbed condition & a timeliness for such. Thank you, Alice Herwill

Correspondence ID: 329

I am writing in strong support of your "preferred Alternative B" which would dismantle the 8-foot-tall, 3-mile-long fence of the Tule Elk Reserve at Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. I urge the removian of the ecologically destructive private cattle businesses (which is what the park's founders envisioned; a national park for wildlife, not livestock). Livestock is responsible for indirectly killing hundreds of wild animals in addition to the Elk at Point Reyes, and poisoning countless more animals from cattle manure pollution of land, water (streams, lagoons, bays) the atmosphere and climate.

Please do what is best for the conservation of the park for the public, wild animals and the local ecology.

Correspondence ID: 330

Hello, I support the National Park Service's current preferred alternative, Alternative B, for the Tomales Point Area Plan, which includes removing the fence that limits where Tule elk can live. This is the compassionate choice, as it provides the elk with greater access to forage and water, and ensures a more humane life for them. Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 331

I am against the removal of the fence. It is another step in getting the ranchers out of the park. The ranchers have a long history in the park and are doing their best to be good stewards of the land. The elk are great...but so is the meat/cheese/dairy the ranchers provide. I am so glad to have local clean food. I believe this is of great value to our county. Without predators, the elk will over populate and cause harm to our food supply as well as make it harder for the ranchers to be viable. It is better for the environment to eat local food. And I like seeing the ranches. It reminds me of old California which has mostly been obliterated. I don't see why we can't have both ranches and elk.

Correspondence ID: 332

With respect to the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, and the Tomales Point Area Plan currently under development and available for public comment until June 5, 2024, I favor ALTERNATIVE B: UNCONFINED ELK HERD, IMPROVED VISITOR AMENITIES, AND EXPLORE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF PIERCE RANCH CORE AREA (NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE).

This alternative best supports the long-term health of the Tule Elk herd, and the environment of Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Plan, for a unit of the National Park System which I have enjoyed visiting in the past and hope to return to.

Correspondence ID: 333

Please remove the fences that keep elk and other wild animals from roaming freely. Please remove cows and other private farmed animals that are taking up space at Point Reyes. They do not belong on National Park land, and they are ruining the wilderness, the air, water, and the lives of wild animals.

Please make sure the elk have adequate access to water at all times. Please do not cull animals when any other measures can be done.

Correspondence ID: 334

I excitedly hopeful that a resolution may be at hand for the Pt Reyes NP Tule Elks' access to water and forage. It has been discordant with typical National Park policies to not put wildlife and their natural environment ahead of commercial human invasion like ranching. This is particularly egregious when the ranching enterprises intentionally fenced federal property to exclude Tule Elk from ranch resulting in the death of a large portion of the elk due to thirst and starvation. Tule Elk are a threatened local species that deserve federal protection as we have done elsewhere for many other species. Please, act to protect the elk, provide them free access to Pt Reyes NP and promote their population and survival.

Correspondence ID: 335

Please adopt "Alternative B," which would permanently remove the fencing that keeps the Elk from finding water sources in times of drought. Permitting the elk to access water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane approach to managing these once-endangered wild animals. This plan will ensure their ability to thrive naturally without unnecessary suffering.

Correspondence ID: 336

I am writing in support of Option B. Please permanently remove the fencing so the beloved herd of Tule Elk can find water sources in times of drought. It is cruel to simply let them die of thirst and/or starve during times of drought. Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 337

I spent my Memorial Day hiking out Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. I have been doing this hike for years, and always appreciate seeing the majestic and unexpected Tule Elk. I had not realized that they are now in a fenced off area. This is a terrible and sad development. I strongly support the new plan, Alternative B, to remove the fence and temporary water supplies. Please let the Elk find their way across this remarkable landscape. Thanks.

Correspondence ID: 338

I am writing in support of Option B to remove the fencing that has been responsible for the starvation and decimation of the Tule Elk in Tomales Point.. I hope the outcome of this vote will reflect the goal and mission of the NPS to help our native species thrive and grow rather than starve and suffer needlessly. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 339

Please get rid of the fencing which prevents our native Tule Elk from getting to fresh water. It is inhumane and unnecessary. I urge you to adapt Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 340

Please adopt Alternative B to permanently remove all fencing. Wildlife is what makes the area beautiful. The suffering and starvation needs to end once and for all.

Correspondence ID: 341

Please remove the fencing permanently so the Tule Elk can roam freely to find appropriate food and water sources. Thank you so much.

Correspondence ID: 342

It has been brought to my attention that in recent years, the beloved herd of Tule Elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore has faced suffering and starvation during times of drought due to fencing that prevents them from being able to reach water and food sources. It is imperative that we take action to protect the herd by adopting "Alternative B," which would permanently remove the fencing that keeps them from finding water sources in times of drought.

Correspondence ID: 343

I am in support of Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 344

Please show compassion and care for our local Tule Elk and adopt "Alternative B," to permanently remove the fencing that cruelly keeps the herd from finding water sources in times of drought.

Thank you, Elizabeth Lynn

Correspondence ID: 345

It is very important for all wildlife to be able to access available drinking water. The Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment has to consider removing the fencing that prevents any living thing drinking water.

I would be so ashamed of myself or anyone on this committee to allow this to go on any further. Please find it in yourself to try and help these animals as much as we can. I speak for all who love mother nature and all its inhabitants. Mary Jane Gerald 5/28/2024

Correspondence ID: 346

Adopt Plan B and remove the Tule Elk fencing!!!

Correspondence ID: 347

It is gratifying to see NPS acknowledge public support for the beneficial removal of the enclosures that have penned the Tomales Point tule elk herd for so long. That NPS intends to work with Federated Indians of Graton Ranch as well as Coastal Miwok and other Tribal peoples represented by FIGR, remedies a long overdue omission of these stakeholders. Incorporating "Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of this area" enriches the park.

What is lacking and/or needs clarification:

- Consistency in Management Zones may be impossible to achieve due to the diversity of uses and areas within the park. This revision to the GMP is an example of laudable, documented, NPS administrative staff flexibility adapting to changing conditions. Continued recognition of the need for modification and revision is essential to the park's future success; it should not stop with this one GMP revision.
- Intensity of use needs careful management. Visitor access and safety must be balanced with dedicated wildness preservation. While a potential revenue source, Development Zone Disneyland@Pierce Ranch, and beaches and trails is unwelcome and will be resisted. Visitor safety and comfort are not to be conflated with commercial ventures. Visitors who come to see the elk and whale feeding times should be welcomed for education, not accomodation.

Keeping it Wild , indeed.

- Will long-sought archeological interests of Tribal resources be expanded and expedited per the 2021 General Agreement in GMP development revisions? Citing respect for Tribal privacy and confidentiality should not cloak exclusion and restriction by NPS of Tribal archeological sites restoration and protection. Embracing a plan with well-defined, inclusive program and timeline that outlines goals, responsibilities, participation opportunities and anticipated benefits for the park should be in this TPAP revision.

Where conflict between NPS and tribal interests arise, is there an effective process for resolution?

Is further refinement needed?

- Of 32,730 AC in the Phillip Burton Wilderness area, this revision applies only to 2,900 AC, 85% of the Tomales Point tule elk herd. How is the missing 15% to be managed? Removing one enclosure followed by additional new enclosures is contra-indicated.
- Removing supplemental water and mineral resources raises concerns: deer and elk may be reluctant to leave familiar areas, thereby repeating past die offs. Water and mineral supplement deprivation should be done in stages in order to encourage the animals to seek new territory for sustenance.
- Elk foraging into new areas will aid herd diversification, brush management, visitor enjoyment of the elk and the park. Free ranging also will accelerate potential conflicts and fencing issues and the need for park-wide elk management. Preplanning for management of these conflicts should be on-going, not omitted. What freedom are elk to be allowed with partial fence removal in this 2,900 AC area and new elk enclosures in the remaining park?

Stasis and political conflicts have engendered ill will and remain far from settled, threatening PRNS's future. TPAP's Alternative B shows responsiveness by NPS and needed GMP revision. How NPS will maintain the park's wilderness areas, beaches and trails, marine and land wildlife diversity with increased Tribal partnership participation remains concerning. TPAP Alternative B is progress, but no guarantee that the treasured, unique and challenging combination of wonders in the Pt. Reyes National Seashore can be preserved as a national park.

Correspondence ID: 348

Please remove the fencing that limits tule elk access to food and water. We can do better for this native species that once roamed freely in numbers.

Correspondence ID: 349

I strongly encourage the National Park Service to adopt & enact Alternative B plan and remove the fencing surrounding the Tule Elk in Point Reyes, CA.

Correspondence ID: 350

I strongly encourage the National Park Service to adopt & enact Alternative B plan and remove the fencing surrounding the Tule Elk in Point Reyes, CA.

Correspondence ID: 351

As very long time residents of Marin county we have always loved being able to enjoy seeing the Tule Elk in Point Reyes. One of our very favorite hikes is the Pierce Point hike. This is such a beautiful hike and so much so because of the wildness of it with these beautiful Elk that allows us to truly feel that we are the protectors of this wild beloved animals. The fact that in recent years they have deliberately starved of water and resources is absolutely shameful. This has been a corrupt attempt by the ranchers, and the politicians whose pockets they line, to deny the rest of us Marinites, and the animals, the riches of being citizens of this county. And we want it to stop. These fences, death traps, must be removed and the Elk allowed to move freely.

Correspondence ID: 352

Confined native elk dying of thirst and malnutrition in a national park is unacceptable. Even more shocking that this is happening in a rich and thoughtfully enriching County that values and protects ecological health and improving habitat conditions for biodiversity. Once the fencing is removed - steps need to be set into place to protect the tule elk from further hazing or harassment. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Correspondence ID: 353

Please please please approve Alternative B to take down the fence and save the Point Reyes tule elk from thirst and starvation!!

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 354

To Whom it may concern:

My wife and I have been hiking the Tomales Peninsula for over 40 years, and have enjoyed the Tule Elk herd during that time. I have been outraged by the fences that have been put up and subsequently starving the herd. This is an abject capitulation to the strong-arming of the Marin Farm lobby. I see no reason why the local government and the farmers cannot work out a solution that both protects the herd and the farmers stock and property.

Take the fences down!

Correspondence ID: 355

Tule Elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore has faced suffering and starvation during times of drought due to fencing that prevents them from being able to reach water and food sources. Please adopt "Alternative B," which would permanently remove the fencing that keeps the herd from finding water sources in times of drought.

Correspondence ID: 356

Please adopt Plan B to remove the fence isolating the tule elk permanently. It is inhumane to keep them enclosed in the current manner. This is not what the public wants for their National Park service management.

Thank you -

Kathleen Minor

Correspondence ID: 357

Please remove fencing which prevents Tule Elk from accessing food and water. Remember that they were here before us, and that this is the right thing to do. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 358

Urge adoption of Alternative B, to allow Tule Elk @ Point Reyes to access water & food resources.

Correspondence ID: 359

Please treat our Tule Elk neighbors with humanity and permanently remove the fencing, allowing them access to water.

In my opinion, the cows and ranches shouldn't be on Pt Reyes any longer. I'll never understand why cows get to stay, but the oysters had to go.

Correspondence ID: 360

Please adopt "Alternative B," which would permanently remove the fencing that keeps the herd from finding water sources in times of drought.

Correspondence ID: 361

By Any Means Necessary

The Tomales Point Plan comment period provides many ironies. The First is that the National Park Service (NPS) has already stated that their preferred selection is: "Alternative B" to remove the elk fence. So, why even have a comment period?

Secondly, Once the elk fence comes down the area of the PRNS outside of Tomales Point, and adjacent residential areas will be affected; but NPS will not take comments that raise concerns about areas outside Tomales Point.

In the coastal, rural Oregon town of Warrenton much like our own, and Seaside there is an overpopulation of habituated Roosevelt elk that have wreaked havoc by attacking the residents there, including very young children and the elderly, their pets, their properties, their businesses and even their cars! They're now considering getting rid of their overpopulation of habituated Roosevelt elk by any means necessary.

So, what will happen after a year to a year and half of no land stewardship by the PRNS, NPS, tenant ranchers? Where will all the good forage go? Where will the elk go? To the ranches away from Tomales Point and into the residential neighborhoods outside of The Park? It is imperative that The Marin County

Board of Supervisors ensures accountability by NPS to protect Marin County Residents from poor decisions that are not science based. Science tells us that cattle grazing is the answer to fire prevention and to climate change. The cows cut the grass with their tongues while the elk pull it up by the roots making it so it can't reseed which creates soil erosion, poor forage, and thus poor land management by making the land fire prone with flammable, invasive plants instead. Also, we are talking about highly regulated Marin County family farms, not Industrial Farms. We have as a prime example in our area, of Albert Staus, an organic dairyman who uses carbon sequestration. WHY not our PRNS tenant ranchers you may ask? Well, they were not given 20-year leases in The PRNS. Such leases would allow bank financing for such large-scale improvements. Also, carbon sequestration has not been part of the leases from The PRNS, NPS.

The fire risk will be greater without cattle in the PRNS. Will homeowner's insurers recognize this and further drop policies? Will property owners be able to rebuild after a fire given the CA FAIR Plan's weak coverage and the high labor costs of rebuilding, permitting and building materials and the high cost of housing in our area?

The Biodiversity of plant and animal grassland habitat and ecosystems that encourages pollinators such as birds, bees and butterflies will also be affected by an overpopulation of competing elk as will overgrown trails in rescuing visitors or keeping the current aesthetic of unencumbered ocean or bay views.

We do not wish for a similar fate to happen to our beautiful Tule elk in The PRNS, (as it did for the Axis and Fallow deer,) when our Tule Elk are likely to travel outside The Park and into residential areas when the good forage is gone.

These are just a few of the concerns that could adversely affect residents who live in the area, as well as, visitors.

The PRNS, NPS needs to be made accountable to its out-of-town visitors and Marin residents who live in close proximity to The Point Reyes National Seashore that will be adversely affected when The Tomales Point fence comes down.

Cathy ("Cassandra") Richards, Inverness

My sources:

<https://www.opb.org/article/2023/04/10/elk-oregon-coast/>

https://www.wweek.com/news/2018/12/12/droves-of-wild-elk-are-chasing-down-minivans-and-harassing-residents-on-the-oregon-coast/?fbclid=IwAR2QJMttyhiDQfyZ6VqRE_pjNI17MKrIFyKH9iGJ

<https://www.opb.org/article/2023/06/01/oregon-co>

Correspondence ID: 362

PLEASE PERMANENTLY REMOVE THE FENCING that is causing the death of so many Tule Elk in Point Reyes simply to assist the dairy industry. It is unfair, unnatural, and cruel. We DO NOT need dairy nor do the cows want to be there for dairy profit. Every nonhuman animal suffers (cows and Tule Elk) for human animal profit. UNFAIR and UNKIND. Please help.

Correspondence ID: 363

I am in support of the newly proposed management plan for Pt.Reyes National Seashore. I have been coming to the area for over 40 years and continue to experience awe and wonder in the natural beauty. I

am in support of keeping this area in as natural a state as possible which would include the removal of the fence at Pierce Ranch.

Thanks for all the work to manage this unique resource!

Correspondence ID: 365

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 366

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 367

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 368

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 369

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 372

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I fully support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

PLEASE do the next right thing and make this a reality!!

Correspondence ID: 373

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 374

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 375

Please, please, please remove the 3-mile elk-fence! The Tule elk need an improved habitat and compassion.

Tribal partners should be included in the area's management.

We are the guardians of the earth for the future generations.

Correspondence ID: 377

protect the elk - remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 378

Removal of the fence will help all the animals!

Correspondence ID: 380

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 382

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

Correspondence ID: 386

Remove the fence and allow the elk to move around.

Correspondence ID: 387

I support the removal of the tule elk fence at Point Reyes National Seashore, and the removal of ALL cattle ranch fencing. Barbed wire fences, making one-third of Point Reyes off-limits, have no place in a National Seashore. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 392

Thank you so much for this opportunity to comment. This fence has caused problems for a long time and I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use, that would be a fantastic achievement.

best wishes

Jessica Langford

Scotland

Correspondence ID: 394

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 395

I have always loved Point Reyes! Cows don't belong there, but elk do. Fix it!

Correspondence ID: 398

Dear National Park Service,

I am submitting my comment in favor of Alternative B that will remove the fence at Pt. Reyes National Seashore that now restricts the tule elk from grazing and finding water.

Please work with Tribal partners who will assist in suggesting traditional environmental practices that will improve the management of the natural habitat of the Park.

Please also end cattle ranching in Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Ranching is and has been destroying the Park, and we deserve and pay for a park that is healthy and not overgrazed and polluted with cattle urine and feces.

Thank you for reading and considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 399

The public needs OUR Park Service to honor that which the program was given. That means enhancing the natural ecological systems of Pt. Reyes National Seashore which in the interest of these comments--the REMOVAL OF THE FENCE WHICH DESTROYS our park and kills native animals--the Tule elk.

We support Alternative B which prevents further death of OUR Tule elk.

Pt. Reyes had an agreement with the corporate interests (used to be farmers, but now just corporations) that they could run cattle for only a set number of years. They agreed to that. Now, we must enforce that original agreement with the intent to preserve ecologically the Pt. Reyes area. That includes a vital part of the ecological system--Tule elk who are native to this area. Put the corporations in their place--off OUR land. Free the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 400

I am in favor of expanding the range of the tule elk throughout the National Seashore, so I support Alternative B and the removal of the fence that impedes the tule elk. We need healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners, especially the Coast Miwok Tribal Council of Marin, and to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. It is long past time for the ranchers to pack up and leave so that the Seashore can return to the wilderness it was meant to be when local congressman Hubert Scudder first proposed the purchase back in the 1950's. Let's put an end to overgrazing, destruction of the environment, leaking septic systems, cattle waste in the creeks and substandard worker housing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 401

I support Alternative B.

Protect Nature.

Correspondence ID: 402

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 404

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 406

I support Alternative B and want to see the removal of the fence that confines the tule elk.

I also want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Animal agriculture is the most brutal and destructive industry that has ever existed and must be completely phased out. Animal agriculture is causing the 6th mass extinction as it is the leading cause of deforestation, water depletion, water pollution, ocean dead zones, and climate change.

Correspondence ID: 407

The entire shore should be returned to wildlife. Cattle don't belong there, they pollute the area and water.

Correspondence ID: 408

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tule Elk. Elk belong there, and the land was never meant for ranchers and profit, but wildlife.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Let's leave wildlife in peace and live with them in harmony.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 409

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 410

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. I know that the cattle operations have been in effect for many many years, but this land does not belong to them . It belongs to the wildlife that lives there and the Native Americans that originated there. It is a small piece of property in comparison to many of the other ranches but should be preserved for those that lived there originally.

Correspondence ID: 411

I strongly support PROPOSAL B. Remove the fence and allow the tule elk to do what is necessary to survive. Homo sapiens must stop interfering with nature!

Correspondence ID: 413

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 414

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Cattle have no place in a National Park. Their presence diminishes the park experience for visitors and enriches private ranchers on lands owned by the citizens of the United States.

Correspondence ID: 415

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 417

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 418

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that

confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 419

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment this issue. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Sincerely,

Jörg Gaiser

Correspondence ID: 421

When I lived in the Bay Area many years ago, I often visited Pt. Reyes and still do when I come back. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I also want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Pt. Reyes National Seashore and the tule elk and other wildlife that inhabit it are all incredibly special and need to be protected. Please adopt Alternative B. Thank you for this opportunity to comment

Correspondence ID: 422

protect point reyes from development and maintain our natural resources !

Correspondence ID: 423

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 424

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 425

Turtle Island Restoration Network provided the words below, of which I wholeheartedly endorse and urge you to adopt. Here they are:

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

astly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 427

I support Alternative B. The Tule Elk habitat should never have been carved up to accommodate grazing. This has led to the deaths of elk due to being unable to access sufficient food and water and herd diversity.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 428

I am pleased to support Alternative B, which will remove the fence that restricts movement of the tule elk. This change is expected to result in healthier elk populations in this area. I am also in favor of efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Finally, I strongly support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 429

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I was raised in Marin County and spent many visits to the Point Reyes National Seashore. I supported its designation back in the late 60s and early 70s.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Kirk A Pessner

Correspondence ID: 430

Greetings National Park Service,

I am writing today to express my thoughts on the proposed management measures that are to be undertaken to protect the tule elk of Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS' "preferred alternative" or ALTERNATIVE B is superior to other options. Alternative B will remove a fence that has restricted movement of the elk, leaving them to exist in only one small part of the Seashore. This fence also makes it impossible for the herd to migrate to find water and food sources during droughts. This in turn has caused severe die-offs of the elk that are supposed to be protected.

Specifically, I am writing in favor of Alternative B because it offers the best possibilities for a more positive outcome for the elk by implementing such measures as:

- Removal of the 3-mile elk-fence
- Improving habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk
- Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners
- Upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails and restrooms

Please know that I support Alternative B and hope that the National Park Service will adopt it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 431

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 432

Cattle operations in the National Seashore are ecologically inappropriate and should have been phased out decades ago. The PRNS is to be managed for natural values, not commercial activity.

I wish to express my support for Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 433

I want to thank Point Reyes National Seashore and the National Park Service for the continued study for best management of this beautiful and important park.

I support the NPS preferred alternative, B.

I support this alternative because:

- a) I believe it removes an artificial barrier for this Tomales Point herd, thus enabling them to seek water in other areas of the park at a time when climate change and other factors areas changing the location and availability of water.
- b) This removes the necessity of maintaining human-made water sources within the reserve and wilderness area which is in opposition of most park and wilderness policies.
- c) Improves the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

I lived near and explored Point ryes for decades before moving away. I understand the difficulties of maintaining a “managed” herd of wildlife within a wilderness area as well as the public's expectation, if not administratively designated cultural landscapes representing the farming and dairy era of land use. However, these two management goals are not independent and compete in some respects. In particular, it is time to address the large cattle / dairy operations that result in large mounds of manure covered with plastic tarps and possible water contamination within and beyond the cultural landscape, against the protection of natural resources that is the hallmark of the National Park Service. Again, I applaud the park and staff in their continuing engagement to address some of these management problems by implementing Alternative B.

Sincerely

Dan Sealy

Correspondence ID: 434

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 437

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that

confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my strong support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Please act quickly and keep implementing laws and support to protect the animals and environment so they have a place to thrive as they are entitled to and deserve.

Respectfully G.Simmons

Correspondence ID: 438

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 439

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 440

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 441

I support Alternative B. Please remove the fence and let the elk be free.

Correspondence ID: 442

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 446

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 448

I would rather see the cattle / dairy farms go before more elk are eliminated !

Correspondence ID: 450

The United States has no shortage of cows. However, there aren't too many tule elk. The NPS needs to do everything I can to support the elk.

Correspondence ID: 452

I am in full support of Alternative B to save the elk. I have visited from cross the country many times to hike and see these majestic, beautiful animals. It is a little bit of paradise on earth.

Correspondence ID: 453

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Please put planet above profits.

Thank you, James Dale Reamy

Correspondence ID: 455

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 456

A beautiful unmatched asset as this, how dare you even think about disturbing it!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 457

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 458

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 459

Please work with Tribal partners and support and protect the tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 461

Hi,

I am writing about Alternative B to remove the Elk Fence in Point Reyes. I support this decision as part of an ongoing restoration of the elk population, which I greatly value as part of our regional ecosystem. I

also support the sundowning of cattle ranching in Point Reyes and increased access to public lands by the public and a subsequent improvement in wildlife habitat.

Sincerely, Marshall Elliott

Correspondence ID: 463

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I also want to express my support for the expedited phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. In particular, Ranch B should be closed and cleaned up ASAP, and the practice of spreading manure on the land must end at the outer point.

Correspondence ID: 464

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. As a frequent visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore over the past three decades, I have enjoyed seeing the wild landscapes and wild life.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife.

Sincerely, Claudia Hein

Correspondence ID: 471

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore and enhanced enjoyment by park visitors who do not come to look at cows. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. I am concerned that ranchers may kill elk that stray onto their leased areas. Will it be clear that killing elk is illegal and can such a prohibition be enforced? Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 474

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B.

I believe the Seashore should remove the fence that confines the tule elk.

Healthier elk populations in the Seashore will be the likely result.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I also want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 476

My family and I love that area and support organizations working together to help people work with the environment. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support

efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 477

I support Alternative B at Pt Reyes National Seashore to open up range for the tule elk. I also am in favor of phasing out and removing cattle grazing at Pt Reyes NS. I would like to see the whole park return to native plants and animals just like a wilderness. Please work with native peoples and tribal management to restore the seashore to its natural condition and remove development as much as possible.

Correspondence ID: 478

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 479

I am a sea kayaker active in the Bay Area Sea Kayakers club (BASK). I do many day paddles on Tomales Bay and also kayak camp, usually twice per year for a total of 5 or 6 nights.

I am concerned that the draft Tomales Point Area Plan includes a change to the boat-in camping permits to require reservations of specific camping locations rather than allowing choice of locations during a trip. There is no explanation in the plan of why the change is needed or what the benefit will be. As a regular user of the camping permits, I'd like to point out what the cost to the public will be.

My wife and I normally do our longest 3- or 4-night trip around Thanksgiving or Christmas, and we launch at Nick's Cove, one of the few locations allowing overnight parking. From there we plan our route according to the wind and tides. We like to camp at 2 locations during this trip, but our movement is determined each day depending on the weather. Sometimes we encounter strong winds and rain and decide not to move that day. Or our direction of travel up or down the bay is determined by the wind and current that morning. We really value the flexibility that the existing permit system allows us. If we obtained permits in advance that are tied to a location each night, it could force us to take on difficult or even dangerous routes in high winds and poor visibility. Our experience in the more crowded summer season is that campers distribute themselves among beaches in a way that avoids overcrowding given the limited number of permits. In the winter, we rarely see anyone else camping out there, so restricting us to a specific beach seems pointless.

The Tomales Bay boat-in camping sites are one of the few places on the Central California coast where kayak camping is allowed and feasible. Many members of BASK make use of this to learn kayak camping skills and then do trips in Puget Sound, British Columbia, Baja California Sur, and other areas around the world that have more kayak camping opportunities. But having visited all of these, I still treasure and look forward to experiencing the natural beauty of Tomales Point from the water, observing birds, river otters, tidepool life, and occasionally whales out by the mouth.

Correspondence ID: 481

I appreciate you opening for public comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to

consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Once again, thank you!

Kind regards,

Michelle Setaro

Correspondence ID: 482

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk.

The cattle operations on in the National Seashore is a national disgrace.

I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 483

I don't believe that it is right or moral that our nation's elk are forbidden to graze on land that is owned by our nation. The fence should be removed as well as the private owned cattle so that they may eat and live. PLEASE SUPPORT the removal of this fence. WILDLIFE is so fragile and should always be PROTECTED and provided for. Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 484

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 486

Hello,

I am in full support of Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Wouldn't that be great?

Let the Pt. Reyes Elk be free!

Also, I support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

National Seashore for Natural floral and fauna, not cattle!

Correspondence ID: 488

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 489

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 493

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that imprisons the tule elk and keeps them from food and water. Tribal partners need to be brought in and listened to. They offer traditional ecological knowledge. All cattle operations must be completely removed from the National Seashore. It belongs to wildlife; not the beef industry.

Correspondence ID: 494

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to incorporate ecological knowledge into management plans.

I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 496

These lands should return to the freedom of nature

Correspondence ID: 502

I support Alternative B. I want the fence that confines the Tule Elk removed. I support working with the Tribal partners. I support cattle operations in the National Seashore being phased out. I want the land to return to wildlife with some public use. Thanks for your time.

Correspondence ID: 503

Alternative B has several positive aspects that will lead to including:

- Removal of the 3-mile elk-fence
- Improving habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk
- Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners
- Upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails and restrooms

Correspondence ID: 504

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 505

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Not included in these new regulations, there is a separate move underfoot to return the entire Seashore to native wildlife, which would also improve water quality of creeks and beaches, and return the use of

the land to the public whose taxpayer dollars purchased the land from the cattle operations decades ago.

Alternative B has several positive aspects that will lead to including:

- Removal of the 3-mile elk-fence
- Improving habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk
- Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners
- Upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails

and restrooms

Correspondence ID: 508

Please protect wildlife and the environment

Correspondence ID: 510

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 511

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. I strongly support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk, who have been harmed by its presence. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans, which should enhance their results.

Finally, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use (and long overdue).

Correspondence ID: 512

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 514

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 515

I beg of you to stop destroying our planet for people and profit

Correspondence ID: 516

I am writing in support of Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Thank you for your attention to my comments.

Correspondence ID: 523

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 525

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Phil Fitzgerald

Correspondence ID: 529

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit comments re: the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment document. I would like to urge NPS to adopt Alternative B, as described in the document. This plan of action seems to be the most beneficial for all parties involved, and offers the most humane and sustainable plan for the native Tule Elk population, who have been held captive with insufficient care for many years. The Tule Elk were residents of the area before the ranches and dairies (like the Native American populations forced from the area), and the health of this population is of vital importance to the sustainable future of this national public land that should be available for all Americans to enjoy.

Correspondence ID: 530

Please approve Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk.

Phase-out cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 536

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B because that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. They have suffered too long. The removal of the fence will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. It is the stewardship we were meant to exercise.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. This, too, is a change that has been a long time coming. We must not place cattle ranching above the critical role of Tribal wisdom in our plans for the vital lands on which our future on this planet ultimately depends, physically and spiritually.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Stewardship over the Creator's work, not profit, exploitation, or expediency, and I commend your efforts to bring stewardship to fruition.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 540

Good Afternoon,

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

- Removal of the 3-mile elk-fence
- Improving habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk
- Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners
- Upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails and restrooms

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 541

I support Alternative B the preferred alternative. I support removing elk fence and allowing the elk population to range freely within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I also support ending culling of elk and allowing the population to increase. If conflict with ranching/dairying occur end ranching dairying -

I support ending ranching and dairy leases and returning the productive seashore to the support of its native wildlife. national seashores and parks should be managed for the benefit of native wildlife not domestic livestock after all the rest of the US that is not urbanized is already utilized for that purpose.

this alternative seems a small improvement - and only because our national park service got sued to do its job

Correspondence ID: 543

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 545

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I strongly support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. I think cattle populations should be phased out, especially where they are elk populations that are competing for resources. This fence removal will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 546

I am commenting in support of Alternative B, to remove the fence that currently confines and restricts movement of the tule elk. The freedom to move in search of food and water sources is critical to the

elk's survival and removing the fence will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. The health of the elk supports the health of the overall ecosystem.

I also support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Cattle presence has dramatically alternated the plant composition and ecological balance of the grasslands, threatening the natural food sources that so many wild animals rely on. The National Seashore is a place of preservation and protection, and should prioritize the preservation of resources for the health of wild ecology.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Amber Herzog Lyman

Correspondence ID: 547

The NPS "preferred alternative", Alternative B is the best option for the Point Reyes National Seashore. Ultimately, cattle use should be done away entirely to clean up water sources and allow the land to return to wildlife and public use.

Best regards,

Joseph Quirk

Correspondence ID: 548

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue!

Correspondence ID: 550

The park's elk are part of our collective heritage in the Bay Area. I would like to see their access to food and water protected to avoid unnecessary deaths. I suggest the park service contact agricultural and wildlife experts at places like UC Davis to devise a solution that works for both farmers and the elk.

Correspondence ID: 552

I support Alternative B. It is important that the fence confining the tule elk be removed. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore as it has been shown the elk cannot survive when the fence prevents them from accessing food and/or water. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 553

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 554

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 555

Pleased to see that the new assessment plan will free the native tule elk from current fencing

(apparently a hold-over from previous expropriation of land for cattle ranching). When it comes to wildlife, nature is the best protector.

Correspondence ID: 556

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. I don't understand why

animals not native to this land and clearly are for slaughter and profits by corporations can be allowed on this pristine and important land. The cattle interfere with native plants

and native species occupying this land.

Correspondence ID: 559

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 563

Please conserve our environment, it is assaulted by everything and everyone.

Correspondence ID: 564

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I eat beef, albeit in small quantities. I plan to continue to do so. We must find better and more sustainable ways of raising beef cattle. Current approaches take too much of a toll on the environment. Therefore, I have to say that I am in favor of the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. We beef eaters will have to pay for something better.

We are the United States. We have great potential that we can harness in service of good policies. We must plan wisely and husband all of our resources, natural and monetary. This includes changing federal spending in huge ways.

I'm old. I want to see a better country and world for succeeding generations.

Correspondence ID: 566

Elk like all living animals must be protected & seen worthy as a living creature. They need their environment fenceless so they can get the natural resources they need to survive. ALL animals deserve protection. One species should never be considered worthy over another. We are all God's creatures

Correspondence ID: 567

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 569

No animal should die over a fence! A fence can be replaced but a animal can't! Grass will also grow again

Share until the old grass grows back.

You probably lease the land to ranchers for there cattle for cheap , tell them to share part or will cancel next lease and raise price

Correspondence ID: 570

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 571

Please make sure your plans protect wildlife to the fullest extent possible. Vehicles have no place in a park when used for recreation

Man's impact needs to be as minimal as possible. That hou for your time.

Correspondence ID: 573

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 575

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I wholeheartedly support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk, leading to healthier elk populations in the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into any management plans.

I fully support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 576

Please Prioritize the protection and well-being of Tule Elk in Point Reyes NS Now! They're native to the area, cattle are not, and there's no reason at all why the latter should be displacing the former from this iconic coastal habitat.

Correspondence ID: 577

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. When we protect tule elk, we also

protect countless other species that share the same ecological communities that the tule elk exists in and prioritizing tule elk ends up benefitting a wide variety of unique and important habitat types as well.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Additionally, this is the only National Seashore on the West Coast. In the midst of the Climate Crisis and Biodiversity Crisis, it's critical that we prioritize such species like rare tule elk on public lands.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you again.

Correspondence ID: 578

I am a frequent visitor to the Point Reyes area, and also lead writing retreats in Inverness

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I completely support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Regards,

Amber C.Sumrall

Correspondence ID: 579

let them go!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 580

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. As a former resident of Lagunitas, this area is of importance to me and I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 581

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

The cattle should have been removed from the Seashore decades ago. The ranchers were paid for their land, and allowing them to lease it back from the government was a huge mistake. These cattle are causing enormous ecological and environmental damage to the Seashore, including but not limited to destroying native plants, harming native animals like the elk, polluting the water with their huge amounts of manure, unnaturally compacting the land, and requiring fencing that harms native animals by preventing them from traveling where they want and need to go.

Removal of this wrongful and immoral fence will just be the first step. The cattle need to be completely remove from the Seashore, period!

Correspondence ID: 582

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

The cattle should have been removed from the Seashore decades ago. The ranchers were paid for their land, and allowing them to lease it back from the government was a huge mistake. These cattle are causing enormous ecological and environmental damage to the Seashore, including but not limited to destroying native plants, harming native animals like the elk, polluting the water with their huge amounts of manure, unnaturally compacting the land, and requiring fencing that harms native animals by preventing them from traveling where they want and need to go.

Removal of this wrongful and immoral fence will just be the first step. The cattle need to be completely remove from the Seashore, period!

Correspondence ID: 583

I support and appreciate Alternative B. Kudos to NPS for this positive alternative. The tule elk fence should come down so the elk can roam freely. Invasive species should be removed wherever possible. Wilderness characteristics should be maintained or restored. Tribal knowledge should be used in making decisions. Natural systems and processes should be allowed to occur without human interference. If absent, beavers should be reintroduced along creeks. Cattle grazing is incompatible, harmful, and should be phased out. Please adopt and implement Alternative B. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 584

To whom it may concern:

ALTERNATIVE B PLEASE AND THANK YOU.

Correspondence ID: 587

We need to take better care of what is left of our environment, for wildlife, marine life, plant life, and people.

Correspondence ID: 588

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 590

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

We support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. We also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

We would like to express our support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use - where it belongs.

Not included in these new regulations, is a separate move underfoot to return the entire Seashore to native wildlife, which would also improve water quality of creeks and beaches and return the use of the land to the public whose taxpayer dollars purchased the land from the cattle operations decades ago.

It is time to end the suffering, starvation, and death of these magnificent elk and to adhere to the original agreement. Restore the land to a balanced ecosystem without interference from private interests.PLEASE.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Stewart and McKinley Families

Dana L. Stewart

Correspondence ID: 591

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the Tule Elk. This will contribute to healthier elk and other wildlife populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into the management plans.

I support this park as biodiverse habitat for wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 592

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I wanted to voice my support for Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will allow the herd better access to food and water especially in times of drought. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 593

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

As someone who used to live in Pt. Reyes, CA I used to always cherish seeing these majestic animals roaming freely. Please do remove the fencing. Thank You!

Correspondence ID: 594

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 595

To Whom it May Concern,

Please remove the current Tule Elk fence to allow the elk freedom of movement on Pt Reyes. I would also support removal of all of the dairy farms on park land. Do your best to return the park to its natural state (a PARK)!

Thanks for your efforts.

Dan Eckhard

Correspondence ID: 596

Please remove the fence that confines our native wildlife such as tule elk on the Point Reyes National Seashore. This a National Seashore and our native elk and wildlife must be allowed to access food and water. The management plans must prioritize the ecological importance of this area and respect the needs of native wildlife and allow them to survive and live healthy lives. Of prime importance is that the Point Reyes National Seashore is public land and must be managed for the public benefit. In particular private cattle operations must be phased out and the land be managed to protect native wildlife and ensure current pollution from private farming sources is curtailed and permanently prevented in the future.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 597

Please help protect the environment and the animals that live there!

Correspondence ID: 602

I and my family are frequent visitors to the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use and help reduce the risk of disease transference between wildlife and cattle populations.

Thank you for consideration of my comments.

Correspondence ID: 603

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 604

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence and free the tule elk. Please do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 606

I support Alternative B, removing the fence that confines tule elk. I also support collaboration with Tribal partners. Also, I support the phase out of cattle operations. this land should be first and foremost wildlife friendly.

Correspondence ID: 607

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 609

I support Alternative B which will remove the fence that confines the Tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

As well, I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 610

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I have lived in Marin County and frequent Pt Reyes Seashore to photograph the beauty there and the Tule Elk are a rare animal for us in Marin County. They should be protected and allowed to have access to water. Alternative B will remove the fence and allow them to survive in all their majestic beauty. Please protect what we have in nature, do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 611

Please save Tomales Point Area.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 612

Please adopt Alternative B which would remove the fence.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 613

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

STOP allowing corporate GREED to take over what are more important -- protecting wildlife and protecting our nature!!! Please do the RIGHT thing!

Correspondence ID: 614

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B. Remove the fence that confines the tule elk.in the Seashore. I support consulting work with Tribal partners. I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Cows do not belong in the National Park system. Buffalo yes, cows, no.

Sincerely

Scott Species

Correspondence ID: 615

Yes! My family and I support Plan B, removal of the elk fence. As an avid hiker and wildlife watcher, I've seen the disrespect of this native species first hand - elk drinking mud, stumbling, and thin.

As a taxpayer, I support the National Seashore for the benefit of wildlife and reasonable human recreation. A fence that separates the elk from food and water is not responsible management - unless you are a rancher.

Plan B, please!

Gina Farr

Correspondence ID: 616

Yes! My family and I support Plan B, removal of the elk fence. As an avid hiker and wildlife watcher, I've seen the disrespect of this native species first hand - elk drinking mud, stumbling, and thin.

As a taxpayer, I support the National Seashore for the benefit of wildlife and reasonable human recreation. A fence that separates the elk from food and water is not responsible management - unless you are a rancher.

Plan B, please!

Gina Farr

Correspondence ID: 621

My comment is simple, please remove the fence and let the Elk have access to what they need to live and thrive. They have that right, cattle do not. This is their home and they deserve to live there the way nature intended.

Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 622

I support the NPS "preferred alternative," ALTERNATIVE B, which will remove a fence that has confined the elk to one small part of the Seashore, preventing the herd from migrating to find water and food sources during droughts that has lead to severe die-offs.

The fence was originally installed to prevent elk competing with cattle for forage on private cattle ranches that lease about 1/3 of the total Seashore area. I support

removing the 3-mile elk-fence which will improve habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk.

I strongly support Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and

cultural resources with Tribal partners as well as upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails and restrooms.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 623

I support Alternative B, the only alternative that meets the mission and goals of the Park Service.

Thank you for the steps taken so far.

Some suggestions on how NPS can adjust Alternative B:

Timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for removal of the elk fence.

Identify any locations where native coastal grasslands or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible, identify future activities for volunteers and/or new ways the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (e.g., training in plant identification and control invaders and/or volunteer days).

In appropriate areas, provide additional roadside signage and environmental education programming to interpret the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural, and historical significance of the tule elk at Tomales Point.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur before, during and after construction associated with the anticipated reconfiguration of parking, visitor facilities, utility works, etc., in the area planning to minimize immediate and long-term impacts. long-term impacts on wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 624

I support Alternative B, the only alternative that meets the mission and goals of the Park Service.

Thank you for the steps taken so far.

Some suggestions on how NPS can adjust Alternative B:

Timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for removal of the elk fence.

Identify any locations where native coastal grasslands or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Where possible, identify future activities for volunteers and/or new ways the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (e.g., training in plant identification and control invaders and/or volunteer days).

In appropriate areas, provide additional roadside signage and environmental education programming to interpret the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural, and historical significance of the tule elk at Tomales Point.

Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur before, during and after construction associated with the anticipated reconfiguration of parking, visitor facilities, utility works, etc., in the area planning to minimize immediate and long-term impacts. long-term impacts on wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 625

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that

confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 626

Very familiar with that area. It showed have always been in public domain, protected area for nature and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 629

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support removing the fence that confines the tule elk, per Alternative B. The elk populations deserve to have enough space to find adequate food and water to keep the herd healthy. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations altogether in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 631

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 635

Dear National Park Service,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Thank you for considering these comments,

Mia Laurence

Correspondence ID: 636

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I also want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Correspondence ID: 637

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 638

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

You can learn more about the Parks proposed regulations by clicking [here](#).

Stay tuned: Not included in these new regulations, there is a separate move underfoot to return the entire Seashore to native wildlife, which would also improve water quality of creeks and beaches, and return the use of the land to the public whose taxpayer dollars purchased the land from the cattle operations decades ago.

Correspondence ID: 639

I am writing in support of Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

Alternative B will foster removal of the 3-mile elk-fence. This will allow the Seashore's tule elk to spread out when there is less water or forage for them, helping to protect them from dying of malnutrition or lack of water in their current cramped conditions.

It also supports coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners. They have a unique perspective that is valuable in managing this gem of Marin County.

Finally, I want to express my support for the eventual phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 640

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I also support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 645

Protect our parks and protect us/ We need green space for relaxation and helping the environment too.

Correspondence ID: 649

Take care of the earth

Correspondence ID: 654

I feel that Alternative B is the most sensible solution to provide the best way forward for the Tule Elk. Removing the stretch of fence will provide the elk access to life saving food and water in times of drought. Let's use some common sense here and do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 656

Point Reyes is a magical place and always has been for our family. During COVID, runs and hikes on the

trails there made all the angst and worry go away. The area truly has a spiritual feel to it. Therefore, I support any measures that return all the land to nature and the wild and remove cattle and the terrible water pollution they produce there. In addition, I support Alternative B that supports efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners to incorporate traditional knowledge to ecology management plans. Finally, I support efforts to free the Tule Elk to roam, as cattle should not have priority over the elk, so I applaud efforts to remove fencing and again, to re-wild the land.

Correspondence ID: 657

I appreciate the opportunity to comment. I fully support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk and urge you to implement it. This fence has been extremely detrimental to their well being as it has resulted in their being unable to get enough food and water at various time. This is a national park, not a ranch, so it's long past time to start phasing out allotments to the extremely destructive livestock and dairy industries. This is supposed to be public land that should be managed and protected for the wildlife, not for cattle and sheep.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate their traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. They are true stewards of the land they live on so their knowledge will be of great benefit towards improving and maintaining the health of the Park's environment and wildlife.

Alternatives A and C are just a continuation of the anti-elk policies that have devastated their numbers and allowed the environment to be polluted by the livestock industry. Alternative B is the only one that will improve the National Seashore and insure the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 659

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 660

I am a frequent visitor of Pt. Reyes National Park - I love the wild spaces, the wild animals, the gorgeous seashore.

I do not like to see that the water is polluted from cattle ranching, and that wild tule elk are confined in order to preserve cattle lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you from a native Californian,

Kenda Francis

Correspondence ID: 661

I would ask that the park take into consideration the history the ranches have on the Pt Reyes Peninsula.

There are generations of families who live and work on these ranches who will be displaced and unemployed.

There is also a huge demand for the local products that come from these ranches. It is an environmental win to have organic dairy products and grass fed beef produced here rather than being shipped in from elsewhere.

And then there is the threat of devastating wildfires on the ungrazed lands.

I am a member of an indigenous tribe from Montana. My tribe has brought buffalo back to the reservation. To manage herd size they hold a lottery every year for the right to hunt a specific number of buffalo. Could that not be a solution for the ever expanding herd of elk? I remember the fallow deer were culled when they became problematic.

I am not an articulate letter writer thus this is my first regarding this issue. I hope my points in favor of saving local agriculture will be he considered.

Thank you, Wendy Crowell

Correspondence ID: 662

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 663

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I look forward to NPS upholding their mission in Pt. Reyes: preserving unimpaired natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 667

I have been coming to PRNS for 30+ years and I am beyond thrilled to hear of the Park Service's proposed Plan B to remove the elk fence. I hope that the Park Service will implement this proposal. I also hope they will consider future decisions that will focus on best management practices to minimize future impact to existing wildlife, including any fencing that is used in the future be wildlife friendly.

PRNS has such incredible natural beauty and incredible wildlife, all as you would hope of a national seashore park. I beg of you not to allow any additional animals to the current dairy farms (particularly pigs) or permit other changes that in any way detract or diminish the habitat (and/or trails) for PR wildlife and nature lovers.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Lorelei Dacus

Correspondence ID: 668

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I strongly support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore and an enhancement to visitor experience. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. This is a tremendous opportunity to partner with Tribal partners .

Lastly, I want to express my support for the rapid phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 670

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. It is important to work with methods that have traditionally been used by indigenous people who have lived with the elk for centuries.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 672

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 673

- Removal of the 3-mile elk-fence
- Improving habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk
- Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners
- Upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails and restrooms

Correspondence ID: 674

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans

Correspondence ID: 677

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans

Correspondence ID: 678

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to

consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 679

I take this opportunity to comment. I want to express my strong support for Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans..

As well: I'm glad that finally the phase-out of cattle operations will start in the National Seashore and that the return of this land to wildlife and public use will be a fact!

Correspondence ID: 680

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I believe Alternative B. Removing the fence will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. It is imperative to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

This is a beautiful place that is worth taking a stand for. Conserving wildlife and history is a worthwhile endeavor we need to prioritize.

Correspondence ID: 681

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 683

This seashore has to be protected and preserved as high priority.

Correspondence ID: 685

I appreciate your allowing for public comments. I'm writing to let you know that I support Alternative B. Removing the fence that confines the tule elk will create healthier elk populations in the Seashore. Please consult and coordinate these efforts to work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

And, please phase-out the cattle operations in the National Seashore and return this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 686

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 688

These are rare elk and their well being needs to be top priority. This is NOT grazing land

Correspondence ID: 690

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 693

PROTECT POINT REYES!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 694

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 696

Please adopt Alternative B, which removes the fence that inappropriately confines the Tule Elk Herd.

As a frequent visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore, I have been concerned about the negative impact of ongoing cattle operations upon the Point Reyes environment. Alternative B is a good start to address that issue by virtue of its proposed removal of the three-mile elk fence. In turn, that will allow elk better access to water and food sources, while improving overall habitat connectivity.

Point Reyes is an amazing treasure, and the National Park Service's should do everything possible to preserve and protect it, which includes allowing the Tule Elk Herd to roam freely. Alternative B is a good step toward achieving that goal on a long-term basis.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 697

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 698

I'm writing to thank you for proposing the most significant change of policy to date to protect and preserve the wildlife and wilderness in our beloved National Seashore. Based on NPS' recent years of polling, overwhelmingly predominant public sentiment has been voiced for proposed Alternative B; the removal of the fence at the Elk Reserve.

I look forward to hearing the results of your decision and details of how this new policy will be enacted. And, once the elk fence has come down, it is self-evident that new rules will also be put in place to avoid conflicts such as speeding cars, harassment and 'straying' onto ranches where they may be shot. Lowering the speed limit would be an easy first step to protect the Elk as well as other wildlife. Strict fines and penalties for poaching would be another. And also, for the sake of all wildlife, removal of barbed wire fences that are seen everywhere throughout the park.

By allowing this endemic species to roam freely, there are countless benefits that will follow. Not only will the elk's health and survivability improve but it will positively impact other wildlife, soil health, native plants and tourism in the park.

Locals like myself, as well as visitors from around the world, come to PRNS to experience the natural beauty and wonders of this place. Seeing wildlife caged is not a desirable part of this experience. The National Park Service at PRNS has a unique opportunity to change the course of this park. Like the thousands of people following this...I look forward to a new era at PRNS and await the details of this new policy.

Diane Gentile, Petaluma

Correspondence ID: 699

Alternative B is the best option. Time to eliminate all cows and other farm animals from the seashore.

Correspondence ID: 700

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 701

Please implement Alternative B, a humane way to manage the land, native species, and Tule Elk with the wisdom and assistance of the Tribe.

Correspondence ID: 705

I am writing to express my support Alternative B. The tule elk, native to the area need to have the fence that confine them removed. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 707

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also wholeheartedly support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans moving forward.

Lastly, I want to express my strong support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 708

I spent an incredible weekend at Pt Reyes in college and fell in love with its beauty. Seeing the Elk was a special and exciting part of my experience. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 709

remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 713

Tule Elk were native to California and deserve a chance to survive. Cattle grazing has been very detrimental to the elk ecosystem. So, I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of ALL cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you for my chance to comment,

James Nelson

Correspondence ID: 714

Please endorse measures that will allow Tule elk greater access to their native range. These indigenous animals need fresh water and browse to survive. It is ludicrous to think we have penned them inside of a small area to allow cows... COWS! to graze where elk should run free. Cows have access to hundreds of thousands of acres on BLM land and ranchers get a sweet deal, paying pennies on the dollar for their intrusive cattle to destroy native habitat. It is unconscionable to allow cows to take precedence over indigenous, majestic elk, who have lived on these lands for millennia.

Correspondence ID: 715

I'm write to urge you to remove the fence that keeps the elk from traveling freely throughout the area that they inhabit, keeping them from access to food and other resources. The elk were residences of this area long before humans and livestock and they deserve to be cared for. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 718

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 719

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the 3-mile fence that confines the tule elk and improve habitat connectivity for the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 720

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the management proposals. I support Alternative B, proposaing removal of fencing that confine the tule elk, and the establishment of local migratory routes to allow free movement of elk within Point Reyes National Seashore, in order to seed forage and water. I also support the establishment of permanent communications and consultations with local indigenous Native American tribes, as well as the incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge into management plans and development of public educational information and programs to promote the traditions and knowledge of the people -- tested across millenia -- who lived, walked, and revered Point Reyes and the adjacent marine and freshwater environments.

Please approve Alternative B and continue to return all land and waters at Point Reyes National Seashore to a wild and natural series of ecosystems vital to elk, humans, and all creatures living there!

Correspondence ID: 722

I strongly support the Alternative B management plan for the Tomales Point area. Removal of the fence will give the Tule elk critical access to forage and watering areas allowing them to thrive. Please use wildlife friendly fencing to exclude cattle from the management area and improve habitat to allow for elk movement throughout the area. The removal of this fence is critical to the success of the entire Point Reyes ecosystem. In addition, removal/management of invasive species is an important aspect of preservation of this important, unique habitat.

Correspondence ID: 730

This is good that we the public get to express ourselves on the issue of the Point Reyes Tule Elk.

In looking over the Proposals, I feel that Alternative B has the only accurate description of the problems and solutions, therefore I am advocating for Alternative B.

Alternative B will remove the fence that so unfairly confines the Tule Elk. These Elk have suffered enough due to this fence, they have been denied access to water and food, especially during droughts causing harm and unneeded tragic painful deaths to members of the herd.

Thru Alternative B we can continue to consult and work with local Tribes, drawing on their timeless and extensive knowledge on ecological management plans.

In addition to my support for Alternative B, I understand that there is some future talk of restoring the entire Point Reyes National Seashore to its natural state by abolishing all livestock. The returning of the Point Reyes National Seashore to native wildlife, (as it should be returned) will improve the water quality and access of the creeks and beaches.

The Public would again have access to Point Reyes which is long overdue seeing as how Taxpayer Dollars were already used to purchase the land from the livestock concerns many years ago.

Correspondence ID: 731

To whom it may concern,

Please do everything in your power to protect the elk population at Point Reyes. Fewer cows, more wildlife.

Thank you, Ron Letourneau

Correspondence ID: 732

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 733

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk.

I have observed animals suffering due to lack of water on the land.

This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I support water quality monitoring and proper stewardship of these public lands.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use as was the original agreement when this land became a national park.

thank you!

Andy

Correspondence ID: 734

I am writing in support of the NPS-preferred alternative B. Removal of the elk fencing would allow the Point Reyes elk herd to roam free and reduce the impact of concentrated grazing in the Pierce Point Planning Area. As noted in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, in 1993, a scientific advisory committee recommended that the elk at Tomales Point be permitted to self-regulate and that the long-term goal of management at the Point Reyes Seashore should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore. The Tomales Point elk herd should be allowed to interact with the Drakes Beach and Limantour herds.

In addition, Alternative B will enhance the visitor experience by improving trails, parking, and restroom facilities. The long-term benefits as noted in the Assessment outweigh the detriment caused by continuing to trap elk behind a fence in an artificial and degraded environment.

Charles Savage

Correspondence ID: 735

We are glad to be able to comment and we support Alternative B as it will remove the fence that confines the tule elk and thus will lead to a healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

We are also pleased to support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

We strongly support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 736

We are glad to be able to comment and we support Alternative B as it will remove the fence that confines the tule elk and thus will lead to a healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

We are also pleased to support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

We strongly support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 737

We are glad to be able to comment and we support Alternative B as it will remove the fence that confines the tule elk and thus will lead to a healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

We are also pleased to support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

We strongly support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 738

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 739

COMMENTS ON THE TOMALES POINT AREA PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ALTERNATIVE B

Prepared by: Clint Kellner

May 28, 2024

1) The Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment should provide more discussion on how the tule elk (*Cervus canadensis nannodes*) enter the fenced cow pastures, how frequently they enter the fenced pastures, and what type of interactions occur between tule elk and cattle. For instance, how often do they jump the fences, walk through the fences, or go between the barbed wires of the fences to enter cow pastures? Are there aggressive interactions between tule elk and cattle or do they ignore each other? This information will provide a more complete picture of cattle-tule elk interactions and what can be expected if the elk fence is removed.

2) The National Park Service should continue to collect vegetation data from the elk enclosure experimental plots and the elk control plots at least in the short term instead of dismantling the plots. It is a shame to abandon such long-term vegetation monitoring and if there is overlap of several years with a new data collection system, there may be a way to correlate the data from the two different systems. The vegetation (available forage) should be monitored in the areas frequented by elk to verify that there is sufficient forage to sustain the elk herds within Tomales Point and in the other areas of Point Reyes National Seashore that are frequented by tule elk. This is especially important because climate change is resulting in changes in vegetation. It is also important because there will be a change in the number of elk in certain areas as they wander away from Tomales Point after the elk fence is removed. Data sets that have collected data over a long period of time are rare and should be continued for the reasons stated above especially given the changing climate and extreme weather events.

3) Conditions may change after the removal of the elk fence such that fewer tule elk may graze the Tomales Point area. The reduction of tule elk within Tomales Point may result in the decline in the abundance of the larval food plant of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly (*Speyeria zerene myrtleae*), nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly, and rare plants. The western dog violet (*Viola adunca*) is the only larval food plant of the federally endangered Myrtle silverspot butterfly. The nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly are: coastal sand verbena (*Abronia latifolia*), beach aster (*Erigeron glaucus*), gumweed (*Grindelia* sp.), curlyleaf monardella (*Monardella undulata*), and mule's ears (*Wyethia* sp.). Rare plants identified in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, that grow in the plan area, are: Point Reyes rock cress (*Arabis blepharophylla* ssp. *macrantha*), Point Reyes blennosperma (*Blennosperma nanum* var. *robustus*), coastal spineflower (*Chorizanthe cuspidata* var. *villosa*), Franciscan thistle (*Cirsium andrewsii*), coast fritillary (*Fritillaria lanceolata* var. *tristulis*), harlequin lotus (*Hosackia*

gracilis), perennial goldfields (*Lasentia californica* ssp. *macrantha*), and San Francisco owl's clover (*Triphysaria floribunda*).

With fewer tule elk in Tomales Point, thatch and non-native grasses may increase and, as a result, the abundance of native species including the western dog violet, the nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly, and rare plant species, may decline because they are not adapted to grow in areas with thatch and a high density of non-native grasses. Since there is a potential for the western dog violet, the nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly, and rare plants to decline, these species should be monitored including the Myrtle silverspot butterfly itself.

4) The Point Reyes *blennosperma* grows in the overflow parking lot at Pierce Ranch. This overflow lot is on the other side of Pierce Point Road (as it goes to the McClures Beach Trailhead Parking Lot) from the parking lot for the Tomales Point Trailhead. A row of Monterey cypress grows in front (west) of the overflow parking lot. If the overflow parking lot is paved, it will destroy the habitat of the Point Reyes *blennosperma* that grow there. The lot should remain in a condition that allows the Point Reyes *blennosperma* to continue to grow there.

5) *California meconella* (*Meconella californica*), is not classified by the California Native Plant Society, and has not been assigned a rare plant rank, but is known from as few as 2 populations in Marin County and occurs on Tomales Point within the plan area. Although not a designated rare plant, because it only occurs in two populations in Marin County and is a component of Marin's biodiversity, it should be monitored along with the other rare plant species that occur on Tomales Point to ensure that any change in the numbers of tule elk do not adversely affect its population.

Correspondence ID: 740

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 742

Save the Tule Elk, NOW!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 743

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 748

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 751

Take down the fences. Let the elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 752

Let these animals live like they should naturally!!! It's about living in harmony not just humans getting their way only!!

Correspondence ID: 753

Don't elk have enough problems staying alive? Do they really need another danger to face? Please stop this immediately! Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 755

No fences! Let animals roam free!

Correspondence ID: 758

Free the elk! Take down the fence!

Correspondence ID: 760

Please consider removing this fence. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 763

The current fencing plan has clearly networked out well. It is clear that the fence must go.

Correspondence ID: 764

We surely are better than this, what is wrong with you?

Correspondence ID: 765

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 767

Please allow the elk to free range in the manner in which they evolved on this continent.

We must share the planet with all living things and respect them all as well.

Correspondence ID: 768

Please remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 770

Please keep the elk safe!!

Correspondence ID: 774

Please let the elk roam free and have access to water.

Correspondence ID: 781

Please let our elk roam free. It is important not only for their health, but for biological diversity.

Correspondence ID: 783

NO FENCES

Correspondence ID: 784

As a supporter of wildlife, I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan for the park's confined elk herd, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 785

Stop preventing our wildlife to exist on land that they need to live.

Correspondence ID: 788

The elk are entitled to a safe place to roam

Correspondence ID: 789

Please allow the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and the elk to live in harmony at Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 791

This is a disgrace to all of humanity and CA

Correspondence ID: 793

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Please help! Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 797

Why are you monkeying with nature? leave them alone!

Correspondence ID: 800

Elk around ages should be allowed to roam anywhere safely

Correspondence ID: 803

WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM ASSHOLES, SOMEONE NOT LINING YOUR FUCKING POCKETS WITH MONIES.

CALL YOUR PALS AT THE SUPREME COURT AND ASK THOSE JACKASSES HOW THEY FLEECE THE PUBLIC AND LINE THEIR FUCKING POCKETS TO GET AHEAD YOU DUMBASSES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 805

I support a free roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 806

Having recently visited Point Reyes National Seashore and seen the elephant seals and the Tule elk, I am in favor of letting the elk run free and wild. We have enough cattle in this country - 93 million!

Correspondence ID: 808

let the animals roam free as they did long before humans

Correspondence ID: 812

I support removing the fence you control, so these elk can move freely. Public lands should lead the way on conservation.

Correspondence ID: 813

Please remove the fence that is trapping elk herds and institute collaborative management.

Correspondence ID: 814

Please have Mercy on the Animals and let them roam free without injury or killing them.

They deserve peace and freedom

Thank You

Correspondence ID: 821

The tule elk should be allowed to roam free. They are an important part of Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 828

Bring down the elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 829

Please allow the Elk to freely roam; no fencing is necessary.

Correspondence ID: 831

I have seen the elk and I hope the herd can be managed. Perhaps some moved? Jean

Correspondence ID: 832

Do what's best for the animals to thrive, not just survive. Could you thrive if you were confined to....your bathroom? Forever? Probably not.

Correspondence ID: 833

I support the free roaming elk initiative.

Correspondence ID: 835

Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 839

Public land is for public use. Ranchers should not have sole use of this property. And the killing of wildlife to support only their interests is a crime.

Correspondence ID: 840

Every living creatures deserves the right of freedom. Without freedom they are stressed and can't live a wonderful life.

Correspondence ID: 842

I support the changes noted and applaud the decision to save the elks!

Correspondence ID: 844

Elk are free-roaming and should stay that way, NO FENCE!

Correspondence ID: 847

The National Park Services have a very important job to do. The importance of keeping nature as pure as possible. Simply, the elk deserve to roam freely, the elk are American citizens! Protecting nature must be a priority, protecting nature's wild animals are a priority.

Correspondence ID: 848

The fences are dangerous to animals, especially electric fences. The animals are all God's creatures and must be treated with respect. I good environmental plan without harming the elk or other creatures is the best approach. I hope you will consider a plan that does not harm or kill the elk or other animals. Learning how to live with animals is the best approach.

Correspondence ID: 849

Elk should be allowed to run free

Correspondence ID: 853

Please remove the fence so the elk herd will be unconfined

Correspondence ID: 856

The Point Reyes fence is killing elk in large numbers whenever there is a drought. Elk deserve to be protected, not endangered. They should be allowed to roam free under protective management.

Correspondence ID: 857

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I'm writing in support of your Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 859

Free roaming Elk Herds! Period!!!!

Correspondence ID: 860

PROTECT THE ELK...AT POINT REYES NATIONAL PARK

Correspondence ID: 862

We should try to be more civilized as human beings. Can we picture a world without animals around because we've killed them off? It's not that they go extinct, it said they were killed off because humans didn't show compassion.

Correspondence ID: 863

Save the elks and let them roam naturally

Correspondence ID: 865

Please take down the fence that artificially confines a herd of Tule to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, as this causes large elk die-offs during drought.

Please also move forward with the proposal to create a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 866

I strongly support your proposal to tear down that deadly fence and to let the Tule elk to roam freely once again.

Correspondence ID: 869

Please allow the wildlife to live freely

Correspondence ID: 870

La tanca d'alces de Tomales Point ha provocat grans morts periòdiques d'alces durant les condicions de sequera, ha requerit una intervenció d'emergència per proporcionar fonts d'aigua als animals atrapats i ha reduït la viabilitat genètica dels alces mantenint aquest ramat poblat separat dels altres alces del parc. Point Reyes mereix un pla de gestió que permeti als alces vagar lliurement i comportar-se de manera natural dins del parc nacional.

També recolzo la proposta de col·laboració del Servei de Parcs amb els Indis Federats de Graton Rancheria per incorporar punts de vista tribals i coneixements ecològics tradicionals a la futura gestió de Tomales Point. Dono suport als elements del pla de gestió de ressaltar la història tribal i els recursos culturals i utilitzar foc prescrit i cremades d'investigació per millorar l'hàbitat dels alces tule i les papallones en perill d'extinció. Finalment, recolzo les propostes per controlar les plantes invasores i, d'altra manera, protegir millor els recursos naturals i culturals.

Gràcies per alliberar el nostre estimat alce.

Correspondence ID: 872

Please allow elk to roam in their home!!

Thanks!!

Correspondence ID: 874

Please keep native elk free to roam unhindered by fences & other human created barriers as they were meant to be.

Correspondence ID: 876

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Let the elk roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 877

Elk should be free to roam in the park. They have a right to be here to enjoy and thrive in the environment God made them for. Humans can be cruel and inconsiderate to animals. But, that is a choice we should not make. Respect wild life; in this case, the elk. May God bless you by helping you protect His creatures.

Correspondence ID: 880

I completely support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Allowing the elk to roam free and behave naturally within the national park is an excellent management plan. I also support incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 881

Let the Tule Elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 883

I truly appreciate that the National Park Service has prepared a Tomales Point Area plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The current elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also absolutely love the NPS's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. The plan highlights Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Last but not least, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for listening and hopefully acting on freeing the elk and honoring the tribal history of the land!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 884

let the herd roam

Correspondence ID: 886

I DEMAND ALL ANIMALS LIVE SAFE AND FREE FROM HUMAN INTERFERENCE AND SELFISHNESS IN THEIR NATURAL HABITATS! I DEMAND ALL LAWS PROTECT ALL ANIMALS LIVES AUTOMATICALLY WITHOUT THE NEED FOR A PETITION! I DEMAND SWIFT AND SEVERE AND IMMEDIATE PUNISHMENT FOR ANY DESPICABLE DISGUSTING GREEDY SELFISH SUB HUMAN PIECES OF SHIT WHO HURTS MAMES ABUSES EXPLOITS OR KILLS ANY ANIMALS!

Correspondence ID: 888

Protect the elk with elk (and other creature) friendly care - not harm.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 889

The restrictive fencing has basically jailed these majestic elk and will lead to certain death in times of drought. Please remove the fencing and allow the elk to roam.

Correspondence ID: 890

would you like to be confined to 1 room of your house????!!

Correspondence ID: 891

Concerning the Tule Elk at Point Reyes - Please remove the fencing and let them roam free within the National Park.

Correspondence ID: 892

Quit killing the Earth and it's innocent inhabitants.

Correspondence ID: 896

The Tule elk deserve our care and support. As much as possible, they should be able to range freely -- which is what nature intended for them.

Correspondence ID: 898

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 899

Good grief! You should be protecting wildlife, not harming or killing!

Correspondence ID: 900

why are cows in a point reyes

Correspondence ID: 901

leave animals alone

Correspondence ID: 907

I feel strongly that the elk should be free roaming and an active collaborative management plan established.

Correspondence ID: 909

ISUPPORT A FREE ROAMING ELK HERD.

Correspondence ID: 911

I think it is unconscionable to keep these elk confined with this awful fence, and they should be allowed to roam freely in their natural habitat. There is no rational basis for confining this herd of elk, which are native to California, and now they are rare due to human stupidity. I support the free-roaming elk herd, and I also support the proposed collaborative management plan with the native americans of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, which will enhance the elk habitat and also the habitat for endangered butterflies. Please let the elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 913

I support a free roaming elk herd in your park. Please eliminate the fence. Thank you for your consideration!

Correspondence ID: 914

Free this herd to a safe and appropriate place within the park.

Correspondence ID: 915

Please, let the Elk free again. Remove the fence that keeps them from seeking water during droughts.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 919

These magnificent elk deserve this access. I remember learning about them from my son, a wildlife biologist, who worked at Pt. Reyes Seashore about 10 years ago. Since then I have followed with great interest the efforts to help these elk.

Correspondence ID: 920

Free the Elk! Stop ranching in the Park! (Or at least prioritize wildlife and wilderness)! Those ranches were sold and paid for long ago. Prioritize wilderness above ranching anytime a choice has to be made! (There's enough private land in Marin and Sonoma counties for agriculture).

Correspondence ID: 923

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk. I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 925

Je soutiens également la collaboration proposée par le Service des parcs avec les Indiens fédérés de

Graton Rancheria pour intégrer les points de vue tribaux et les connaissances écologiques traditionnelles dans la gestion future de Tomales Point. J'appuie les éléments du plan directeur qui mettent en valeur l'histoire tribale et les ressources culturelles et utilisent les brûlages dirigés et les brûlages de recherche pour améliorer l'habitat des wapitis et des papillons en voie de disparition. Enfin, je soutiens les propositions visant à contrôler les plantes envahissantes et à mieux protéger les ressources naturelles et culturelles.

Merci d'avoir libéré notre wapiti bien-aimé.

Correspondence ID: 926

I support a free-roaming elk herd. Have decades of planting invasive plants taught the Service nothing??? We're supposed to learn

from the past, not repeat the proven mistakes.

Correspondence ID: 928

Please remove the fence isolating Tomales Point from the rest of Point Reyes National Seashore. Elk did not evolve to be pastured. And the drought deaths due to confinement are unforgivable.

Correspondence ID: 932

Please tear down the fence.

Correspondence ID: 935

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your time, attention, and for freeing our beloved elk.

Sincerely,

S. Lange

Correspondence ID: 936

Living in the Pacific northwest, it's very important to me about the care of the wildlife. I don't think these animals should be hunted down killed or moved to another area because it upsets the balance of nature.

S like the wolves I don't want elk to be gunned down like the wolves. And we have to really take care of the wildlife because they were here before us and having growth for humans with housing that's way out of line cost, we have to consider that they may not like wildlife in their backyard but to me they are a thing of beauty lose the wildlife and you lose human life.

Correspondence ID: 937

I appreciate the fact that your agency is preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that will protect both the culture of the people as well the elk herd. I strongly favor removing the elk fence and allowing them to roam free which would best serve all stakeholders and best keep the character of this wilderness area.

Correspondence ID: 939

Save & spare the Elk let them roam free as the world is killing all the wildlife and forests. Please, please stop!

Correspondence ID: 940

The elk should be allowed to roam free

Correspondence ID: 941

To The National Park Service:

My family and I wholeheartedly support allowing the Tule Elk herd to roam freely. We also support a collaborative management plan. We hope the NPS will heed the will of those of us who appreciate and respect the right of Tule Elk to live out their lives naturally and without hindrance. The presence of the Tule Elk contributes greatly to the Tomales Point Area. Please see to it that the Elk are treated as they should be.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments herein.

Sincerely, The Kelly Family:

Lisa Ann

Chad

George and

Sergei

Correspondence ID: 943

I support a collaborative management plan with the Native American tribes of record. It is in the best interest of the tribes and the wildlife of this area to remove the fence and work toward a comprehensive management plan with the Park Service. The plan should be a win win for all especially the wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 946

Let the Elk roam wild.

Correspondence ID: 947

The elk herd is on public land at Tomales Point and should have absolute priority above cows privately

owned using the land for grazing. Rewilding where possible should always be your duty not catering to private interests.

Correspondence ID: 948

Animals are dying off so rapidly. We are losing so many species for so many reasons that don't have to be. A lot of the ways these animals are dying are because of human ignorance. Why should you leave a fence such as the one that is in place now to kill such a beautiful animal in droves. Please consider removing this death trap and start to preserve these wonderful animals. Once they are gone - it's forever.

Correspondence ID: 950

Free roaming elk are part of the natural ecosystem. Please respect that and remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 952

Please support a free roaming Elk herd/. thanks..

Correspondence ID: 954

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 957

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Please don't further endanger our Tule elk by denying them access to water! If fencing truly is needed, then alternative water sources must be provided.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Elizabeth Ullman

Correspondence ID: 959

We got to keep land and animals safe.

Correspondence ID: 962

Please allow elk to roam freely without causing them harm.

Sincerely, Shahla Hebets

Correspondence ID: 963

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management. Please do not fence the elk in!

Correspondence ID: 964

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 965

Point Reyes Tule Elk

I support the Park Service plan to tear down the fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again. Confining them to Tomales Point caused large Elks die-offs during the recent drought.

I also support the management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 966

Let the elk run free

Correspondence ID: 968

I am writing in strong support of the Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I am fully behind Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk!

Correspondence ID: 969

Protect the Point Reyes Tule Elk

Thanks, Jill A. Wettersten

Correspondence ID: 970

save them - let them have room to be free!

Correspondence ID: 971

Hi,

Please help protect this fragile species of elk in Point Reyes.

- Ed

Correspondence ID: 973

Please approve of elk free roaming and collaborative action plans. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 974

As human development continues, we are pushing animals out of their natural habitats and forcing them into urban areas. We must leave them large wild areas for them, areas where they could be allowed to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 975

I'm always amazed that there is any question I. Your responsibility to preserve and protect biodiversity. It seems since you gave questions about you'd responsibility that the action of turning this over to the original occupants of the land to assume that duty. They appear to have the interest of land and animal preservation at heart..

Once again it is like the canary in the mines when the canary dies the miners died. If nature dies we die. It is so simple.

Correspondence ID: 976

I support a free roaming elk herd (Alternative B) and a collaborative management plan, for what you've been doing is obviously not working considering the repeated, massive elk die-off during our increasing drought conditions. Wildlife was never meant to be fenced in, especially where they've no access to resources necessary to their survival. I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Please, free our beloved elk.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 978

Please, no animals should be confined. They deserve to be free. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 979

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. Please protect what God has created.

Correspondence ID: 980

Please stop fencing in the elk herd and let them roam free. Fencing them in prevents them from accessing water. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 981

Safer fencing or no fencing at all should be considered for the elk herds at Tomales Point to protect and preserve them. Please carefully consider it. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 983

no more fences, please

Correspondence ID: 985

Thank you for developing the Tomales Point Area Plan, which prioritizes the protection of natural and cultural resources and considers new management strategies for the park's confined elk herd. I am a strong advocate for Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing the herd to roam freely. This alternative will liberate the tule elk, enabling them to move naturally and preserving the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The existing elk fence at Tomales Point has led to significant elk die-offs during droughts, necessitated emergency interventions for water supply, and compromised the genetic diversity of the herd by isolating it from other elk in the park. Point Reyes needs a management plan that permits the elk to roam freely and exhibit natural behaviors within the national park.

I also endorse the Park Service's plan to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, incorporating Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the plan's emphasis on highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fires and research burns to improve habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Additionally, I back the proposals to control invasive plants and enhance the protection of natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for taking steps to free our cherished elk.

Correspondence ID: 987

Sir or Ms., please tear down the lethal fence for elk to roam and socialize free of man's constraints.

Correspondence ID: 988

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the Tomales Point Area Plan that prioritizes the protection of natural and cultural resources and explores a new direction for managing the park's confined elk herd. I strongly endorse Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing the elk to roam freely.

This approach will not only allow the tule elk to thrive in their natural habitat but also preserve the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point. The current elk fence has been detrimental to the herd's health, causing periodic die-offs during droughts and requiring emergency interventions to provide water sources. Furthermore, it has reduced the genetic viability of the herd by separating it from other elk in the park.

I believe that Point Reyes National Seashore deserves a management plan that allows elk to roam freely and behave naturally within the park. I am also supportive of the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point.

I appreciate the plan's emphasis on highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as its proposals to use prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Additionally, I support efforts to control invasive plants and protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for taking steps to free our beloved elk and promote a more sustainable and holistic management approach for Tomale

Correspondence ID: 989

This is my second submission on behalf of the Tule Elk, but it includes the information from an entirely different organization, which I share because I want you to know how widespread the interest, inquiry and backing for a new plan is that will reverse the harm caused the Elk.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 990

I'm writing to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

I appreciate the fact that NPS is reassessing management of the National Seashore -- change is definitely needed. When enjoying the seashore I've often been frustrated by the fencing that confine the Tomales Point tule elk, knowing that the viability of the population is at increasing risk from a variety of threats including climate change. Wild species need habitat to deal with and adapt to climate impacts. Plus, I just don't know why -- from a public interest, economic or scientific perspective -- cattle operations are still permitted on the National Seashore. Yes, ranchers have enjoyed grazing rights across a variety of public lands since their inception. And they have outsized influence on public agencies. But times have changed. The public's use of NPS lands have dramatically increased and the economic benefits of recreation versus ranching on public lands has flipped.

In terms of the EA options, Alternative A (no action) is unacceptable. Alternative C retains the elk enclosure fencing and includes lethal methods to manage elk populations and other measures that are objectionable from an ecological and social perspective. It also requires resourcing things -- like artificial population control methods -- that would not be needed if the Tomales Point elk population were free-roaming.

For these reasons and others, I strongly support Alternative B. This action would benefit elk populations in the Seashore, enhance the user experience and likely save taxpayer dollars in the long run.

I think it's important that NPS actively engage and work with Tribal partners to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into the details and implementation of management plans.

Correspondence ID: 991

Remove the fence for once and for all. Stop killing animals unnecessarily

Correspondence ID: 992

I support alternative B. I believe that it best serves the elk herd, other flora and fauna, and visitors.

Correspondence ID: 993

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly agree with the preparation a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Please pass Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Besides being a caring alternative, I imagine it is the most economical in the long term.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. We must learn to live with nature and its creatures, not dominate them and leave them to die.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 994

GIVE THOSE ELK ACCESS TO FOOD AND WATER !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 995

Help all wildlife!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 996

I am encouraged by your proposed plan to better protect the elks in Tomales Point. I strongly support your Alternative B, which will remove the elk fence and allow the herd to roam free. This will allow the elk to find water in times of drought and will best preserve the wilderness of Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's collaboration with the local Native Indian tribe so that tribal views will be incorporated into the plans. This will utilize their traditional knowledge for managing the area, as well as helping the habitat for local species.

Thank you so much for moving this beautiful part of the country in the right direction!

Best,

Susan Duffin

Correspondence ID: 997

I support free-roaming elk herds, working with Graton Rancheria Indians to ecologically manage Tomales Point, removing invasive plants, and to better protect and preserve natural resources.

Correspondence ID: 998

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 999

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance the habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

My father, Ed Hummel, lived in Terra Linda while he was Regional Director of the USNPS and loved the beauty of the area. He served in the USNPS from 1934 and would strongly support all of the above, as do I.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1001

Hello: This is news to me, to actually have allowed Elk die-off in favor of keeping a fence? What is this all about anyway, WHO is the natural inhabitant of the park; an Elk or a FENCE? Tear the stupid thing down.

How irresponsible are those who've watched this happen for HOW LONG? I am very offended and support not only letting the Elk roam free but incorporating the Indigenous people of the area in guiding you all through the de-colonization of our natural resources.

Thank you, Chaplain SL Rogers

Correspondence ID: 1002

Please allow the elk to roam free to avoid drought die offs.

Correspondence ID: 1003

To the honorable government servants:

Please support a wise elk management plan that increases elk access to drinking water and grassland. This can be done while providing enough grazing land for farmers. At some point, the herd may need members moved to other elk habitats. This should be included in the compromise.

Thank you.

Denise Andrews

Correspondence ID: 1004

No fences. No confinement for elk.

Correspondence ID: 1005

Thank you for caring and freeing our precious elks.

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”- Mahatma Gandhi

“We should respect animals because it makes better human beings of us all.”-Dr. Jane Goodall

Correspondence ID: 1006

This is related to the Tomales Point Area Plan. I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk and allow them to roam naturally, the way it should be.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Not good.

Elk are amazing creatures and deserve to be free in the park. Everyone will benefit from a wilder, more natural Tomales. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1008

Let them roam !!!!

Correspondence ID: 1009

I support a free roam approach to managing the elk herd. This will most accurately support the wilderness nature of the area as well as naturally make the elk herd resistant to die-off from drought and disease. These strengths are counteracted by fencing, which makes the populations, by definition, unable to move and migrate naturally and more vulnerable to catastrophic events such as disease and natural disasters

Correspondence ID: 1010

Please review your action plan that may affect the elk at Tomales Point. Consider weather events that may affect the viability of these animals during drought.

Correspondence ID: 1012

I fully support a free ranging elk herd for the Tule Elk and urge removal of the fencing that limits such freedom. I hope continued recovery of these elk will be sustained and that they will be enabled to have a more natural context for their lives. I welcome greater collaboration with the Indigenous Peoples of the region to gain from their historic experience and their place in that setting more of wisdom in care for our common lands and common life.

Correspondence ID: 1013

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 1015

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I also strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and

using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1016

Protect the endangered Point Reyes Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 1017

I support free Roaming elk. It is cruel to put up fencing to keep them confined in any certain area.

Correspondence ID: 1018

Please take down the fence that kills Tule Elk during droughts. Please allow Elk to roam free. Please support wild life and wild lands for the good of us all. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 1020

Please desist in using this insane measure to control another species. These beautiful elk deserve to live free, as they had for millenia, before humans decided that we were Supreme. It never works.

Correspondence ID: 1021

Habitat is crucial for all species. Protect the free range of elk.

Correspondence ID: 1022

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Point Reyes NPS,

I am writing in support of Alternative B, which will remove the elk fence out at Tomales Point and allow the native tule elk to roam free.

I've been hiking in Point Reyes since I was a child in the 1960s and, while I no longer live in the BayArea, I have returned to my stomping grounds at Point Reyes many times as an adult, enjoying it with family and friends. It has pained me to see these magnificent animals "prisoners" in their own native habitat.

The National Seashore and the tule elk deserve a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Sally Miller

Correspondence ID: 1023

NO.NO.NO.

Correspondence ID: 1024

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for helping the elk to survive and flourish.

Correspondence ID: 1027

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan to protect natural and cultural resources and considering new management for the park's confined elk herd. I STRONGLY SUPPORT, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused harm in such a cruel way.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance the habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Perhaps a deeper look at what happens both good and bad when the area ingenious area plants the only plants. I have seen this process and it can be very damaging.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1028

Please allow the remaining elk population the freedom to live quality lives. They are not prisoners, but an unfortunate species that suffer as the result of human activity.

Correspondence ID: 1030

Tule Elk Shpoul not be confined!

Correspondence ID: 1033

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1034

Please favor the elk, not humans, in your management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1035

Let the elk roam free! Ban trophy hunting! Keep people out of preserves.thanks

Correspondence ID: 1037

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk. These Elk should be assisted!

Correspondence ID: 1041

Please be kind and remember to be humane.

Correspondence ID: 1043

It seems to me to be a no-brainer that migrating animals should migrate, NOT be fenced in by humans who apparently have no idea they do! You of all people would know - should know - the animals who migrate, graze, wander, hunt, travel, need water, which is most animals. The need to be allowed to migrate, graze, hunt, roam... Ranchers who want fences- too bad. Bad for wildlife. Hunters trying to eradicate American wildlife - too bad- no need for trophy hunters on the earth. Countries trying to wall itself in- too bad- disturbs migration habits.

So, take down those fences and eliminate anything that hinders wildlife from doing what wildlife does. That's your job. Please do it- for the protection and betterment for our wildlife!!!

Correspondence ID: 1044

Do not allow these elk to die a slow death by these fences.

Correspondence ID: 1046

First, it was lack of water due to the ridiculous and lethal fencing. Now, please tear down that fence and work with the Graton Rancheria to harness cultural resources that will help us to learn what indigenous people already know, and what they have done done for thousands of years, and please enhance habitat for the elk and for the endangered butterflies. Elk are supposed to be free-roaming, for heavens' sake. A national park with fenced-in wild life? That is crazy, and it is CRUEL.

Thank you for doing the right thing and the BEST thing.

Judith Kirk

Correspondence ID: 1048

Plesse leave free roaming for elk and other animals. No fences,

Correspondence ID: 1049

The National Parks are a national treasure. I am certain that President Roosevelt understood what kind of gift he was giving to the American people when he set them up. Please keep destructive industries out of the parks to maintain them for the future. They are too important to be used for commercial gain.

Correspondence ID: 1050

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1053

Pleeeeeeease we are begging you to let these beautiful, innocent, voiceless elks roam around. Holding them back is cruel, sick, inhumane, disgusting and heartbreaking. They have as much right to be on this earth as we have. Civilised societies do not treat their innocent and voiceless animals like this. Pleeeeeeease do the right thing and let them to roam around!

Correspondence ID: 1054

Unfortunately, herd animals have not attended school, watched TV, or read papers. They relied on humans to provide for them in an ever-changing world they cannot control. Help the elk by removing a fence that prevents them from reaching sufficient water in times of drought, which as you know, are plentiful in CA.

Correspondence ID: 1055

Thank you for doing this.

Correspondence ID: 1057

I always considered the National Park Service to be the point agency to protect our wildlife and environment in our parks. It must not be transformed into a service for private interests.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1059

Dear Park Service, I write to express support of a free-roaming elk herd at Tomales Point within habitat adequate to the herd's needs, as well as a collaborative management plan. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1060

Please respect wildlife!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1062

Hi All

Please Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1063

I support a FREE ROAMING ELK HERD AND COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT

Correspondence ID: 1064

It's beyond me that a fence - powerful enough not only to do harm to an elk, but to kill such a beautiful creature - has been erected to control the natural environment in which this animal is supposed to thrive. And this was an action taken by professionals who should know better. How was this ever considered a good idea!?! Consequently, I am making a simple, direct request. Please take down that fence immediately!

Flora C. Miller

Correspondence ID: 1065

Hello,

Having grown up in California, it holds tremendous memories for me. I am shocked that so little viable consideration is given to this herd. That they should be penned in, that nature, which we sadly all too often control, is again being manipulated. We have a responsibility to nature. We should be in opposition to it but in concert with it.

In this case we must help, free and protect this fine animal and I ask that you do all that you can to accomplish this.

Thank you,

John Amato

Correspondence ID: 1066

I support removing the fence to allow the elk to roam freely. The ability for them to move around is essential to their survival during droughts. I live close to Yellowstone National Park, and I cannot imagine artificially confining any animals to a small portion of the park. Your proposed action is long overdue.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 1068

I would like to express my support for Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan (i.e. removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd). This alternative will decrease the effects of habitat fragmentation and edge effect for the tule elk and other terrestrial animals in and around Tomales Point. It may also be prudent to create wildlife corridors/crossing at over/under any applicable roadways abutting or adjacent to the Park.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Similar case studies have been documented in the Kalahari Desert, where livestock fencing led to mass die-offs of wildebeest and other migrating ungulates during droughts. With water becoming an increasingly scarce resource, creating barriers such as this fence is not conducive to responsible natural resource management.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1070

Trying the fence was one thing but it was also a lesson/education to learn from.

Correspondence ID: 1076

These magnificent animals deserve to roam free and proper "management" can be achieved.

Sincerely, Dr P Gail Chesler

Correspondence ID: 1078

I support free roaming elk. It's the right thing to do. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1079

Please protect Elk and other animals from harmful fencing!!

Correspondence ID: 1080

PRNS belongs to the people who submitted thousands of comments that their preference for the Seashore is for wildlife and wild lands....not corporate dairy ranchers. Take down the fence and let the herds roam and inter mix. DO NOT CULL ANY ELK. The NPS management plan is anathema to a healthy seashore.

Correspondence ID: 1081

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 1082

As a native born and raised in California, it was always a treat to watch the Elk roam and jump. Especially in the Redwoods. My kids loved it as well. This is maddening having this fence up. Tear it down. Elk and deer and moose should roam freely. Where I live now I've deer and moose that visit me in my yard. Along with the black bears, lynx and yes we have mountain lions here too in the Berkshire mountains. I'd much rather be around these animals than humans these days. None of these wild animals have ever tried to kill me but humans have.

TAKE DOWN THIS FENCE!

Correspondence ID: 1083

Allow the Elk to move in their traditional territory.

Correspondence ID: 1084

I strongly discourage the use of fencing or other deterrents that prevent wildlife from roaming freely to eat, drink or behave naturally within the park. We have seen the decline of wildlife in areas closer to home after some people made the poor decision to interfere with wildlife for their own convenience. It is imperative that we all protect the environment and wildlife especially in the national parks that are protected from deforestation or building development. Please protect the elk from extinction. Trust me, I have personally witnessed the endangerment of animals including the bison here in Pennsylvania. Please remove the fence and save the elk.

Correspondence ID: 1089

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources

and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park--all consequences I find unacceptable and to require action to ensure never happens again. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park, as is true of sister national parks.

In addition, I fully support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point--this should help the Park Service from repeating the mistakes of the past. I also support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using their prescribed fire practices and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for finally freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1090

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park--all consequences I find unacceptable and to require action to ensure never happens again. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park, as is true of sister national parks.

In addition, I fully support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point--this should help the Park Service from repeating the mistakes of the past. I also support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using their prescribed fire practices and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for finally freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1091

Save the Elk.

Correspondence ID: 1093

Please protect these creatures.

Correspondence ID: 1094

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1098

Please protect the elk. They belong to future generations.

Correspondence ID: 1099

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Any barrier prohibiting elk is the equivalent of putting a fence up INSIDE of your residence to contain a domestic animal.

Correspondence ID: 1102

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1104

I support a free roaming elk herd and a safe and humane management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1105

No type of fencing or obstructions that interfere with the movements of wildlife should be permitted on or around any U.S. parks. Cattle rights near all U.S. parks need to be revoked.

Correspondence ID: 1107

Please allow the elk to roam free so they may survive and thrive creating a healthy ecosystem. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 1109

!

Correspondence ID: 1115

Thank you for developing the Tomales Point Area Plan, which enhances the protection of natural and cultural assets while exploring new management strategies for the park's elk population. I am firmly in favor of Alternative B, which involves the removal of the elk fence, allowing the elk to roam freely. This approach will liberate the tule elk, enabling them to follow their natural behaviors and ensuring the preservation of the wilderness essence of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The elk fence at Tomales Point has led to significant die-offs during droughts, necessitated emergency measures to provide water to trapped animals, and hindered the genetic diversity of the herd by isolating them from other elk in the park. Point Reyes warrants a management plan that promotes the freedom of elk to roam and exhibit their natural behaviors within the confines of the national park.

Additionally, I endorse the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to integrate Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I fully support elements of the management plan that emphasize Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as the use of prescribed burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Furthermore, I am in favor of initiatives aimed at controlling invasive plants and improving the overall protection of natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for facilitating the liberation of our cherished elk.

Correspondence ID: 1118

I appreciate your careful preparation of a Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect both natural and cultural resources. It is critically important that it considers a new management direction for the elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will allow the elk to roam, will provide a more natural balance, and can better preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

It has been unconscionable to see periodic die-offs --that we have "encouraged" --of elk during drought conditions. Besides trapping animals, requiring emergency intervention to provide water sources --that may not be successful. People's management action has also reduced the elk's genetic viability by separation. This park NEEDS a management plan allowing the elk to roam free and behave naturally.

I do support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, intending to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into future management at Tomales Point. I also support the plan's elements to recognize Tribal history, cultural resources and use of prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and others that may benefit, such as rare butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for working towards better and natural protection for wildlife and native plants..

Correspondence ID: 1121

Remove the fence and let the elk roam free and survive.

Correspondence ID: 1122

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1127

Please remove the fence and let the elk live freely.

Correspondence ID: 1128

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1129

This fence never should have existed. Get rid of it now!

Correspondence ID: 1130

Please tear down the fence that limit the Tule Elk's range in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thank you, Suzanne Kunstman

Correspondence ID: 1131

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1134

Mother Nature is awesome

Correspondence ID: 1135

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Elk are free roaming in both Oregon and here in Washington state!!

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1137

Let the Tule elk at Point Reyes roam. We need to live in harmony with nature, not conquer or confine it if at all possible.

Correspondence ID: 1138

I support removing the fencing restricting the elk herds at Point Reyes, allowing them to roam free, as well as working on a collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Correspondence ID: 1139

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

We appreciate you creating the Tomales Point Area Plan, which takes into account a new management strategy for the park's limited elk herd while also improving the protection of natural and cultural resources. I wholeheartedly endorse Option B, which calls for taking down the elk fence and letting the herd roam free. This option will release the tule elk, let them range freely, and best protect Tomales Point's 2,900 acres as a wilderness.

The Tomales Point elk fence has decreased the genetic viability of elk by keeping this populous herd isolated from other elk in the area, resulted in significant, recurring die-offs of elk during drought conditions, and necessitated emergency action to give water supplies to trapped animals.

Thank you.

G. P.

Correspondence ID: 1140

As a misplaced Californian I have a keen interest in supporting this project. Large herd animals must be free to roam, reproduce, and thrive. As an admirer of, and an advocate for, all wildlife it's very important to allow them to thrive.

Correspondence ID: 1142

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1145

Elk need our Defence and Protection !

Correspondence ID: 1147

Take down the fence and allow the elk to eat and drink. Stop catering to the cattle farmers.

Correspondence ID: 1153

Do not build the fence

Correspondence ID: 1155

The Tomales Point Elk Fence is a destructive, ill-thought-out, ignorant project. Please collaborate with knowledgeable, experienced others to rethink your inhumane, cruel, wasteful projects.

Correspondence ID: 1156

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1157

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for providing a better plan!

Maresa Pryor-Luzier

Correspondence ID: 1158

The Center for Biological Diversity provided this comment and I agree with it completely. It was unconscionable that the elk were fenced off from water and that the cattle were allowed to contaminate that water. Here is what CBD wrote:

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1159

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for saving the elk!!

Respectfully,

Ilya Speranza

Correspondence ID: 1160

I support a free-roaming range for elk, please do not harm the elk in any way, thanks.

Correspondence ID: 1161

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Elaine Woodriff

Correspondence ID: 1164

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

It is absolutely insane that, after all these years, and all the knowledge we have gained about keystone species, that we still act as if humankind is at the center of the universe. Thank you for finally freeing a native species, the elk.

Correspondence ID: 1165

I'm all for letting wild creatures run free and fencing humans.

Correspondence ID: 1167

Vistited that beautiful area several years ago. Seeing the Tule Elk confined was a negative contrast and hurtful in a way that is difficult to describe.

Please give the elk the freedom they deserve and the park will thrive.

Respectfully,

Linda Penrose

Correspondence ID: 1168

Protect all animals

Correspondence ID: 1169

Please allow the elk at Point Reyes the freedom to roam and survive. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1170

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1173

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Yours Sincerely, Helena Tapper

Correspondence ID: 1174

Please!

Correspondence ID: 1175

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1176

I think this is an excellent plan!

Correspondence ID: 1177

Regarding Point Reyes Tule Elk:

My grandparents and my mother lived in California starting in the 20s, and I spent my childhood there. I still have a sibling and family living there. It is just incomprehensible to us that elk are dying of thirst in a National Park due to mismanagement and human intervention (THE FENCE).

California's values are about saving wildlife, not starving them or forcing them to die of thirst. As with all animal cruelty, the root must be about money. The cattle ranchers are paying off park administrators so they can continue to have cheap grazing. But you have to know, this is not what the public wants!

I have witnessed first hand the corruption of federal land management by cattle ranchers, and the oil and gas industry. It is time for severe consequences for those bribing, and those taking the bribes. That includes the politicians and judges who are in on the fix. Lets stop pretending like this doesn't happen, and do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 1178

Please talk down the fence and let the Elk roam the park

Correspondence ID: 1180

Please help save these elk by removing this fence.

Correspondence ID: 1182

Leave them alone!! The world does NOT revolve around humans!! WE ARE THE PROBLEM

Correspondence ID: 1183

Please support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1184

Some sense of humility and decency would be appreciated.

Correspondence ID: 1185

Hello. I am writing to express my outrage at the marginalization of and threat to Tule elk. I am heartened knowing I am not alone, and I join these like-minded people seeking to see these elk roam free once more. Please no longer put it off as inevitable. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1186

please support a free roaming elk herd! no fence!

marlene ludlow

Correspondence ID: 1188

National Park Service -TEAR DOWN THIS FENCE. The Tule Elk should be allowed to roam free.

Correspondence ID: 1190

Stop killing the damn elk!

Correspondence ID: 1195

I hear that you have a fence that is causing Elk to die during times of drought. Please take down the fence or provide ample water and food when needed. It's a no brainer.

Correspondence ID: 1196

Protect animals they need protection in this screwed up world.

Correspondence ID: 1197

I commend whatever steps you take to keep all creatures from being harmed or killed by the fence you now consider removing. I Pray you will do that. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1198

Remove the fence already.

Correspondence ID: 1200

The elk fence was a bad idea all along. I support unconfined elk and removal of invasive non-native plants.

Correspondence ID: 1202

Please take down the fence so the Tule Elk can roam freely and be healthier. Also consult with local tribes because it's the right and good thing to do. This amazing wilderness area needs updated support so thank you for doing all of this in as timely manner as possible.

Correspondence ID: 1203

Our network is so grateful for the proposed plan B to protect the wildlife-rich haven of Tomales Point which will, most importantly of all - free and protect the confined and compromised elk herd.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets these majestic elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

We also wholeheartedly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point, highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for Tule elk and endangered butterflies and better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved, iconic elk.

Frances-Marie Hankin, Admin, The Compassion Leaders Network Lady Freethinker Animal Advocacy

Correspondence ID: 1205

I support Free Roaming Elk. Please do not put up a fence that will endanger the lives of elk.

Correspondence ID: 1206

Regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan, I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This option will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I am for the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I am for proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 1207

Keep the Elk as free roaming as possible. Don't let this be stopped by cattle grazing interests.

Correspondence ID: 1209

Stop forcing members of other species to abide with what ignorant, controlling, power-driven human beings think will work for them. When will you begin to acknowledge their wisdom and innate knowledge of what is right for them? How many disastrous mistakes do you all have to make?

Pamela Maxfield

Correspondence ID: 1211

THE PLANET IS DYING BECAUSE OF HORRIFIC DECISIONS OF GOVERNMENTS - INDUSTRIES - CORPORATIONS & WEALTHY JUST TO MAKE MO MONEY

Correspondence ID: 1214

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I am a Washington state resident, yet Point Reyes is one of my favorite places. I learned from the Center for Biological Diversity about the fence restricting the movement of the tule elk herd. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for working on a great solution!

Correspondence ID: 1215

Let's pursue a more natural way to use your energy to protect animals and people. There is NO need for fences killing elk in current configuration. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1216

Wild, free roaming animals are a necessity for nature to heal

Correspondence ID: 1218

Please manage the elk herds without the lethal fence.

The key word is manage -- not maim or kill.

Correspondence ID: 1219

Please introduce the free roaming for elks and management plan.the have the right to live their lives as nature intended.thank you

Correspondence ID: 1220

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1221

Hello, as a frequent wildlife tourist I am begging you to follow good environmental practices and the advice of conservationists and remove the elk fence to let these majestic animals roam as Nature intended. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1226

5/22/24

Dear NPS,

I am writing with regard to the Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan to let you know I support alternative B in particular the removal of the elk fence. I also support cooperative work with tribal communities, preservation of the wild character of the point, & addition of better restroom & visitor facilities.

Thank you for all of the hard work you are doing & for taking into consideration the views of so many in managing this precious natural place we all love.

Nietta Naas

Correspondence ID: 1227

Get rid of the fence

Correspondence ID: 1229

Save the Tomales elk! They are a special herd Please!!

Correspondence ID: 1230

Please continue to support a free roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1232

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan. I strongly support Alternative B, that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd will free the tule elk, allowing them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. The current fencing has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Traditional ecological knowledge will enhance future management of Tomales Point. I support the plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1233

Take your elk killing fence down. Wildlife need to be protected, not killed more by stupid humans. What low levels of wildlife do you want? One of each species in a zoo? Nature needs abundance to keep a species thriving, they can't mate with their own family. Save all life, end all stupid humans actions which kill or hurt all wildlife, Get the fence that kills elk in the garbage dump where it belongs.

Correspondence ID: 1234

Larger wild animals, such as the tule elk, need a fair amount of open and safe space to live and reproduce. Please reevaluate the fencing that has been used around Tomales Point, and remove or expand its area to help keep the elk alive and well! Thank you!

Joan Scott

Correspondence ID: 1235

Please take action!

Correspondence ID: 1236

Ranching and meat production have been put above wildlife for far too long. Wildlife should take priority in every case, as the livestock industry is based on cruelty and greed. And I don't just talk the talk, I have been vegetarian for over 25 years, and vegan now for 6. If we care to save wildlife, they must be given priority.

Correspondence ID: 1237

As a native Westerner who is committed to the survival of our native species and ecosystems and to policies that put them before the profits of private business, I support the removal of the fence that has confined the herd of Tule elk to a plot so small that it has caused many members of the herd to die of hunger and thirst. They were there first--we are the invaders of their home and it is time that we gave it back to them.

For these reasons, I strongly support Alternative B in the Park Service's proposal. Because the native peoples of the region have lived with these elk for centuries or even millennia, I support the Forest Service's inclusion of them in planning and emphasis on their cultures in its uses, including prescribed burns. One of the benefits of prescribed burning is the control of invasive species, toward which the FS should use other natural means that do not harm the environment.

Correspondence ID: 1239

I am very happy to learn that the Park Service is proposing to tear down the existing lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point is a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge.

Tearing down this fence will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

This is wonderful! Thank you so much.

Correspondence ID: 1241

I support a free-roaming elk herd and a collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1243

Please don't use fences to prevent elk from food and water. They are more deserving of the land they occupy than the cattle. These animals have no one to take care of them as the cows do. They need protection from the government. These fences have caused many deaths and that isn't right.

Sincerely, Jan Jones

Correspondence ID: 1244

Let elk roam free! Don't let them die a slow death from no food. Tear down the fence.

Correspondence ID: 1245

do the right thing

Correspondence ID: 1247

Let the Elk roam the park rather than die during drought.

Correspondence ID: 1248

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I very much appreciate your preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that improves the protection of natural and cultural resources and reconsiders the management direction for the park's confined tule elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B and urge the removal of the dangerous elk fence. This alternative would free these majestic animals, letting them roam naturally, while preserving the wild character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

It is my understanding that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused widespread, periodic death among the elk during droughts, requiring costly (and not always successful?) emergency intervention to provide water to trapped animals. It has also diminished the herd's genetic viability by separating it from other herds in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam freely and rely on their natural behaviors.

I also heartily support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's emphasis on Tribal history and cultural resources and the use of prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

My family and I consider the elk and butterflies natural, national treasures that we should live with and among. Thank you for freeing these beloved creatures.

Correspondence ID: 1249

Animals need room to roam and be the way God meant for them to live. Please do not fence them in. That is inhumane and unnecessary. Man should NOT be the only animal considered.

Correspondence ID: 1250

Elk must remain free-roaming. Each species has its own essential role in the theater of life. Each is essential in order that priceless habitat may be maintained!

Correspondence ID: 1252

Parks are designed to protect our wildlife.

This fence in Point Reyes has proven the opposite to be true for our Tule Elk.

Please return to a more humane and collaborative method of managing the herds.

It is our responsibility to provide a better and more humane way that restores the natural balance to our elk population and herds.

Thank you, Valarie Matinjussi

Correspondence ID: 1255

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan

I urge to to approve Alt B, Tomales Point Area Plan, to protect natural and cultural resources by removing the elk fence and allowing the elk herd to roam freely. I am informed that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Best wishes,

Correspondence ID: 1256

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan between the National Park Service and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria for the elk of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1257

I am glad that the National Park Service appreciates the need to let tule elk range sufficiently to protect them from being ravaged by drought. The new Tomales Point Area Plan improves protection for natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I urge you to adopt Alternative B which would remove the elk fence and allow the elk herd the capacity to range to where it can find water and food in the face of increasingly frequent and lengthier droughts. Freeing the tule elk to roam naturally best preserves the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Recent droughts and the Tomales Point elk fence have resulted in large, periodic die-offs of elk. Emergency intervention was necessary to provide water sources to trapped animals. The fence also reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping the Tomales Point herd from breeding with other elk in the park. I support a management plan for Point Reyes that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

It will be both ethical and advantageous for the Park Service to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources should definitely be implemented.

Thank you!.

Correspondence ID: 1261

Please do not fence the elk.

Correspondence ID: 1262

ENOUGH ELK ARE BEING KILLED. WHAT ARE YOU THINKING/ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.....NO MORE KILLING

Correspondence ID: 1263

In January of this year, I visited Point Reyes and had a lifetime opportunity to view and photograph some of the elk in Tomales Point. But, it's clear the fencing has created enormous problems for the herd's health and long term viability.

I am glad to hear about the work on a Tomales Point Area Plan. I specifically approve of Alternative B which calls for the removal of the destructive elk fence allowing the elk to roam to where food and water is available for them and reduce the die-offs that have been occurring. I also support the proposed collaboration work with the local Native American tribal groups. I also support proposals to use prescribed burns and invasive plant controls to improve the natural habitat in the Tomales Point area.

Thank you for helping to free and protect the elk and other native species within Point Reyes which is a true gift to the American people.

Paul

Correspondence ID: 1264

We must look out for the animals on our earth!

Correspondence ID: 1266

I am strongly in favor of removing the fence at Point Reyes in order to free the elk trapped there. There has to be a better solution for these animals than the situation they are presently in, and I trust you'll be able to find it.

Lorrell Louchard

Correspondence ID: 1268

This situation needs to be remedied in favor of the animals. ASAP!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1269

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1271

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Natural movement of wildlife is always better!

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I definitely also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Native fire practices are always best and we should continue to learn from and incorporate them.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk!

Correspondence ID: 1272

Elk need to be Free for Health!

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I /strongly/ support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1273

It is with great relief, and gratefully support, your efforts to allow the Tule Elk to roam naturally, by removing the existing fencing. It is wonderful that there is collaboration with the local tribe to support the protection of all wildlife in this sanctuary. I congratulate you on these efforts.

Correspondence ID: 1274

Please remove the fence that confines elk to the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. Elk should roam freely through the park.

Correspondence ID: 1275

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1276

LET THE ELK LIVE IN A ACCIDENT FREE ENVIROMENT!!!

Correspondence ID: 1277

I support a free-roaming elk herd at Point Reyes. Please remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 1278

Tear the fence down and let the elk roam free at Point Reyes National Seashore! I'm not sure why you have not already taken the fence down, but it appears that it is long overdue.

Correspondence ID: 1280

No motor vehicles, limited access for humans, allow nature to take its course, please

Correspondence ID: 1282

To: California Park Service,

I'm originally from NM and being an outdoors person as well as a surveyor who worked in remote wilderness areas I am very familiar with elk and their need to be able to roam as needed. Please remove the fence and allow the herd to move freely as needed to maintain their health and natural desire to move about their environment.

Thank You,

S. Marincic

Correspondence ID: 1283

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

This is important. I appreciate your considering my comments.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. This is barbaric and must stop.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing these precious elk.

Nina Davis

Correspondence ID: 1284

I support removing the fence confining the Point Reyes Tule elk so they can roam freely maintaining a healthier herd.

Correspondence ID: 1285

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1286

Any measures which would promote the health, wellbeing, and propagation of these magnificent elk should be implemented. I am not aware of any alleged benefits of the fence and can't imagine there being any. It seems obvious that in a wild area, unless there are credible human injuries and deaths reported about unprovoked elk, then the fence should definitely be removed.

I would also point out that elk (not the same kind, but very LARGE) wander everywhere in Estes Park adjacent to Rocky Mountain National Park, and everyone loves them. Of course there is the poop problem, but in a natural area this is to be expected.

In sum, please remove the fence as soon as possible.

Correspondence ID: 1289

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1291

I strongly support Tomales Point Area Plan's "Alternative B," which removes the elk fence and enables the tule elk herd to be unconfined and to roam naturally. The existing Tomales Point elk fence artificially confines the herd to the park's northern end, causing massive elk die-offs during drought conditions. It has required emergency intervention to provide water sources to these trapped animals, and has reduced the animals' genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. This lethal fence must be removed.

In addition, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the use of prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, as well as the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1292

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. They are beautiful, majestic creatures and deserve our protection.

Correspondence ID: 1294

We MUST restore our nation's wildlife so that we maintain the VITAL BIODIVERSITY that is critical to viability, health, & longevity of the ecosystems of our PUBLIC LANDS!

The Tule Elk should be freed from the confining fencing so they may prosper & repopulate in a wider territory.

Please take action NOW to remove the fencing restraints for the Point Reyes herd!

Correspondence ID: 1295

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

As a supporter of wildlife and our environment, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. As climate change demonstrate the power of destruction, we must work to improve and maintain the elements that will minimize and/or reduces the damages to our planet.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1296

Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where Tule elk live. Instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. I support the Park Service proposal to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again, and their management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies. Thank you very much!

Correspondence ID: 1297

DO NOT DESTROY THIS ENVIROMENT FOR THE ELK HERD!!!

Correspondence ID: 1299

I appreciate the tremendous responsibility the National Park Service has, managing and protecting wildlife.

I recently heard about a fence that has had devastating effects on elk considering the surrounding conditions. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1300

I support a free roaming elk herd. Nature achieves a balance when we stop messing with it.

Correspondence ID: 1302

I've been following the ongoing issues of the Tule elk living on the Point Reyes National Park for a long time.

I strongly support the proposal of tearing down the fence to enable the elk herd to roam freely and naturally.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for recognizing the importance of the Tule elk herd and freeing them!

Correspondence ID: 1303

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1304

Please tear down the fence at Pt. Reyes National Seashore which is preventing elk from being allowed to forage for food and water!

I have seen these elk and they are breathtaking, I always feel privileged when I see them. It breaks my heart to think of them starving or dying from dehydration. Please, do the humane thing and remove the fence.

Best,

Luci Evanston

Correspondence ID: 1307

Dear Park Service, please let the Tule Elk roam freely and take down the fence. I doing crafts of deer and elk, and believe these wild deer are at their most majestic and happy when they can move and interact freely.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Ann Woltjen

Correspondence ID: 1311

Our family visits Point Reyes whenever we are in Northern California. It is such a special place that makes one want to see the animals that have called this place home forever.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1312

It is encouraging and I support the Park Service proposing to tear down the lethal fence that will let Tule elk roam freely once again in the entirety of Point Reyes National Seashore.

I am also for the agency proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 1313

Humanity has no right to monopolize earth's land which also belongs to all life's species. We must learn to more respectfully share territory and habits without artificially lethal interventions.

Correspondence ID: 1314

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1315

I support the NPS plan to remove the elk fence in the Tomales Point Area. These animals should be able to roam free in the Park.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1316

To Whom it may Concern,

I'm writing in reference to Tomales Point Area Plan. I support this plan strongly.

Thank you, Jeanette LeVesque

Correspondence ID: 1317

I support Alternative "B", to remove the elk fence and allow a freer ranging elk population.

Correspondence ID: 1321

Allow elk to roam in their home, which existed before fences.

Correspondence ID: 1323

I don't know why the decision to fence in elk was made, but elk don't need fencing..I stand with the elk.

we manage our orchards and forest for wildlife. we are on a elk migration route in the coastal mountain range and have watched as more and more obstacles have blocked their path. I support fence removal. if total removal is not possible, please use safe passage bridges or underpasses. GIVE ELK A BREAK. jan

Correspondence ID: 1324

I support the Free-Roaming Point Reyes Free-Roaming Elk Herd & Collaborative Management Plans thereof!

Correspondence ID: 1325

Please remove the elk confining fence and allow them to roam the park freely

Correspondence ID: 1327

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Pt. Reyes Park Service,

I am writing in support of Alternative B, removal of the fencing that currently confines the herd of Tule elk in Tomales Point. Please consider this plan to allow them to roam naturally, mix with other herds of elk in the area, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the proposed collaboration with the with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, who can incorporate an ancestral understanding of stewardship of the ecosystem into the future management of the park and surrounding area.

Point Reyes park and the remaining Tule Elk herds are a California treasure, and it should be a priority to bring them back, as closely as we can, to their original state of ecological health.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Jeri Idso

Correspondence ID: 1328

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Additionally, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration

Correspondence ID: 1329

I support a free roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1331

freedom

Correspondence ID: 1333

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1334

I urge you to fulfill yours and our obligations to support these magnificent, endangered species.

Correspondence ID: 1335

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better suits the natural environment and introduces a new management plan for the park's elk herd.

I enthusiastically support Alternative B, removing the elk fence, and allowing more free roaming for the elk herd. I agree that this plan will better preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 1336

Thank you for considering to remove the fence isolating the Point Reyes elk to the Tomales Point Area. We should not be unnaturally restricting animals' movement in a US National Park so that they cannot reach the resources essential to their existence.

Correspondence ID: 1337

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I am writing to say thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I also want to express my strong support for Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1339

Please take action now. This has dragged on way too long. Remove the fences NOW.

Correspondence ID: 1340

I am writing to you about the management of the Tule elk of Tomales Point in California. I agree with the Center for Biological Diversity and their suggested changes in management of the Tule elk. Allowing them to roam more freely would be better for them and for the lands, too. I also tend to think that the traditional management used by native Americans are probably better for multiple reasons over time. As climate change introduces new stresses to the lands and the creatures that live there, we need to have the most effective ways available for preserving species and minimizing habitat loss.

Correspondence ID: 1341

Please let elk live

Correspondence ID: 1342

I support a free roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Respectfully,

Joe Stark

Correspondence ID: 1343

I am an assistant professor at Virginia Tech with a PhD in environmental science.

First off, I wanted to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. It will also support biodiversity and restore the area to a more natural order.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1348

Please remove the lethal fence! We are all moving towards unprecedented climate events as the months and years go on, and the effects of drought are no strangers to a lot of us. It is horrific to allow animals to kill themselves on such fences in desperate bids to get to water or safety. There is no acceptable collateral damage in the fight for the climate. We must protect everyone, human, animal, plant, and insect alike. Please incorporate the traditional ecological knowledge held by the native people of the Graton Rancheria during this transition. The answers we need are already here, and they're being safeguarded in the cultural knowledge of Native Americans all over the nation

Correspondence ID: 1349

Please tear down the fence that blocks forage and life giving fresh water for the Tule Elk.. People visit a Sanctuary to see and watch the endangered species. Cattle do not belong in National parks, or Sanctuary's. They are a hinderance to the native wildlife. They poison water sources. And steal precious food from those animals that are supposed to be protected. The land cannot recover from the numbers that are allowed to roam free. STOP allowing privately owned livestock to roam on our public land. Native wildlife such as Tule Elk and Wild Horses deserve protection from, and Industry owned for profit operation. The leases that are given do nor reflect the damage done to the land and water. . I

encourage the NPS to reduce and retire the number of leases allowed and closely regulate those that are given out. Overgrazing goes unpunished and Native wildlife suffer the consequences.

Correspondence ID: 1351

The National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines an Elk herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

The Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk especially during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1352

Save the Point Reyes Tule Elk! Please take immediate action to tear down the lethal fence so that our treasured wildlife survives and can roam free. Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 1354

Thank you so much for creating the Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect the natural and cultural resources and reconsider the management of the park's confined elk herd. I'm thrilled to support Alternative B, which proposes removing the elk fence and letting the elk roam free. This choice feels right, as it allows the tule elk to move naturally and helps preserve the wild character of the beautiful 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The elk fence at Tomales Point has always troubled me because it has caused so many elk to die during droughts. It's heartbreaking to see these majestic animals suffer due to lack of water, and it's clear that trapping them like this isn't good for their health or genetic diversity. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets the elk live freely and naturally within our stunning national park.

I'm also very supportive of the Park Service's idea to work with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into managing Tomales Point is a wonderful step forward. I love that the plan includes highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, and using prescribed fires to enhance habitats for tule elk and endangered butterflies. These actions, along with controlling invasive plants, will greatly improve the protection of both natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for taking these steps to free our beloved elk and preserve the beauty of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1356

I have lived in California for over 15 years and visit Tomales Point frequently. Please honor our wildlife for my grandchildren and future generations.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1357

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1359

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused significant, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Therefore, a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park is necessary.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you, Best regards,

Ivana Cerovecki

Correspondence ID: 1361

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1362

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1364

Hello. It is simple, let all wildlife roam free for safety and wellbeing. Thanks

Correspondence ID: 1365

Please don't help in the eradication of what's left of our precious elk. They need more space to live and confining fences are only hurting their chance for survival. Aren't we, humans, supposed to be the more intelligent ones? Then prove it by doing the right thing!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1366

Tear down the fence

Correspondence ID: 1368

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1369

I support a free roaming for elk herd and collaborative management plan

Correspondence ID: 1370

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1371

Restore free range for the elk.

Correspondence ID: 1376

I support the plan to expand the range allotted for Tule Elk in the Point Reyes/Tomales Point area. For

too long the Tule Elk have been restricted to an area that is too small to support them. There have been die-offs during times of drought, even with supplemental feed. Please keep the Tule Elk on a path of successfully maintaining their numbers; this area is one of only a few places in California where Tule Elk still live. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1377

Let them free roam, it is what is natural and right. Perhaps if they were free when the drought hit there would have been fewer deaths because they could move where there was more water.

Correspondence ID: 1381

I support a free roaming elk herd. Please take required action as necessary. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1382

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd!

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will, I hope and believe, best preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point. And Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within this wilderness. They are a part of it, after all!

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I do not believe in separating people from the land. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your hard work as stewards of what is left of our wilderness and wild animals.

Correspondence ID: 1383

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1384

Elk should be protected. They are necessary to help keep a balance on this beautiful, bountiful planet.

Correspondence ID: 1386

To Whom It May Concern:

As a degreed Wildlife Biologist with emphasis on large ungulates such as the Tule Elk, I am in total agreement with the plan to remove the restrictive fencing at Tomales Point in the Pt Reyes National Park.

Sincerely, Alan D. Bosch

Correspondence ID: 1387

Please allow the fence to be taken down to allow for more natural movements of the elk herd. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1388

I support alternative B that allows free roaming elk in the tomales point

Correspondence ID: 1393

I recently hiked to Tomales Point in Point Reyes and viewed the beautiful elk. I failed in the past to understand why they were penned and not allowed to roam free on public lands in the Point Reyes National Seashore. They are a unique subspecies and an important part of the biodiversity of the reserve. I recently learned the fences are coming down and I totally support this action. thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1395

Thank you for caring about the beautiful elk, I support your efforts on their behalf!

Correspondence ID: 1396

Dear People,

We are losing our animal friends at an alarming rate. Global warming is bad enough, but ruining habitat is unforgivable.

Our birds are losing their homes, our polar bears and losing their homes and hunting grounds so lets take care of the animals that we have left. Let people move to the city if they don't like animals in their backyard.

As a child we had deer visit the yard. It was sensational! Then the woods were bulldozed to build houses.

Please let's stop this madness where we can.

Sincerely, Cynthia McHugh, Tom Dolan

and all the cats we have whose parents were feral,

Correspondence ID: 1397

Wild Earthlings need freedom to move!

Correspondence ID: 1398

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1404

If we fail to protect our Natural Resources and our Wildlife then we Humans will be next to disappear from Good Old Mother Earth !!! Talk about Being Stupid - this would be more than just being Stupid !!!

Correspondence ID: 1407

Na

Correspondence ID: 1408

Elk deserve a healthy habitat. Without them, it disrupts the ecosystem and hurts other living things.

Correspondence ID: 1410

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. However, The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1411

THE TULE ELK ARE WILD ANIMALS AND SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO ROAM FREE AND NOT BE CONFINED TO AREAS THAT HARM THEM AND KEEP THEM FROM WATER WHICH THEY NEED TO SURVIVE. THIS IS HORRIFIC TREATMENT OF ANIMALS AND IS ANIMAL ABUSE. ANIMALS SHOULD BE FREE TO ROAM. WHOEVER IS DOING THIS SHOULD BE FINED AND PUT IN JAIL. WILD ANIMALS DESERVE TO BE FREE. THIS IS THEIR LAND AND WHOEVER CONFINES THEM IS CRUEL AND ABUSIVE.

Correspondence ID: 1412

Thank you .

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you THANK YOU THANK YOU for freeing our beloved elk. THANK YOU.

Correspondence ID: 1413

NO FENCE!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1416

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1417

We show the world every day how good we are at plundering resources; we also seem to just kill off whatever creatures get in our way. We also don't seem to learn from our mistakes, let's take a different tack. Please, think in the big picture. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1418

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1420

Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where free roaming Elk live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

This must stop. Restore and rebalance natural wildlife habitats.

Correspondence ID: 1421

Please let the elk roam freely with a safe management plan.

Correspondence ID: 1424

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Please free our treasured elk now!

Correspondence ID: 1425

Please, just do the right thing. Nothing can survive if you keep pushing boundaries for whatever reason. Protection is one thing. Captivity is another.

Correspondence ID: 1426

I support a free-roaming elk herd and a collaborative management plan the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Please do all you possibly can to implement these valuable and vital programs. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1427

Our fauna everywhere seems to be beset from all sides by numerous factors. Pls give this animal more space

Correspondence ID: 1428

I highly support the Tomales Point Area Plan as well as the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Both are an incredible opportunity for us and the majestic Tule Elk.

Thank you for the chance for myself and others to weigh in on this important decision.

Correspondence ID: 1429

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Allowing the elk to roam naturally will be beneficial for them and all the other wildlife in the ecosystem as well.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1430

For 50 years, I hiked all over pt Reyes and bicycled all over west Marin. I vote for the elk. I Vote for including the native

People in decisions. I vote for a win win win win that includes the farmers and public!!!! No more animal deaths!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1431

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1433

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As a California resident who loves Pt. Reyes National Seashore and values the wildlife and plant diversity there, I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan. This alternative will remove the elk fence that has resulted in so many elk deaths over the years, and allow an unconfined elk herd to roam naturally. It will also best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Send your comments now.

Correspondence ID: 1436

I am writing to let you know of my strong support for Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan. Any changes you make must be the best ones and removing the elk fence to allow unconfined elk herds is a move in the right direction. Freeing the tule elk so they can roam naturally as they were intended to do is the humane option. The fence has been killing off elk either because they prevent access to water, but also because the fence keeps them from contacting and breeding with other herds and thereby reducing genetic viability.

The proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point is WONDERFUL. Our nation has a long way to go to try to undue the savagery inflicted on Tribal people and honoring their history, knowledge and cultural resources is such a good step in the right direction. I also support using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I

support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for permitting input and especially for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1439

We never seem to think of our wild life here in America. I'm not quite sure as to WHY that is.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Sincerely,

Rev Joan Wiersma

Florida

Correspondence ID: 1440

Please allow these Point Reyes Tule Elk to move freely and not be fenced off. They deserve to roam and live their lives with as little human restraint as possible. Please support wildlife, we will all be better for it.

Correspondence ID: 1441

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1443

Hello,

I'm urging you to please remove the fence for the Tule Elk. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd

separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Thank you for your consideration.

-Laura Luyendyk

Correspondence ID: 1444

I believe in letting the native elk to Point Reyes National Park roam freely with proper management instead of fencing them in. There is evidence that this practice is resulting in the die off of this population during drought. It is important for this species and all wild animals to flourish, especially with the advance of global warming and ecological collapse. We need all of the survival o d wild spaces that we can get. Please do the right thing and eliminate the fencing.

Correspondence ID: 1445

RIGHT ON!!

Correspondence ID: 1447

I support this effort between the 2 organizations....regarding the Tomales Point Area and the improvement of the elks environment/life.

Correspondence ID: 1450

Please stop the insanity and let the Elk roam free. We are loosing far to many species in this world at this time. Fire, famine, disease poaching hunting ect ect. We all have our place in the ecosystem sometimes we become far

to involved. Mother nature takes care of herself without our interference

Correspondence ID: 1454

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. As I'm sure you're well aware, wild animals always thrive best outside of confinement when their instincts can lead them to the resources that best support them and their needs. They will also be much less susceptible to disease.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. The Tribes deserve a voice in decisions that directly affect them and on lands that were historically theirs.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1460

I support a free-ranging Elk herd, rather than one confined to such a tiny area. Letting Elk range more freely is necessary to promote the health of these animals over time. It is very exciting to sight these majestic Elk on my many visits to Tomales Point, but there is no good reason to keep them confined there.

Correspondence ID: 1461

As a long-time Bay Area resident, I am asking that you better handle the herd by removing the fencing. At least please ensure their survival by allowing them a greater area and better access to a bigger range.

Correspondence ID: 1462

Please provide the Tule elk a protected, unfenced, unrestricted area with plenty of access to grazing area and water in the Tomales Point Area Plan. They should be allowed to roam freely and naturally in the entire Tomales Point area without the threat of die off.

Please also keep domesticated and agricultural animals off their historic areas. I also urge the Park Service to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in order their traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

The management plan should emphasize Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

The Tule elk are part of our national heritage as is the land where they roam. I urge you to do everything you can

to see that they are afforded full protection and preservation.

Thank you,

Jennifer

Correspondence ID: 1464

Hello, I support the free roaming elk herd. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1466

Please, protect them.

Correspondence ID: 1468

I am pleased to hear that you have prepared Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park'. I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. It is important for the natural balance to free the tule elk and allow them to roam naturally.

Correspondence ID: 1469

Again and again I find myself feeling ashamed of government and their brutal management of our wildlife. These beautiful animals deserve the freedom of movement that they had prior to people putting up fences to contain them in an unnatural way. Please take the fence down and allow these animals the freedom of movement they used to know and should now know.

Correspondence ID: 1470

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales

Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1471

Please don't forget to support free roaming elks.

Correspondence ID: 1472

I support the free roaming elk herd along with all conservation efforts.

Correspondence ID: 1473

Elk at Tomales Point should not be fenced. Pt Reyes is an odd patchwork of destructive cattle ranches and relatively pristine natural spaces. Regardless, the elk need to be able to live without the fencing and unnatural crowding. Let's make Pt Reyes the kind of place in is meant to be. No fencing for the elk.

Correspondence ID: 1475

Please remove the fence so the elk can roam free again

Correspondence ID: 1476

As if life weren't difficult enough for Tule Elk, the fence through Tamales Point has restricted their movements to the point of having caused periodic die-offs.

I want to thank you for preparing the Tamales Point Area Plan which will allow the Elk to roam freely and thus reduce environmental stresses on the herd. It will also preserve the wilderness character of Tamales Point.

I also hope you will follow through with the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Tribal history and knowledge will be invaluable to any management plan.

Thank you for freeing these magnificent creatures.

Paul Keyserling

Correspondence ID: 1477

Do the right thing. Stop being cruel and stop the madness and respect Mother Earth!

Correspondence ID: 1481

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing elk to be unconfined. This alternative will allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

This Tomales Point 'elk fence' is causing large, periodic die-offs of the species during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk, and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk, and bettering all the above issues mentioned.

Sincerely, Michelle Mainieri

Correspondence ID: 1483

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1484

Tule Elk are a California treasure. Remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 1486

Please protect these magnificent creatures!

Correspondence ID: 1489

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk!

Correspondence ID: 1490

RE: The elk at the Tomales Point Area

Please allow the elk at the Tomales Point Area to roam free across the entire area. Apparently, these elk are the last of an endangered species. By confining them to a single area of the territory with a constructed barrier, the elk are endangered by drought & face death in large numbers.

Thus, it is pointless to hem in the elk in this destructive way. Please take down the barrier:

Sincerely, Linda Moussouris

Correspondence ID: 1491

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns.

Correspondence ID: 1492

Please do not harm the Elk leave them alone and let them roam free. Stop killing all our wildlife. This is cruel and not what God intended. God intended them to roam free from killing and hunting.

Correspondence ID: 1494

I appreciate and thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that not only protects natural and cultural resources but also takes into mind a new management direction for its confined elk herd. I support the removal of the elk fence and allowing an unconfined herd (Alt. B). The affected 2,900 acre Tomales Point will be best preserved with this option.

Further, I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to allow their views and knowledge of traditional ways into future management of the Point. This support includes highlighting their history and cultural resources as well as using prescribed and research-based burns to enhance the habitat for elk and endangered butterflies. And finally, I support all proposals to control invasive plants to help protect the native, natural, and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk and for caring so much to protect the Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1497

As mankind evolves, so must our diligence about protecting our animal brethren because they are the key to our survival.

The fence in the wilderness is cruelly restrictive especially during drought conditions, leaving elk "incarcerated" and hence, subject to death from a lack of water and food. Therefore, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd to roam naturally on 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I applaud the willingness of the Park Service to work with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Let the tribal history and their cultural resources enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies by employing controlled burns and also by managing invasive plants. It's a win-win for not only the elk but also, all of our natural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Beverly Berwald

Correspondence ID: 1501

Tomales Point Area Plan

Point Reyes National Seashore

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for considering these iconic and beloved animals.

Correspondence ID: 1502

Let's support these animals with more space, room to roam, and a collaborative management plan.

Thanks

Correspondence ID: 1505

Please remove the fencing that blocks the Tule Elk from freely moving through the park. They should not suffer without their freedom to move throughout the park. Thank you for making this change by preparing a new plan that better considers the elk's protections within the park.

Correspondence ID: 1506

Please keep the integration of all species at Tomales Point Area.

Correspondence ID: 1508

It is man's responsibility to protect all wildlife. Do the correct thing now!

Correspondence ID: 1509

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1510

NO ELK FENCE LET THEM ROAM NATURALLY

Correspondence ID: 1512

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1514

Please keep animals as free as they can be!!!

Correspondence ID: 1515

I support a free roaming elk herd. Management of parks must include care of the wildlife that live there. Please do your best to care for the wildlife and their habitat being your priority.

Correspondence ID: 1516

The elk is one of many majestic animals on the planet. I would still like to see or hear about them being free. They deserve to be free and require our cooperation to do so. Please, save them don't kill them.

Correspondence ID: 1518

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1520

please take down the elk fence

Correspondence ID: 1521

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk.

Regards,

Edith Simpson

Correspondence ID: 1525

Please make your fence SAFE for elk and all animals!

Correspondence ID: 1528

Gentlemen,

Those elk are not Palestinians in Ghettos. Let them roam as much as possible. Those are American animals and should be treated as such. Roaming free they would also be a big attraction for the park.

Thank you, Ronald Thompson

Correspondence ID: 1531

These Elk should be free to roam the entire park. No animals should be left to die off from droughts when removing a fence will give them access to food and water. After all, it is their parkland.

Our natural fauna and flora are what has sustained humans for milenia. We owe it to the world to protect these resourses.

Correspondence ID: 1533

I support free ranging Elk populations. Please get rid of the fence.

Correspondence ID: 1536

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

During a visit to Point Reyes last year, we had the opportunity to observe one of the tule elk herds, mostly cows and calves, and several of the magnificent bulls for a long time. This was a big highlight of our trip.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1537

Elk are magnificent animals. It is their nature to roam free. To be disallowed to abide by their nature is cruel

Correspondence ID: 1538

Please take down the fence and let the Elk roam free

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 1539

I have recently visited Point Reyes and urge you to right by the elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1540

Please allow the tule elk in California to be able to roam to better quality habitat and more diverse areas of the state.

Correspondence ID: 1545

Please take down the fences and allow the elk to roam free.

Correspondence ID: 1549

Superintendent Tomales Point Area Plan

Point Reyes National Seashore

Thank you for considering a new management plan for the Tomales Point Area that better protects both natural and cultural resources and considers confined elk herds. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Elk need the freedom meet their needs for water and interbreeding. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam freely and behave naturally within the national park. b

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1550

I always thought it was the responsibility of state and national parks to care for and protect the wildlife of the park along with their habitat.

Correspondence ID: 1551

I wanted to comment that I support Alternative B. This alternative of removing the elk fence will allow an unconfined elk herd and will free the tule elk to roam naturally.

The Tomales Point elk fence has done a lot of damage. It has caused die-offs of elk during drought conditions. It has also prevented the elk from roaming and reproducing naturally within the larger herd. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1553

I am writing regarding the Point Reyes area herd of Tule Elk that are confined to a small part of the area by a fence. As weather becomes more extreme there will be less forage and greater fire danger for this herd. It stands to reason they will need the ability to range out of the area to find enough nutrition to sustain herd numbers let alone to produce offspring in the proper season. I ask that the fencing situation should be more flexible for these reasons.

Correspondence ID: 1556

Please, yes, do take down that fence. I am in complete agreement with letting the elk herd roam freely as they are meant to do. Thank you very much!

Correspondence ID: 1557

Please let the elk graze/run free. Leave them alone under God's care. I find the BLM only messes things up and more get hurt under their care so hands off the herds! Thanks

Correspondence ID: 1560

The Tule Elk need to be free to roam. They are magnificent animals that should not be confined to a crowded space where their movement is restricted and their food sources are limited. Please end their confinement and let them roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 1562

Stop ANY kind of cruelty to wild life!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1565

I appreciate your Tomales Point Area Plan, which protects resources, while considering a new management plan for the park's elk herd. I enthusiastically support Alternative B, removing the elk fence. This will allow tule elk to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused elk deaths during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources, and reduced the elk's genetic diversity. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. The plan's elements highlighting Tribal history and resources make the most sense, using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the trapped elk and considering better options.

Correspondence ID: 1567

I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Plan, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely, Linda Casner

Correspondence ID: 1569

Hello,

I am leaving my comment to ask to remove the fence and collaborative management plan for the Tule Elk and endangered butterflies.

These beings should not be fenced in and should be allowed to roam free. The land should not be given to the greed of humans but should be made to do what is best for all of Life to thrive.

Let the humans who care be involved in making the proper decisions for the humane and respectful management, only when needed, of the elk and other species.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1570

Please remove the fence keeping the Tomales Point elk in one area which is not natural and is causing unnecessary deaths among the animals. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1571

Please take down the fence that's killing Tule elk, and implement a researched management plan. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1574

I am writing in support of allowing the Tule Elk to roam free of fences and to be able to forage and roam more naturally.

I strongly support Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area plan.

A new management plan is seriously needed. I support the Park Services planned collaboration with the Federated Indians so that tribal wisdom can be gained and incorporated into the future plans for Tomales Park.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for freeing the magnificent Tule Elk. I am truly grateful for this wise decision.

Sincerely

Cynthia Ratliff

Correspondence ID: 1576

Thank you for leading the way and freeing our beloved elk.

I'm also in full support of Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural

resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you!!!

Correspondence ID: 1577

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Thank you

Sue Querze

Correspondence ID: 1578

I support restoring the rule elk habitat to its more natural environment by taking down the fence that restricts their movement, causing die offs due to restricted movement during drought conditions.

Correspondence ID: 1580

Please let the Tule Elk run free, allow them access to necessary habitat and safeguard their future in the only California national park they call home.

Correspondence ID: 1582

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1583

Elk survival depends on free-range access. Please ensure that that their range continues to be open and free.

Correspondence ID: 1584

Please remove the fence that keeps the elk from roaming the park.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 1585

Fee the elk!

They deserve to live freely like any other wild animal.

Georgena Askew

Correspondence ID: 1587

I support alternative B. An electric fence, really? I suppose it only effected elk and not every other living creature.

Thanks for making things right. Please don't do anything like this again, please.

Correspondence ID: 1589

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Elk are majestic ungulates and deserve space to roam. They are also good to eat. Please give them room to survive.

Thanks

Deb Barringer

Correspondence ID: 1590

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1591

Plan B best protects the irreplaceable Tule Elk at Tomales Point. This plan will allow provide an unconfined elk herd to roam naturally in the expansive, 2,900 acre area.

It is extremely discouraging that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions. It even required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

We also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, we support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you so very much for implementing Plan B which will for free our beloved elk!

Correspondence ID: 1592

Why are you trying to fence in beautiful elk herds? Elk have been roaming - FREELY ROAMING - this Earth since before humans!! STOP TRYING TO FENCE ELK IN!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1593

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Regards,

Frances Silva, J.D., Ph.d,

Correspondence ID: 1595

I am in full support of letting the Tule elk roam free without fencing. Thank you for taking the fencing down.

Correspondence ID: 1597

Please allow these animals the opportunity to live freely as they have for years

Correspondence ID: 1600

Wildlife needs a voice.

Correspondence ID: 1601

NO FENCE!

Correspondence ID: 1609

The freedom of these beautiful elk is extremely important to me. My favorite Aunt and Uncle live in Point Reyes. I visited often as a child and young adult. It was magical to see the elk every visit. What you are doing to them is absolutely terrible. Please let them be wild and free as they have been for years. Thank you for rethinking this policy.

regards

Hattie Mead

Correspondence ID: 1610

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Regards,

Frances Silva, J.D., Ph.d,

Correspondence ID: 1611

Please protect the environment and all of the animals.

Correspondence ID: 1615

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative allows the tule elk to roam naturally, saving them from die-offs and best preserving the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

I also support collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria on future management of Tomales Point, including prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. And I support the control of invasive plants and improved protection of natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1616

This is a great news, helps the elk survival.

Correspondence ID: 1617

the elk are most important. they are part of our heritage, and are precious. do not endanger them or change their environment

Correspondence ID: 1619

Elk and wild animals that need to roam free. Cows are domestic animals they need to be remain on private property. The wild lands belong to the elk and other wild animals.

Correspondence ID: 1621

I lived in your area at one time and what a beautiful area. Please let the elk herd roam free. They are such majestic animals.

Correspondence ID: 1626

ENOUGH is ENOUGH.....FREE the Tule Elk NOW!

No FURTHER BIG discussion needed ACTION is ESSENTIAL !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Tribal SUPPORT is a GO....how much MORE DELAY is REMAINING !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1627

Free the elk. Remove the fenc

Correspondence ID: 1628

Expand Park Preservation Hold accountable arrest, fine and prosecute the Humans! The animals are not to blame. The wild animals must be protected, never hunted and never murdered!

Correspondence ID: 1631

Please do the right thing, and tear down the fence restricting the tule elks survival. They need water sources and can die without freedom to roam.

Correspondence ID: 1634

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As frequent visitors, my family and I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. We strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

We also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. We support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, we support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1637

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1638

I was recently at Pt Reyes and watched the elk (and coyotes and deer!) with awe. Take away the fences. And why are there farms in a park anyway? They don't belong there; the wild animals do instead. Take down the fences!

Correspondence ID: 1639

Of course this make sense.

Correspondence ID: 1641

Tule Elk are a native species, majestic, highly social animals native to California.

Point Reyes National Seashore is the ONLY national park where they live but instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence which confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing DEATHS of these Native Species during droughts.

My understanding is cattle ranchers are making money off free (perhaps low fees) grazing there, so the NPS caters to cruel and greed-driven vested interests instead of protecting Wildlife!

Cattle are in fact a massive problem:

they are an invasive species

cause deforestation

foul natural water sites

spread diseases

cause native species to be endangered

a big cause for climate crises

Etc!

Tule Elk are native so you must protect them above private vested interests!

You must protect Wildlife - so remove that fencing ASAP!!!

Correspondence ID: 1646

Let, them free.

Correspondence ID: 1648

I strongly support Alternative B, to remove the fencing that artificially confines the Tule elk. The confinement is responsible for large elk die-offs during drought, puts the entire herd at greater risk of communicable diseases, and reduces the elk's genetic viability by keeping the herd separate from other elk in the park. The drought die-off was costly to NPS, requiring emergency intervention to save remaining animals. Future droughts of greater severity are expected as climate change worsens. Do not allow another repeat of the die-off. Please remove the Tomales Point elk fence and allow elk to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 1649

Tomales Point Area Plan

/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers an urgently needed new management direction for the park's native elk herd which is now confined only to the northern end of the Point Reyes National Seashore. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing the tule elk herd to be unconfined. This alternative will free the elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk and helping to restore the natural balance of the park.

Correspondence ID: 1650

Tear down the fence, please

Correspondence ID: 1653

Please, allow nature to roam freely. Their grazing helps the environment, which in turn, helps us

Correspondence ID: 1656

Please protect the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 1658

Privately owned cattle, whose forage on public lands your fences protect from elk and deer- these cattle have a relatively brief lifespan- destined for consumption. These cattle do not need to roam on public lands to achieve genetic diversity- they are intentionally bred with specific stock to achieve desirable sizes and weights. By fencing in the deer and elk- you subject these sequestered animals to potential hydration starvation from droughts, as well as impact the genetic diversity within their offspring- which will result in less disease resilience and could even potentially destroy these species.

Roaming ruminants can be very beneficial for the land- helping to manage grasslands, fertilize the ecosystem and spread seeds. The deer and elk are native to this ecosystem and play key roles in its health. To lose these species is to threaten the future of this whole ecosystem.

I urge you to let the majestic Tule elk roam free. They not only bring the public to the area for sightings of these rare animals- they are continually helping to groom and nourish the ecosystem to which they belong.

Very best regards,

Jen Davis

Correspondence ID: 1659

Protecting is non negociable . Enough is enough . WE are destroying their habitat . Enough .

Correspondence ID: 1660

Elks are essential to a healthy ecosystem.

Correspondence ID: 1662

Please continue to do all you can for the protection of the Tule Elk, and support their habitat and population growth in this vast, beautiful park. Thank you for recognizing the need for Tule Elk to thrive in the national park where they have lived all of their lives. You have heard the voices and the reasoning as to why we need to keep Tule Elk where they are, and we need to share land with them, respect them, and maintain their habitat for their future. The removal of the Tomales Point elk fence is such a very important aspect to full Elk freedom to roam and live in their habitat naturally.

It is a wonderful option to propose collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Please continue on this positive path to support the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and its amendment, which will protect the Tule Elk and their land and habitat.

I strongly support Alternative B for reasons stated above. I strongly support the Park Services' proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge int the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1664

These animals are suffering being bound in too tight an environment. It's unnatural and threatening their survival. Take down the fence and let them roam.

Thank you,

M

Correspondence ID: 1665

As to Tomales Park, I wish to add my voice to the support of Amendment B for the health and welfare of the

wildlife, especially the elk in that area. I strongly support all organizations and laws that help us keep a healthy number of all types of wildlife in their natural habitats.

Correspondence ID: 1667

Please free the elk!

Correspondence ID: 1668

The elk are treasures, each and every one. We need to provide them with the best possible life we can. NO FENCES!!

Correspondence ID: 1671

I am writing to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan that will hopefully provide better management for the park's confined tule elk herd. Confining the elk behind fencing makes the park into a zoo -- not

what we want in a National Park! I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the elk, allow them to roam naturally, and preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also encourage the Park Service to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Cooke

Correspondence ID: 1673

As a former long time resident of the Bay Area, I welcome the plan to allow the Tule Elk at Point Reyes to roam freely. I am also in favor of the proposal to institute a collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Thanks for listening! Wendy

Correspondence ID: 1674

Please remove the fence. Elk need no further interference or harm from us. Let them roam as they are meant to. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1675

Please, let the elk free roaming in the Park, Thankyou very much.

Correspondence ID: 1676

The whole world is losing animals/wildlife becoming "Extinct ". Does the U.S. have to

kill off slowly what we have also??? Limiting Water Supply is cruel y inhumane.

Can't we be a better people and save what we have? Ranchers already land greedy. National Parks for all people should have beauty y wildlife to observe before our children Don't even know what

Wildlife looks like y respect.....

Correspondence ID: 1678

I am writing in support of a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1680

Tear down that Lethal fence and let the elk roam freely!!

Correspondence ID: 1683

Allow these beautiful elk to run free again as they were meant to be. No species should be relegated to a small area of the park, many dying from drought conditions. This is unacceptable to keep any wild animal confined in this manner.

Correspondence ID: 1685

As a visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore, I am writing to NPS to express my concern about fencing in the elk and inhibiting their ability to move about freely and naturally. This is not natural nor necessary. It will only make matters worse for the elk and other wildlife that need to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 1686

Thank you for providing a plan that protects natural and cultural resources and allows the Tule Elk to move around naturally in the Now Point Reyes National Seashore. Thanks also for collaborating with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in the process of harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 1687

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I therefore strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence to allow the elk herd to roam naturally, which will best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for your consideration,

Correspondence ID: 1689

Please allow the elk to be free range as animals were created to be.

Correspondence ID: 1690

i support free roaming elk herds.

Correspondence ID: 1691

Free the elk!

Correspondence ID: 1692

PLEASE TAKE DOWN THAT FENCE!!!

Correspondence ID: 1693

It is cruel to keep the elk penned up without access to food or water. It's their land. They were there before the ranchers. Let them roam free and survive.

Correspondence ID: 1695

I support wild elk

Correspondence ID: 1696

I strongly support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. I strongly support removing the fence that prevents Elk from accessing water sources on the other side of the fence. Some have died from dehydration! This is cruelty plain and simple. I strongly support the Elk being able to move freely within the Point Reyes National Seashore. They are wild animals and this is THEIR home. Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 1699

The elk should be allowed to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 1701

I support FREE ROAMING Elk programs!!!

Correspondence ID: 1704

Dear National Park Service,

I was overjoyed to hear that the National Park Service has prepared a Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect the natural character and the elk at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). I visited there a year ago and found it to be a beautiful place, but was shocked at the number of cattle in and amongst the natural areas of the park. I viewed the Tomales Point elk fence after I had previously read about how it is preventing elk from roaming freely and causing die-offs during drought. It really concerned me and seems incompatible with the mission of the National Park Service. Watching so many different wildlife populations and biodiversity decline at such a rapid rate in our country and the world today profoundly concerns me.

The National Park Service's mission focus should be to conserve natural areas, wildlife and their habitat. I urge you to choose Alternative "B", which will best preserve the wilderness character of the park and also create better conditions for the elk. Each preservation action taken today adds up to a critical win for our amazing, declining wildlife and our unique, stunning, natural areas. I also support including tribal history (which goes back thousands of years; European history is relatively recent) in interpretive signs and materials using prescribed fire (another historical aspect of the area) to enhance habitat for tule elk and native, endangered butterflies. Finally, I support controlling invasive plants in the least restrictive way as possible (using non-pesticide methods where possible). Thank you for the chance to comment

Correspondence ID: 1706

Please protect our Elk. Thank You

Correspondence ID: 1707

We need to work with these beautiful creatures and their natural migratory and living patterns. Please take this fence down. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1708

I think that the elk should be allowed to go where they want, this is America after all, people can go where they want and so should animals of course with some limitations

Correspondence ID: 1709

The overwhelming majority of U.S. citizens, from all communities, all walks of life, and all political affiliations, support environmental protection and saving our wild animals and their habitats. I would like to see you do your sworn duty and support the will of this enormous and powerful constituency. Not to

do so would be a monumental failure for those who wish for it now and for all of our children, who no longer remember a time when the air was filled with birdsong every morning and evening. They believe stories of those times are exaggerated. Let us not allow future generations to feel the same about larger species as well. The work that allows them to keep their place in our world must begin now, with you. Once they are gone, if you do not do this now, knowing that you did nothing to stop their disappearance, you will surely cringe when the only sighting of a bear, a bobcat, or an elk is preserved in videos. Play your part now and allow them to thrive in what little space remains of the wildlands they need to endure.

Correspondence ID: 1710

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

As a concerned American, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 1711

We need to treat our wild neighbors with understanding and respect. Fences need to be minimized. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1717

Thank you for developing a Tomales Point Area Plan that enhances the protection of natural and cultural resources while exploring a new management strategy for the park's confined elk herd. I am in strong favor of Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing the elk to roam freely. This option will liberate the tule elk, enabling them to move naturally and preserving the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The existing elk fence at Tomales Point has led to significant die-offs during droughts, necessitated emergency water provisions for the trapped elk, and reduced their genetic diversity by isolating them from other herds in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that permits elk to roam freely and exhibit natural behaviors within the national park.

Additionally, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to integrate Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I endorse the plan's initiatives to highlight Tribal history and cultural resources, use prescribed fires and research burns to improve habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, and control invasive plants to better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your efforts to free our cherished elk.

Correspondence ID: 1718

As a not infrequent hiker at Tomales Point I support letting the currently penned in Elk at Tomales Point being able to freely roam the entire National Park as well as entering into a management agreement with the indigenous peoples of the area.

Correspondence ID: 1719

Please support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan to protect Elk and let them live in peace.

Correspondence ID: 1721

Please free the Tomales Pt. elk!

Tear down the fences!

Correspondence ID: 1722

Why, when so much wildlife is threatened by so many man-made conditions, would you add to their struggle? Why on God's green earth would you maintain a fence that has: caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions; required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals; and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park? Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Please collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to create and sustain effective and humane support of the elks and all of the native wildlife populations of Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 1723

I BEG YOUR ORGANIZATION TO STOP THE KILLING!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1725

Stop Elk killing

Correspondence ID: 1728

Please don't use the killing fence. Please allow elk to roam

Correspondence ID: 1729

Let the Tule Elk roam freely.

ALL LIVES MATTER

Correspondence ID: 1730

Please remove this fence.

Correspondence ID: 1732

Please allow the elk at Point Reyes to roam free. It is important for their survival when under duress.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 1733

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for considering the removal of the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd and preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B.

This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1736

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1738

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I write to you from Washington State, where our native elk were killed off many decades ago, and where reintroduced Roosevelt Elk now live—an improvement over no elk, but in no way the same as if the indigenous elk had been allowed to live and play their crucial role in these ecosystems.

I see the Tule elk herd at Point Reyes as a precious opportunity to keep not only a species healthy, but an entire ecosystem. Please do all you can to ensure their freedom of movement and ability to thrive in the wild.

The most successful way to move forward in any kind of ecosystem management, is to follow the guidance of the cultures who have stewarded that ecosystem through millenia, since time immemorial. In this case the logical and proper advisers to your plan would be the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Please follow their lead.

I also support the following:

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing these beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1740

Regarding the Point Reyes Tule Elks: I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1743

Please let them be free.

Correspondence ID: 1744

It is my hope that the NPS will listen to the public outrage and flood of comments from the Center for Biological Diversity supporters, and tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

Correspondence ID: 1746

Dear NPS,

Please support a free roaming elk herd in your Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. As you know, these are the last remaining tule elk in California and keeping them penned in will not encourage breeding, feeding or raising of young. Perhaps a more collaborative approach by bringing in other experts, like the native population that have lived with them much longer, is the key to their sustainability. With all due respect, NPS, with its policies alone, is not sufficient to maintain these majestic animals continuing survival. Please heed their cry for help.

Thank you. Steev Beeson

Correspondence ID: 1748

Elk need to roam. Give Mother Nature free reign.

Correspondence ID: 1752

Remove the Tomales Point fence. Elk should be free to roam.

Thank you, Jon Klingel

Correspondence ID: 1756

Please include responsible management, including hunting in your upcoming plan. Taking down the fence will do nothing and will just expand the herd and increase the destruction of an over populated species in that area, as we have already seen. Hunting is the most effective wildlife management tool and is used world wide.

Thank you for hearing my comment.

Correspondence ID: 1757

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

We are all interconnected and what hurts any one of us needlessly hurts all of us. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1758

I strongly support the Tule Elk in Point Reyes Seashore. Wildlife in a National Park must have priority over cattle.

Correspondence ID: 1762

I support a free-roaming Point Reyes Tule Elk herd and collaborative management plan with Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Correspondence ID: 1764

I support alternative B. Remove the fences to allow for more natural herd movement in the Tomales Point Area. I am pleased with the proposal to work with the Native American tribe.

Thank you for an excellent plan!

Correspondence ID: 1767

Hello. Please take down any fencing that hurts those beautiful Tule Elks!

Please protect them any way you can!

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 1768

We have to protect all species to protect ourselves.

Correspondence ID: 1770

I support free ranging and appropriately managed Elk herds in the park.

Correspondence ID: 1773

Why should elk be restricted to a certain part of the national part? They should be allowed to roam freely, like the bison in other parks. They have roamed the land for centuries before humans came & decided they shouldn't be allowed to. They were here long before we were. Why are we stealing their land (as we did the Native Americans) in the name of "progress" . . . simply another word for greed. Please allow these magnificent animals free range. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1775

As many Americans, I value the life of our natural plants, animals, ecosystems, etc that our country has been blessed with. Please allow the natural lifestyle of our life flourish. Please remove the fence holding back the natural travel and grazing of these elk so they can live in nature as made by god.

Correspondence ID: 1776

Elk were here first.

Correspondence ID: 1777

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 1778

Please stop the devastation to the Point Reyes elk herd by letting them roam free throughout the park instead of being confined to a small portion of it as they are now.

Correspondence ID: 1780

As a retired public school teacher, I want to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Sadly, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. This is unconscionable. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. Please take this seriously and ensure that it happens. I also support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. Now let's focus on doing all we can to restore and nurture this long-suffering population. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1783

Hello my fellow American's I'm glad that we could connect and continue to forge the future of America, please protect wildlife habitats and wilderness elks herds.

Sincerely yours truly believe that Mr Christopher Jennings

Correspondence ID: 1784

I'm writing in support of the herd of Tule Elk residing at Point Reyes. I'm now a resident of North Carolina but I am from Davis, CA and have spent a lot of time in Point Reyes. When I visit Ca I almost always make time to go there and enjoy one of the most miraculously beautiful and wild spaces of anywhere in the world that I've seen. Please keep the herd there. Let them be. thanks kindly,

Mary Tuma

Correspondence ID: 1785

Please allow elk to roam free, as necessary to protect these wonderful creatures. Do not fence them in, when this can harm them.

Correspondence ID: 1787

We need to repair the damage humans have done to the environment

Correspondence ID: 1790

Just Do it! For the sake of us all, but especially the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 1791

NO ELK-KILLING FENCES!

Correspondence ID: 1792

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance the habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Jim Vandenbosch

Correspondence ID: 1793

I have had the thrill of witnessing Tule Elk and I think that anything that can be done to benefit this coastal herd should have action.

Correspondence ID: 1794

No animal should have to die to quench its thirst. Get the darn fence down now!

Correspondence ID: 1796

Do not!

Correspondence ID: 1797

We watched water provided for them being dumped. Free this herd.

Correspondence ID: 1798

Please remove the fence and allow the tule elk graze free. This has been their home, they are part of the park fauna. Dairy cows are not and should not be competition.

Correspondence ID: 1801

Endangered species are often the "canary in the coal mine", the first signs of habitat degradation. Cases that have gone extinct while waiting for Endangered Species Act protection are unacceptable. If we're not careful, Homo sapiens will wind up on the endangered species list if we don't go extinct before we get listed. When that happens, the rest of the creatures on Earth would cheer if they could at the beginning of the end of the long nightmare of wanton destruction and slaughter that drove many of them to the brink of extinction. Unfortunately, our demise is likely to be the doom of many of them as well.

Correspondence ID: 1802

We pay you to protect and not to allow torture and death to innocent animals. Please do your job or get out now. Thank-you.

Correspondence ID: 1805

Please remove the dangerous fence ,to allow the elk roam freely in the park once again.

Correspondence ID: 1807

Let the beautiful creatures run free NOW!

Tear down that wall!

You can't decide if they die from droughts

Really, does this fence REALLY have a purpose?

Nature has RIGHTS!

Correspondence ID: 1808

Please give serious consideration to removing the elk fence at Tamales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, CA.

Correspondence ID: 1812

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and

Correspondence ID: 1817

Please take down the fence.

Correspondence ID: 1819

Let the Tule elk live free of fencing and control by private entities. This native wildlife deserves habitat just like our elk do in Montana. Outrageous government contract allowing cattle and cow businesses to control our lands, wildlife an habitat. TEAR DOWN THE FENCES NOW! and make sure they have adequate land, food, water, mating, etc.

Correspondence ID: 1820

Please let the elk roam and not be in danger of injury or death because of the fence. Good management can mitigate the problems that arise from this change for the better, thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1821

No more wildlife needs to be lost because of man's cruelty. They deserve their lives and do not need this added cruelty to survive!!

Correspondence ID: 1822

Please remove the fence that is destroying the Tule Elk's ability to thrive. It is time to free these majestic animals and allow them their right to life.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1823

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

In my visits to Pt Reyes, going to the end of the peninsula to see the Elk is a highlight. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam, and best preserve the character of Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1824

Thank you for developing the Tomales Point Area Plan, which enhances the protection of natural and cultural resources and considers a new management approach for the park's confined elk herd. I am a strong advocate for Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing the herd to roam freely. This approach will liberate the tule elk, enable them to move naturally, and best maintain the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The elk fence at Tomales Point has led to significant die-offs during droughts, necessitated emergency water interventions for the trapped elk, and diminished their genetic diversity by isolating them from other elk in the park. Point Reyes needs a management plan that permits elk to roam and behave naturally within the national park.

I also endorse the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to integrate Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the plan's emphasis on highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, and the use of prescribed fire and research burns to improve habitats for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Lastly, I support the proposals to manage invasive plants and further protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for liberating our cherished elk.

Correspondence ID: 1825

I want the elk to roam freely within the park. All animals are important to the ecosystem.

Correspondence ID: 1826

Elk, and all animals, deserve to roam the lands they always have. Human roadblocks such as fences, walls, highways, etc. are destructive to the livelihood of so many species. We need to make bigger efforts to ensure safe passage of wildlife through landscapes to keep them connected from one essential source of food, water, and shelter, to another. Please remove the fence which is damaging the lives of elk and confines them to one limited area of Tomales Point.

I would also love to see efforts for more wildlife bridges across the highway systems which break up habitats/ecosystems and pose immense threats and destruction to our wild animals. I see dead animals all along the highways. This is an unnecessary and preventable loss of life.

Correspondence ID: 1828

Honorable Sirs/Ma'ams,

To confine elk within a fence so that they can't roam free has caused deadly and dangerous consequences. I am so glad to learn of this viable solution brought about through caring, conscientious coordination with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Please do bring this plan to pass.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1829

Please help these animals that we have no reason to destroy.

Correspondence ID: 1831

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects wildlife. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam according to need and instinct, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed utilization of prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your investment in our shared future.

Correspondence ID: 1832

I believe the Elk should be allowed to roam freely within the park. We should strive to provide the most natural habitat possible for this animals. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1833

Please free these animals so that they can roam safely!

Correspondence ID: 1836

For goodness sake, protect the elk !!

Correspondence ID: 1837

Please leave the elk free to roam and flourish, thank you, Fred

Correspondence ID: 1838

I respectfully request that you please let the elk herd roam free in order to provide them with the resources that they require to survive. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 1839

Stop harming, constricting, stressing & killing the elk!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1841

Save the elk by letting them roam where possible.

Correspondence ID: 1843

please remove these fences and take care of the natural world

Correspondence ID: 1844

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1846

The artificial isolation of the elk is devastating them. Let them roam the park.

Correspondence ID: 1847

I support a free roaming elk herd at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tear down the fence at Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1849

PROTECT this endangered species of Elk! It is your responsibility and within your power to do so.

Correspondence ID: 1852

Do your job!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1854

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park

Correspondence ID: 1855

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1856

What have you proved by confining the to just one area? Get rid of the fences!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1857

Please FREE the Point Reyes herd of Tule elk! Enough have died; they need to roam over a larger area when water is scarce. Let's save these majestic beings now.

Correspondence ID: 1859

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. Finally, if there are other adjacent or nearby areas historically having a Tule Elk population, explore reintroduction to these areas to foster larger, more viable population.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1860

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This

alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park

Correspondence ID: 1862

The fence should have come down by now. Stop torturing living animals - wildlife deserve to live, they want to live. They should not come second to cattle, so people can eat cattle and get fat, and unhealthy, and ruin the environment

Correspondence ID: 1864

Elk is a nice animal

Correspondence ID: 1866

I am writing to support, in the strongest possible terms, Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan, to enable the free movement of the elk herd by getting rid of the elk fence. This will offer them the best welfare and genetic protections, and will be the best option as regards the ecology of the area more widely.

Thank you for your attention regarding this important issue.

Correspondence ID: 1869

Live and let live. The tule deer must be free and unhindered.

Correspondence ID: 1873

Hello,

Please remove the fence and let the elks roam freely again. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 1875

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting

Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1879

I urge you to select Alternative B that allows tuel elk more freedom to use available seasonal habitat and migratory behaviors. Removal of the Tomales Point fence will be increasingly valuable over the long term. Free unrestricted breeding of all populations will preserve genetic viability and associated resistance to disease etc .Maximizing the natural and wild instincts and behaviors of herds and the individuals that comprise them is wise conservation.

Further benefits to the native elk and ecosystems of the management area will surely be derived from collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. This inclusion of the perspective and ecological knowledge of Tribes in your management plans and methods. I support the Park plans to work with the Federated Indians to carry out prescribed fire and research burns to reduce invasive species and benefit the available habitat.

The other alternatives in the proposed Tomales Point plan icompromise or restricts these native elk in some way or another. In the face of increasingly erratic weather, drought, wildfire and so on Alternative B is quite clearly the best alternative.

Correspondence ID: 1882

I support the free range of these large herbivores. The elk are a migratory species. It would be unfair to keep them in a confined area where they're unable to forage for food, especially in times of or other climate change disasters. Additionally, by giving them free range to a larger area, they could provide food for a wolf population, which has been in the crosshairs for years. Mainly because cattle ranchers want to complain heavily that wolves are taking their livestock. Overtime, the herd would become more genetically diverse, increasing the likelihood of survival of the species.

Correspondence ID: 1883

As a concerned citizen I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This will allow the elk to behave naturally, roaming when environmental conditions become challenging. It will also help increase the genetic diversity of this herd. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1884

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1886

Take down the fence!!!!

Correspondence ID: 1890

The Elk should be free and managed in Nature!!

Correspondence ID: 1892

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

With kind regards,

Carola Detrick

Correspondence ID: 1894

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. They are beautiful and majestic! It is amazing to see herds of elk run free!

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1896

I urge you to adopt alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, which would remove the elk fence.

I support as well your proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and plans to control invasive plants.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 1898

Regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan, we support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and preserve the wilderness of Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused periodic die-offs of elk during drought, required emergency intervention to provide water to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from others in the park.

We would celebrate a collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1899

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thanks for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect natural and cultural resources and consider a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the deadly elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large die-offs of elk. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Free the elk!

Correspondence ID: 1904

I support the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment to help insure the preservation of park resources and survival of the resident Tule elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1905

Tomales Point Area Plan - Alternative B support

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will allow the tule elk to roam naturally and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 1906

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1907

Please tear down the fence that has proven lethal to the elk. They have as much right to live as we do. A fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought is a terrible, unconscionable and unnecessary mistake. Please, before it is too late to save these elk, do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 1908

Take down the fence and free the tule elk

Correspondence ID: 1909

Yes, tear down the fence. Let the elk be free!!

Correspondence ID: 1910

Please take down the fence so that the elks can roam and find food.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1914

I support the Park Service proposal to remove the fencing in Point Reyes that confines the Tule Elk population to the Tomales area.

The fence removal will allow the herd access to vital water sources in times of drought.

Correspondence ID: 1916

Please protect the elk, remove the wall and confinement.

Correspondence ID: 1917

Serve and protect our American wildlife! Stop the unGodly anti American viciousness against God's creatures and end trophy hunting and contests!!

Correspondence ID: 1918

Please take down the fence which is preventing the Tule Elk from free roaming . They are very deserving of having this right .

Correspondence ID: 1919

Dear Ranger(s),

I'm writing to express my support for "option B", or in other words to let you know that I, as a resident of Marin County, support removal of "the fence" as well as collaboration with the local indigenous community. Taking down the fence would allow the critical elk population to survive and hopefully one day thrive again. This would benefit the environment, as well as the largest number of people and future generations, rather than catering to the relatively tiny number of people in opposition. This is not political, and I in fact have no political, nor party affiliation. We can't continue to let anyone use a disproportionate amount of our collective natural resources, for their own personal profit while destroying the environment, and endangering the flora and fauna. It is bad enough that all the rivers and aquifers are drying up because 90% of our water in this country goes to animal agriculture. Our wonderful ranchers must now use the generational wealth they have accumulated using our resources to adapt and learn a new and less damaging way of living for themselves and their families. They will be ok, God bless them. Thank you so much for your service and for doing what's best for the most people, and the for the land and wildlife.

Sincerely, Jason Aberbach

Correspondence ID: 1920

X

Correspondence ID: 1922

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Regards,

Kimberly Halizak

Correspondence ID: 1923

ELK herds deserve to be free roaming.

Correspondence ID: 1926

I support a free roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1927

Finally, cooler heads have prevailed and this horrible fence will be taken down and the Tule Elk that have been trapped behind it for years can know their birthright of freedom. We humans who are supposed to be caretakers of animals should be ashamed that we have allowed the torture of these beautiful, sentient beings for way too long. Thank you for doing the right thing for these wonderful creatures.

Correspondence ID: 1928

Not only do I support taking down all the fences for the preservation of wildlife, I want to see all cattle banned from the Marin Headlands.

For too long commercial cattle companies have been subsidized - given priority pasturing for their cows on TAXPAYER SUPPORTED GOVERNMENT PROPERTY. They took advantage of this by building fences for their convenience & to capture the best pasturelands for their herds. Cattle are destructive of native plants causing erosion & leading to toxic runoff into the bay.

Needless to say, profit based companies take no responsibility for the care of the environment & ecosystem. It is the responsibility of the National Park System to protect the Headlands for the health and enjoyment of future generations.

Take the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 1933

This such a triumph! I am beyond thrilled with this outcome and hope for continued steps forward.

Correspondence ID: 1934

We were shocked and saddened to learn of the plight of the fenced-in Tule Elk at Point Reyes. We are however encouraged to read that the fence is planned to be tore down. Great! But, please follow recommendations from the Center For Biological Diversity, as it has researched and petitioned for a very many beneficial measures regarding species facing habitat destruction, to often salutary results. That is why we consider the Center to be the most deserving of our support. Thank you.

P.S. We really miss being so far away from the bracing, fresh Pacific air at Point Reyes!

Correspondence ID: 1935

Please tear down the fence to let elk roam freely in the park once again

Correspondence ID: 1936

Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

Correspondence ID: 1937

I have recently learned of the plight of the Point Reyes Tule elk and of the Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Alternative B would remove the elk fence and allow an unconfined elk herd.

I believe Alternative B is the best choice and strongly encourage its adoption to allow the elk herd to roam freely and interact with other elk in the area. I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for the work you do to help our wildlife!

Correspondence ID: 1938

Please do what is best for saving these elk. They don't need to be cooped up like a tiger in a cage. Let them roam freely. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1939

Do the just and ethical thing!

Correspondence ID: 1940

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 1941

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

We ALL have a responsibility to work together in order to Protect and SAVE our Wilderness, Waterways and Environment from senseless Destruction and Poisoning in the name of Ignorance and Greed.

We have to SAVE our Wildlife, including OUR incredibly amazing TULE ELK!

We have to STOP the senseless killing of our Wildlife out of Ignorance and Greed!!!

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1942

I strongly support Alternative B, which removes the elk fence and allows the elk herd to be unconfined, . This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Please save them. I remember seeing them as a child. I am a native California and I love our wildlife and our Tule Elk. Please protect them.

Sincerely,

Janet E Geren

Correspondence ID: 1943

Please tear down that fence and let the Tule deer live. They are beautiful and we need all the beautiful and free we can get in this country that is quickly turning into an asphalt jungle.

Correspondence ID: 1945

It's good that these elk have been saved from extinction but they've been robbed of their freedom. Please give them room to roam.

Correspondence ID: 1946

I support a free roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 1947

Tear down the fence so that the elk herd can safely obtain food and water.

The herd must be free-roaming to be healthy.

Tear down the fence that is prevent the elk from obtaining adequate water and food.

These are healthiest as a free-roaming herd.

Correspondence ID: 1950

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

I fully support these decisions.

Correspondence ID: 1953

Thank you for helping these beautiful and important creatures survive and for providing them help from the Native Peoples in the area.

Correspondence ID: 1954

Enough with animal abuse/cruelty. We can all live together. Let's act like the people intelligent human being we are supposed to be!!

Correspondence ID: 1955

This elk fence is a cruel and environmental policy and is beneath the dignity of the USPS. As a former USFS firefighter, I am outraged at this short-term human-oriented policy and think it is a big mistake that needs to be corrected before further damage is done.

Correspondence ID: 1957

Find a better solution than this fence.

Correspondence ID: 1958

Tear the fence down. It may have served a purpose at one time, but that time is now gone.

Correspondence ID: 1961

I applaud your preparation of a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and that contemplates a new management direction for the park's currently confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, which calls for removal of the elk fence and for allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Historically, as you are well aware, the existing Tomales Point elk barrier has caused periodic large-scale die-offs of elk during drought conditions, and has necessitated emergency interventions to provide water sources to trapped animals. The fence has also reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Both the elk and the public will be better served by a Point Reyes management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, and of using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, among other wildlife. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and to otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources within and adjacent to the Park.

I appreciate that these changes required significant time and effort, and I thank you for your dedication. Bravo!

Correspondence ID: 1963

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. While a well-intentioned step, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd as a much more natural alternative. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has proven to be very detrimental - it has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Please choose Alternative B and remove this fence.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. No one understands and appreciates the lives of the elk better than the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheros. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural

resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1965

Free the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 1966

I ardently believe we humans have an obligation to protect and preserve wild places and wildlife. A Tomales Point Area Plan should protect natural and cultural resources and provide a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd, is the best option to free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally.

Respecting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies is also a splendid plan. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1967

Please permit elk to roam in the entire park.

This will help many elk survive dry conditions.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 1968

I believe these are worthwhile changes!

Correspondence ID: 1973

The fence needs to be taken down and the materials recycled immediately! The ranchers must also have their contracts voided and they must leave immediately! The ranchers private property has been destroying public lands; polluting the water so that citizens cannot seim/recreate and the rare Tule Elk have been dying because the ranchers fence has been preventing them from foraging. PUBLIC LANDS ARE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA AND FOR THE PUBLIC TO RECREATE! THE FENCE AND THE RANCHERS ARE THE ANTITHESIS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION! ANIMAL AGRICULTURE (BIG AG/BIG DAIRY) IS NOT ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE! IT'S THE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO CLIMATE CHANGE!

Correspondence ID: 1974

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support

Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing these animals back into a more natural habitat.

Correspondence ID: 1975

Please let these magnificent, beautiful animals roam freely as God intended for His creations.

Correspondence ID: 1980

please protect elk populations. they are an integral part of the ecosystem

Correspondence ID: 1981

Support a free roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. Let's treat our wildlife with integrity.

Correspondence ID: 1982

Please consider

Correspondence ID: 1984

How is it possible that a national park would have a fence that kills these beautiful noble creatures? it is shameful that you are even considering it.

Correspondence ID: 1988

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Wildlife should be free to roam and humans are intelligent enough to work around them. It breaks my heart to hear of die offs due to this fencing. Wildlife and wild places heal our collective souls; the more we lose of them, the more we lose of ourselves and our humanity.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support tribal sovereignty and I support Land Back. Indigenous people have centuries upon centuries of knowledge of their land and deep knowledge on how to co-exist. They never should have lost these lands and I support all efforts to give them a voice and authority over them. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 1989

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will allow the elk to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness for at least the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Fencing has the potential to cause over-grazing within the area. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free, and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the elements of highlighting tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire to enhance habitat for tule elk, endangered butterflies, as well as native grass, flower, and tree species. Finally, I support further efforts to control invasive plants, the betterment of habitat for native species, and otherwise better protection of natural and cultural resources.

Thank you so much for considering the above-

Steph Spencer

Correspondence ID: 1990

I am glad they ar choosing not to kill.

Correspondence ID: 1991

do what is right and needed

Correspondence ID: 1992

Please free the Elk and let them live natural lives not one "jailed" behind a fence.

Correspondence ID: 1993

Please stop choosing dairy cows over elk. The Point Reyes elk herd population needs to be prioritized over the commercial polluting dairy cows adjacent to the park.

Correspondence ID: 1994

SAVE MOTHER EARTH FROM THE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIALS CAPITALISTS WHO WANT TO CONTROL OR ELIMINATE ALL LIFE FORMS DEEMED UNPROFITABLE TO THEM.

WILDLIFE FIRST

FAMILIES FIRST

COMMUNITIES FIRST

SCIENCE BASED DECISION MAKING IN ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OPERATIONS.

Correspondence ID: 1995

These elk must be allowed to roam free!

Correspondence ID: 1996

Thank you for you're efforts

Correspondence ID: 1999

The Tule elk need to have priority in their National Park.

It's disgraceful that they're harmed for the advantage of private entities.

Let them roam free.

Correspondence ID: 2000

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Correspondence ID: 2002

There are many reasons that the Tule elk should be freed from their fenced

prison...and it is that. You know the reasons. So, please, do the right thing; the right thing for the elk and for biodiversity. These ARE the things that should take priority. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2004

I HAVE BEEN AT POINT REYES, & WOULD BE GLAD THAT THE FENCE SHOULD BE TORN DOWN.

Correspondence ID: 2005

The DEM and BLM need to stop selling licenses. It's a conflict of interest. More policing, less slaughter. All animals, fish, horseshoe crabs, sea birds, turkeys, all in danger of extinction due to these policies.

Correspondence ID: 2006

Live and let live

Correspondence ID: 2008

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Please free these Tule Elk!

Correspondence ID: 2010

Can you hire cowboys to help manage the elk if need be? We need less fences. Not more.

Correspondence ID: 2011

PLEASE PROTECT THE ELK BY TAKING DOWN ANY FENCES OR BARRIERS THAT MIGHT INJURE THEM. WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR WILDLIFE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT. PEOPLE THINK WITH GREED AND SELFISHNESS AND MY HEART IS BROKEN FOR HOW UNCONSCIOUS WE ARE. ITS TIME TO PUT OUR GREEDY NEEDS ASIDE AND MAKE SURE OUR CRITTERS AND THEIR HABITATS ARE SAFE DOR THEM.

Correspondence ID: 2012

I'm writing in support of removing the fence and for a more holistic approach to the management of the Reyes Point Tule elk. Changes in managing these elk and their habitat would be of benefit for many species. I hope you will follow the recommendations of the Center for Biological Diversity and make changes to your current management plan.

Correspondence ID: 2013

Please don't fence the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 2016

Please remove the fence which has caused death to elks which are supposed to be protected - collaborate with all stakeholders re management of this Tomales Point area.

Correspondence ID: 2018

The decision to remove the fencing that restricts the free roaming movement of the Point Reyes Tule Elk Herd is a sound one. The collaborative management plan with the aid of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will restore the health of the Tomales Point Ecosystem and Tule Elk at the same time. I support this proposal and urge its adoption.

Correspondence ID: 2020

To the attention of the Superintendent,

I'm writing in support of Alternative B, removing the elk fence to allow for an unconfined, naturally regulating elk herd, preserving the wilderness and Tule Elk of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Please also endorse the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for taking my correspondence,

Dr. Lydia Lowery Busler

Correspondence ID: 2022

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for drafting a Tomales Point Area Plan that will make way for improved protection of the park's natural and cultural resources and that considers the well-being of the park's confined tule elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the fence that currently confines the elk herd. Freeing the elk to roam naturally, is the best way to preserve this beautiful 2,900 acres of wildness.

The fence has caused large die-offs of elk during drought conditions and resulted in the need for emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals. Fencing them has also kept them separate from other elk in the park, reducing their genetic viability. Point Reyes deserves a plan that lets the native elk move freely and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support how the plan highlights Tribal history and cultural resources and promotes using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance the habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plant species and protect the natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for helping the Tule elk!

Correspondence ID: 2023

Please take appropriate action. Thanks.

Correspondence ID: 2024

This fence needs to be taken down so the elk can run free.

Correspondence ID: 2025

I support a free roaming elk herd. These wonderful animals are not meant to be fenced in. A collaborative management plan is also imperative. Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 2026

I HAVE BEEN AT POINT REYES & AM AWARE OF THE FENCE & WOULD MOST WELCOME THE FENCE BEING TORN DOWN SO THE TULE ELK WOULD HAVE FREE RANGE, THANKING YOU, DONALD C. BECK

Correspondence ID: 2028

Take down the fence. Let the elk run free as nature intended.

Correspondence ID: 2029

I visited Point Reyes years ago, while the elk were still free roaming. The sight of the elk was one of the experiences that made my visit so memorable. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Hopefully the next time I'm privileged to visit Pt. Reyes, the elk will be free roaming again.

Correspondence ID: 2032

Being fenced off from water and food since 1978 amounts to animal cruelty. These tule elks were reintroduced to their native range. Let them roam to food and water, as offered by the Alternative B plan

Correspondence ID: 2033

Tule elk - like all life on Earth - deserve more than zoo-like conditions to survive. They must be free to roam like they have for Millenia, before we arrived and confined them. Visiting Point Reyes was one of the highlights of my life and the elk are what made it memorable, but they must be freed from their confined space.

I applaud and support any and all efforts to better protect natural and cultural resources that consider a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Alternative B will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

In addition, the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point is absolutely critical! Highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies returns this landscape to its once diverse and vibrant landscapes. Finally, controlling invasive plants better protects natural and cultural resources.

Please, take all of these steps so that elk may be free to roam and thrive!

Correspondence ID: 2034

Please help create a viable, natural environment for these elk and other wildlife to roam and reproduce appropriate. I know the fence has caused multiple problems with die offs during drought, and inter breeding problems. We need better ways moving forward to encourage natural population growth and decline with natural predators etc.

We need to be doing a better job of preserving our valuable wildlife and countryside for our finally balanced ecosystems and indeed the future.

Thanks you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 2035

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2037

Please take the fence down ! Please. Why make these animals suffer which is what u are doing. Don't starve them for water. I live in America. We are supposed to protect our wildlife. Please take it down. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2038

I feel very strongly that we should not artificially be propping up the live-stock industry. Meat, especially beef, should be a sometimes food...very expensive because it needs to reflect the true environmental costs. The government should not be subsidizing this industry in any way including and especially at the expense of wildlife. Also, it's just cruel and should never have been allowed. Please remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 2040

Unless you convince me

Otherwise, let the Elk roam. Please.

Correspondence ID: 2041

I support Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area plan.

The tulk elk need to be able to move freely and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria need to be able to provide guidance from Tribal experience with the habitat.

Correspondence ID: 2043

Dear National Park Service:

In terms of the plans for Tomales Point Area, I strongly support Alternative B: removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd, which I think will be much better for the elk.

I also strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Please free these beautiful elk!

Sincerely, Dina Bozicas

Correspondence ID: 2045

I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 2046

I believe Alternative Plan B to be the best one for the interests of the Public of the State of California and for the Point Reyes Tule Elk. Removal of this fence that has hindered the Tule Elk obtaining the proper feed and crucial water during drought will solve a lot of problems.

Quite frankly excluding the elk from easily obtaining life giving water during our recent droughts is animal cruelty, especially when done to placate the dairy/livestock people.

I believe that the majority of people who submit their thoughts on this matter will also be in favor of Plan B.

I also believe that the entire area should be fenceless, restoring the Point for all wildlife with trails for hiking, and unhindered access to all beaches for both wildlife and the Public.

Correspondence ID: 2047

please, tear down this fence

Correspondence ID: 2048

Let the elk and all other wildlife roam free. Fencing or any other barrier to wildlife moving about freely is a disaster for wildlife and too often a direct cause for the untimely death of wildlife.

Save the elk now.

Correspondence ID: 2049

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2050

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Please listen to the indigenous peoples and do what they say needs to be done, they understand how everything works together.

Correspondence ID: 2051

I used to live in San Geronimo, CA, and find that this is a continuing situation where rancher's profits win over public lands. The National Park Service is in error to fence these animals, which undeniably have more right to be there than cattle.

Correspondence ID: 2052

I want to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd that can roam naturally, while it also best preserves the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. This is as it should be, and I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk, and thanks for taking comments.

Correspondence ID: 2053

Our Earth home thrives in diversity. As climate changes intensifies, humans need to respond with equal capacity to embrace and preserve diversity. Releasing the Tule Elk herds from their fencing give us the opportunity to support their thriving in times of increasing weather extremes. Please choose Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan to support the thriving of all native species in Point Reyes National Park.

I am grateful for the possibility of collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to bring the wisdom of their cultural heritage and care of the land and non-human people in the Point Reyes area.

I am working in my own yard to restore native habitat and support the flourishing of flora and fauna indigenous to the area.

I hope you will do the same by choosing Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B.

Thank you, Dvera Hadden

Correspondence ID: 2055

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2056

Set Them FREE for All toSEE

Correspondence ID: 2057

Let the Elk be Elk. Collaborate on land management.

Correspondence ID: 2058

Dear NPS,

I strongly endorse the NPS "preferred alternative," Alternative B, which would permanently remove the 8-foot fence that has kept the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd trapped without sufficient water or nutrition since 1978.

Thank you for taking this humane point of view. We need to save the wildlife we have left. You are in the position to make life saving and humane decisions.

Correspondence ID: 2061

This sounds like a great plan, Thank you so much!

Correspondence ID: 2062

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the fence.

Our attempts to control Nature inevitably lead to a sadder but wiser us.

Sincerely, Dennis Fritzing

Correspondence ID: 2063

Free the elk!!!!

Correspondence ID: 2065

Please come up with a plan to stop the Tule Elk from getting electrocuted. They don't deserve that kind of mistreatment. They deserve to be treated humanely.

Correspondence ID: 2070

I support free roaming elk herds.

Correspondence ID: 2071

These beautiful animals should be allowed to roam free. The help of the native people in the area is a sound idea and one that should insure the success of this venture.

Correspondence ID: 2072

National parks are meant to preserve necessary lands and wild life that uses the land. A fence that affects the animals' access to necessary resources is counter productive to the National Park principles. Please restore wholeness to the elk range and eliminate barriers to their natural migrations.

Correspondence ID: 2073

Free the elk to roam a larger area.

Correspondence ID: 2077

Every species wills a niche in our ecosystem and every one has a purpose.

Correspondence ID: 2079

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support

Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2080

Removing this fence is long overdue for the welfare of this elk herd.

You know it and I know it. The time has come to act. It is humane, it is ethical, it is just.

Correspondence ID: 2081

Please consider taking down the fence that is detrimental to the Elk herds.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 2082

Please protect and free the elk.

Correspondence ID: 2083

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2085

Elk require an open area to roam freely. If they cannot roam, the land will become over grazed.

Correspondence ID: 2086

Protect OUR wilderness and wildlife!

Correspondence ID: 2088

I congratulate the National Parks Service for finally deciding to remove the inhumane fence that prevented these endangered Point Reyes Tule Elk from seeking the water they so desperately needed during drought times. Thank you for your humane decision to protect these endangered elk..

Correspondence ID: 2089

The Tule elk *** must*** be allowed to roam free! FREE THE ELK AT POINT REYES NOW.

Correspondence ID: 2090

Please free the Tule Elk. The management of this beautiful creatures has been resulted in death for many of the individuals. Please find a better way to manage them, including working with Federated

Indians of Graton Rancheria. There is an opportunity to enhance the living experience for humans and Elk. Set them free.

Please listen, it is the right thing to do.

Correspondence ID: 2091

Please be respectful and let common sense prevail in this matter.

Correspondence ID: 2093

I have continually been stunned by the stupidity of fencing the elk away from water - who thought that up? Was it on purpose? Did you actually intend to provide a nice, agonizing, slow death for them? Please - have some compassion - imagine your own life if you couldn't access water - not fun! Take the fence down - please.

Correspondence ID: 2094

I have enjoyed observing the elk many times from my Kayak. It is so important to allow elk access to water and space throughout the park. It is horrible to learn they have died of thirst because of a man-made fence preventing access to needed water. The plan to have cooperative management sounds good. I was horrified to think that more cows would take precedent over these beasts in their habitat.

I hardly endorse the plan to get rid of the fence.

Barbara Williamson

Correspondence ID: 2095

Elk MUST roam free. Humans have deliberately done more damage to the environment than anything or anyone for the greed of money .

Correspondence ID: 2096

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2100

I have to write and congratulate you on your recent decision to remove a fence that's contributed to the death of elks caught behind it during a drought.

If only someone on your staff had thought of doing that earlier.

I say Horray for the elks.

Joan M

Correspondence ID: 2101

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2102

I support a free roaming elk herd. Reading about their deaths due to this barrier has been soul crushing in its cruelty, watching them die. Please stop this. We can do better!

Correspondence ID: 2107

I don't understand why anyone would think a fence around elk habitat is a good idea, especially when it limits access to food and water. Let the elk roam free as they were meant to do.

Correspondence ID: 2109

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I have had the privilege of visiting Point Reyes. Point Reyes is unparalleled in the majesty and beauty of the land, the environment and the wildlife.

I want to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan which better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. In my viewpoint, Alternative B is the best plan moving forward. Alternative B removes the elk fence and allows an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I do not have to tell you the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes truly deserves a management plan that LETS ELK ROAM FREE and behave naturally within the national park.

Additionally, I would like to convey my support for the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2117

Take down the fence that's killing wildlife. It's the right thing to do.

Correspondence ID: 2118

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area plan to better protect natural and cultural resources and considers a new management director for the park's confined elk herd. I also support the Park Services proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 2120

Please follow through on the plan to free the Tomales Point Elk herd from the deadly fence that keeps them confined.

Take down the fence.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2121

Please STOP THE CRUELTY TO TULE ELK, how can you call yourselves conservationists ??

You DO NOT have the right to imprison them and deny them access to water and grazing

Do the right thing by Tule Elk and release them

Correspondence ID: 2122

The elk were living here peacefully long before people populated the area. While fencing might be a good idea for their own protection, they should not be harmful in any way.

Correspondence ID: 2124

Let animals roam freely over the whole area to restore their numbers and protect them.

Correspondence ID: 2125

Aloha kākou,

I am writing to you from Hawai'i with regard to the National Park Service having maintained a fence artificially confining a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. This is heartbreaking to hear, and I am pleased to learn that you are considering tearing it down, letting the noble elk roam freely in the park once again.

I live in a part of the world where respect for traditional, indigenous knowledge has been growing stronger and so the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point is very heartening news. I urge the Park Service to continue to move in these directions with urgency.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kathie Kane

Correspondence ID: 2126

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes is entitled to a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2127

I strongly believe that the National Prk service should protect the tullebelks .

Correspondence ID: 2133

It's TIME TO free the Elk. EACH dead innocent creature is on your hands. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2134

I support your proposed plan for the Point Reyes Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 2137

I am writing to give you feedback about proposed management of the Point Reyes Tule Elk herds -- I support Alternative B, letting the elk roam free. I support tribal affiliations, and can't imagine that fencing in these beautiful wild animals does anything but cause them stress. This is not a zoo. We are fortunate to live in a time when there are still wild spaces, and wild animals to inhabit them

Every year, my mother and I drive down 101 and stop at the place where the elk graze. We thrill, hiding behind our car doors and clicking photos, while these magnificent beings move amongst one another in a giant clan, stopping to rest before the next stage of their journey. This is the closest I will get to one of these giants, and it is one of the high points of my life. oh please don't relegate them to a zoo life. Their wildness is their magic.

Correspondence ID: 2139

Enough.

You are the Park Service, not the cattle industry.

Free the elk from their imprisonment behind that unnecessary fence that has already led to deaths of our Tule elk from starvation and lack of water.

They are a native animal. Cows are not.

Correspondence ID: 2142

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I'm writing to you today as someone who volunteered for invasive plant removal back in the early 2000s at Point Reyes, and one of the many beautiful things I remember about that alternative spring break adventure there was the Thule Elk. Today, I am a naturalist guide and researcher at Yellowstone National Park, and am familiar with not only the Rocky Mountain Elk here but also the Roosevelt Elk when I lived in Oregon for a short time. I have come to truly appreciate the unique and distinct herd of Thules there at Point Reyes.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Leo Leckie

www.wolftales.info

Correspondence ID: 2143

Please save the elk population at Point Reyes, by removing the confining fence that has deprived them of access to the resources they need to survive and thrive. This is a magnificent area, made moreso by a thriving population of free-roaming elk.

Correspondence ID: 2146

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan to protect natural and cultural resources and consider a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B which

removes the elk fence and allows the elk herd access greater habitat areas. This alternative will better preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic elk die-offs in droughts. That led to emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and fences also reduce any animal's genetic viability/diversity (like our stupid wall on the border with Mexico will do exactly the same but worse). Point Reyes will benefit from a management plan that lets elk have more habitat and behave more normally in the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's use of Tribal history and cultural by using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies and all other local wildlife and plants in a fire-dependent habitat. I also support the proposals to control invasive plant for habitat improvement.

Thanks!!!

Correspondence ID: 2149

%please let the elk roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 2150

Please protect the elk

Correspondence ID: 2151

To manage the 2,900 acre Tomales Point, I strongly urge you to follow Alternative B removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of the Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions and has reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park. Alternative B Reyes would let elks roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2152

I am so glad that you are considering taking down the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore so that the tule elk can roam free. Please do that!! And it's a wonderful idea to collaborate with the native tribes nearby. Please do that too!!

Correspondence ID: 2154

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2156

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I lived in western Marin County for many years and visiting the PR Seashore was a treasured activity for me and for the children I taught. This fencing of the tule elk is a disaster and a disgrace, and a betrayal of our responsibility of stewardship. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 2158

Thank you for freeing the Tule Elk. They deserve the right to live as naturally as possible on their own land. We are the interlopers.

Correspondence ID: 2163

These elk must be allowed to forage in the area natural to them.

Correspondence ID: 2164

Dear National Park Service,

I am writing to voice support for Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan. I believe that removing the elk fence will benefit the herd's genetic diversity and prevent their suffering during droughts. Furthermore, as proposed, I also support the idea that Tribal people should be part of this effort, as their philosophy of sustainability would also benefit the elk and the entire ecosystem.

Thank you for your consideration,

Heidi Ananthakrishnan

Correspondence ID: 2165

When we visited the Point Reyes National Seashore, we looked for the famous Tule Elk. We drove, and drove, and drove until we were at the very end of this beautiful peninsula and could only catch a glimpse of the elk behind the fencing. The elk that we saw did not appear to display robust health. We learned that the Park Service kept the elk herd enclosed in this area.

On our way to see the Elk, we passed dairy farms and houses and thought how odd that there were these farms and houses in the National Seashore. It just didn't make sense to us.

Since our visit, we learned that 150 Elk had died due to the way in which they had been managed.

Now we understand that the Park Service is planning to cull the iconic herd and only maintain a small number of these one-of-a-kind California Elk! And that the dairy farms and other ranching enterprises will remain.

This is a heartless solution!! To know that the Elk once roamed a much wider swath of California and that the Park Service does not intend to allow the Elk to flourish and expand their territory is senseless. Especially when the Earth is losing so many species to extinction on a yearly basis.

I am appalled by the National Park Service's plan. Shame on you! Free the Elk and remove the ranches!!!

Correspondence ID: 2169

Please let the elk roam free as it should be!!

Correspondence ID: 2170

All animals in their own nature are entitled to their rights to live in peace and harmony without the fear of being attacked or killed!

Let's try to be fair and honest about the nature of this situation.

Correspondence ID: 2171

Please let the elk roam free for their safety by removing the fence that keeps them from getting to resources they need.

Correspondence ID: 2172

tomales point plan.--

i support plan b. removing the elk fence is best.

Correspondence ID: 2173

Do what is right. Take down the fence so the Tule Elk can survive.

Correspondence ID: 2175

Every life on earth is here for a purpose GOD put all of us here ,not just humans but all living creatures we need to protect as much and as many as possible . This planet as we know it is being erased right before our eyes and along with it plants, animals ,even birds why add more danger to the already dangerous life these poor animals endure.

Correspondence ID: 2176

Here are my comments regarding the tule elk:

I am so glad that the Park Service has proposed a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I very much support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness and wildlife of this 2,900-acre Tomales Point area.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused sporadic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, which not only requires costly emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, but also reduces the elk's genetic diversity and strength by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. As you know, lack of genetic diversity is a key factor in species extinction.

I also wish to voice my support for the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using traditional fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Thank you for your consideration, and for the opportunity to save the elk of this region.

Correspondence ID: 2179

I grew up in Marin, and remember well the days before there was a National Seashore, fences and all. Stop going backwards particularly with the help of my taxpayer dollars. NOW!

Correspondence ID: 2180

I support allowing Tule elk to roam freely in the park once again and a collaborative management plan for Tomales Point with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Correspondence ID: 2181

Using an electric fence to control Elk is shameful.

Correspondence ID: 2183

Please let Elk roam free so take down the fence!

Thank you, Pete

Correspondence ID: 2185

Protect the Point Reyes Tule Elk by removing the fence. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2187

I've labored under the misunderstanding that your service was in place to protect the wild environment, including Animals.

The slow torture till death of the elk is an atrocity at best. Besides being blatantly cruel it should be against the Park Service responsibilities.

To provide for cattle and ranchers is just wrong! I'm a retired sheep farmer. Never would I remotely consider that park land or public land should be there for my convenience and make me more money. If the ranchers can't make it without ruining public land and causing torture to wild animals they need to get a city job.

Correspondence ID: 2188

As a former resident and wildlife conservation supporter, I appreciate you preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined and truly wild elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I believe Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. This situation has been anything but natural, and adopting Alternative B can rectify many issues.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2193

Point Reyes National Seashore Superintendent:

Subject: Strong Support for Alternative B - Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent,

I am writing to express my strong support for Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan. This alternative, which removes the elk fence and allows for an unconfined elk herd, is the most favorable option for several reasons.

Ecological Benefits: Removing the fence will allow the tule elk to roam freely, mimicking their natural behavior and promoting a healthier population. This will contribute to the preservation of the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

Improved Animal Welfare: The current fenced area has led to significant elk die-offs during droughts and necessitated intervention to provide water. An unconfined herd eliminates these issues.

Genetic Diversity: The fence has restricted the elk's interaction with other park herds, potentially impacting their genetic health. An unconfined herd allows for natural interaction and improved overall herd health.

Furthermore, I applaud the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Incorporating their traditional ecological knowledge and highlighting Tribal history are crucial aspects of future Tomales Point management.

Finally, I fully support the plan's emphasis on controlling invasive plants and protecting natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for considering a future where the tule elk can roam free within Point Reyes National Seashore.

Sincerely, Donald T. Sanger

Correspondence ID: 2196

i think it is ridiculous to fence such wildlife!!!!!! why aren't we helping animals instead of torturing and restricting them to heinous ideas.

Correspondence ID: 2200

Please accept my comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan. I appreciate that this plan protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B - removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Elk must roam free. The fence has been a terrible strategy for the survival of elk and other animals.

Please collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Tribal culture is critical to managing habitat and must include prescribed fire and research burns, not only for elk but other species, including endangered butterflies.

The plan must include control of invasive plants as well.

Sincerely, Kat Balogh

Correspondence ID: 2202

Please consider replacing elk killing fence at Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 2203

I strongly support Alternative B in your plan - which will remove the elk fence. That fence has confined the elk and resulted in periods when many elk died unnecessarily, due to droughts / lack of water for these trapped animals. Removing the fence will allow the tule elk to roam naturally and will best preserve the wilderness of this national park and will give the elk the best chance at survival.

I also support the plan to control invasive plants, and to include local tribal knowledge as part of future management plans.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2206

Take down the fence

Correspondence ID: 2207

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank youj.

Correspondence ID: 2208

The Service has done well preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 2210

Please respect the natural ecosystem where the Tule Elk have been living in the area of Pt Reyes coastal mountains and seashore. I have personally, respectfully hiked in the area on trails near and through the herds living there. Please remove the elk fence and allow the elk to roam more freely in this ecosystem. This will insure a more balanced habitat and give the elk a better chance of surviving in their ecosystem. This will best preserve the wilderness of the 2,900 acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales

Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2212

Thank you for supporting elk by tearing down the fence that results in large elk die-offs.

Carol Barber

Correspondence ID: 2213

I am writing to tell you that I support a free roaming elk herd in Point Reyes National Seashore. For far too long, the elk, who belong in Point Reyes, have been marginalized for dairy cattle, causing them to starve during periods of drought and scarcity. It is long past time for the National Park Service to reverse this practice. The dairy farms in Point Reyes should have had their leases terminated years ago, yet they have been continually extended. This is the opposite of what should be allowed in a National Recreation Area.

Point Reyes National Seashore is my most treasured hiking area and I deplore the gross mismanagement of the elk herds. This has been a long and shameful travesty.

As a citizen of California, I demand that you allow the elk to roam free, as they were intended to do.

Correspondence ID: 2215

Please remove the fence, protect, and preserve the elk.

Correspondence ID: 2216

ENOUGH! Leave these animals alone! They were there first!

Correspondence ID: 2219

Hello,

I realize you are aware that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. So, it is of utmost importance that Point Reyes finally be managed under a plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

In addition, I am in full agreement with the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Of course, the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources should also be approved

Thank you, Michael Levitt

Correspondence ID: 2223

Don't fence in the elk. Let the elk roam safely as nature meant them to..protect our wildlife and lands.

Correspondence ID: 2226

To: The Park Service

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Thank you, Shari OConnor

Correspondence ID: 2227

Let the elk run free, there hasn't appeared any statements that elk running free pose any environmental danger.

Correspondence ID: 2228

It is our responsibility to look out for ALL animals. We humans are just animals ourselves. I have been paying taxes for decades. Let's use some of that money to help a species that desperately need it!! Let's help the tule elk!!

Thanks, Chris

Correspondence ID: 2229

Please allow the Elk to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 2232

Many years ago you , the park rangers, put the elk in a holding pen. They had no food and no water. The fence was too high for them to jump although some tired and died. Activists came bringing water in buckets but you denied them entrance in to the area of the tank for water. You tried every way possible to kill the elk. I thought it was due to ranchers but who knows? Ranchers and their cattle want free roaming and the elk being grazers had to go. The elk were eating what the ranchers needed for their cattle. What happened? Again, I don't know. Money speak volumes. You wanted the ranchers to have their way but something must to have worked in your favor. Being a ranger in a National Park is a respectable position. We, the people, are the ones paying for park upkeep and management. We thought, or at least I thought, you were a light shining in the darkness and you would be there to help the animals or what ever needed help due to that being your job. But, tragically the elk hung on, barely hung on. There were elk remains all over the place, yet they would not be taken down, they would not die, not by the hand of ranchers or the mighty Park Rangers.

The elk survived and I left the story once I read the elk were being allowed to go back to being at the edge of Reigns Park, allowed to walk the territory they have walked for centuries. I though that meant they were free, at last, free at last! But I guess not. However, they need to b e free to roam, free to eat, free to drink water, and free to live as they always have lived. I am glad this horrible event is now behind us, it is, isn't it?We and the elk must always keep this memory in the rear view mirror so as to see it yet as a reminder of the price of freedom. Sometimes it takes many to beat back the hand of greed from the gentle touch of understanding and compassion.,

Correspondence ID: 2233

I like the new Tomales Point Area Plan for improved protection of natural and cultural resources.

I strongly support Alternative B that would see removal of the elk fence. This would allow the tule elk to roam freely and help to preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large die-offs of elk during drought conditions and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd isolated from other elk in the park. Point Reyes needs a management plan that lets elk roam and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to include traditional ecological knowledge in management of Tomales Point. Using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies is a great idea as is controlling invasive plants and otherwise implementing increased protection of park resources.

Correspondence ID: 2235

Allow the Elk to freely roam without fencing that can injure and kill them. This is their habitat.

Correspondence ID: 2237

I support a free roaming elk herd. Please manage the herd in a kinder way without the lethal fence.

Correspondence ID: 2239

I think the Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore deserve to be allowed to range free. This national park contains the only tule elk herd in the country, and i feel they don't deserve to be confined to Tomales Point, where they have been dying off.

I feel it is important to preserve this iconic herd with no unnatural fences.

Correspondence ID: 2242

Let the Elk roam free please. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 2243

Wildlife (elk, in this case) should win these contests.

Correspondence ID: 2244

Keep the range open for wildlife please. We are losing too much of the natural world.

Correspondence ID: 2245

Please free the elk forever. No undue death.

Correspondence ID: 2247

I'm writing to share support for a Tomales Point plan that allows for free ranging Tule Elk for the fenced animals. You know the hazards that fences present to the elk and others. Combining this consideration with a collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in Alternative B best provides the wisdom of well known methods to protect resources and cultural traditions that have served for those centuries before settled by non-indigenous people.

Please allow Alternative B the opportunity to provide wisdom and good planning.

Thank you!

Leora R Feeney

Correspondence ID: 2251

Wildlife are God's creations, we need to take better care of them, and their environment.

Correspondence ID: 2252

I have been to Point Reyes, and as such I emphatically support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. As you know, this alternative will allow the tule elk to be free (as they should be), allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also strongly support the National Park Service's (NPS's) proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the

future management of Tomales Point. The NPS and state of New Mexico are also beginning to more seriously incorporate Tribal views and knowledge in administration of natural and public NM lands...it just makes sense. Tribal knowledge and experience is invaluable in caring for our natural resources.

And lastly, as a Master Gardener, birder and naturalist, I strongly support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural resources.

Thank you for considering my comments and support.

Correspondence ID: 2254

Please let the Elk roam free without any fences.

Correspondence ID: 2255

I remember when the Elk died because of the fence, no waer and they killed themselves trying to jump over You must let

them roam free and keep track of how they are doing. We have to save wildlife including the elk on the brink.

That is your job!

Correspondence ID: 2256

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Way back in 2003, a year in which my beloved grandmother and beloved Golden Retriever both passed, my father and I took a trip up through the spine of California (I-5) and down the coast (US-101 and CA 1/PCH).

During part of that healing and magical trip, we enjoyed a visit to Point Reyes, a special place with special flora and fauna.

First, I want to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd, which I have been aware of for some time.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Though certainly well intentioned initially, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Additionally, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate vitally important Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our treasured and majestic elk.

Correspondence ID: 2258

Please remove the Tomales Point fence and let the Tule elk roam free again.

Correspondence ID: 2259

We have to save nature in all forms

Correspondence ID: 2261

No comments

Correspondence ID: 2262

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I have learned about the tule elk herd and the fence from the Center for Biological Diversity, which I support. I am in support of Plan B, the removal of the elk fence. I also support the proposed collaboration between the park service and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. What follows is a detailed response from the Center's action page. I'm hopeful the decision will be made to allow the elk to roam free!

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2263

Please let them roam

Correspondence ID: 2264

When all the animals are gone, so will MAN!!! It's their world too and the food chain would be destroyed which will destroy the planet!!! THIS IS REALITY...

Correspondence ID: 2265

Please let the tulle elk roam free. They are majestic animals that deserve to be freed from the fence that keeps them from living a normal life with water available to them at all times.

Correspondence ID: 2266

Please do not use fencing that injures or kills elks. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 2269

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tulle elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Sincerely, Connie

Correspondence ID: 2270

I strongly support freeing tulle elk and removing the fencing that confines them.

I appreciate your preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. As such, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tulle elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

This fence - a prison really - has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions and required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals. It's also severely impacted the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

The Park Service's should also collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tulle elk and endangered butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for taking action to free the tulle elk. They deserve to live free as all "wildlife" should.

Correspondence ID: 2271

Save Our Natural Places...

Correspondence ID: 2274

Please take down your treacherous fencing designed to let Tule Elk die of dehydration. This is shameful.

Pamela Van Cortlandt

Correspondence ID: 2275

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave as they would naturally within the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to include Tribal views and traditional knowledge of the land and habitat into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider the ideas for providing a better habitat for our beloved elk and their environs.

Correspondence ID: 2277

Please support removal of the elk fence at Reyes National Park- which I hope to visit this summer. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Alternative B will allow an unconfined elk herd, allowing the elk to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2278

To Park Service:

Immediately Tear Down the Lethal Fence Causing Large Elk Die Offs.

Immediately Tear Down this Lethal Fence and Let Elk Roam Freely in the Park Once More.

Support Free-Roaming Elk Herd and Collaborative Management Plan.

Correspondence ID: 2279

we need a diversified ecology.

lets safe, not destroy.

Correspondence ID: 2281

I strongly support Alternative B - allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 2282

Having traveled frequently in the Tomales Point area, this issue is of special interest to me. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2283

As a tourist at Reyes National Park, I enjoyed viewing the Tule elk rut behavior. This unique herd should be preserved. People in urban environments need a connection to nature.

Correspondence ID: 2285

Dear Park Service,

Please free the Elk at the point Reyes National Preserve. I want them to roam freely and not die due to starvation, lack of water and electric fences. Let's get rid of the cattle on National park land.

Best regards,

Diane Burns

Correspondence ID: 2286

We are all hoping you will take down a fence which will slowly kill Tule Elk, who were once at the point of extinction. Please don't destroy even more species, it's bad enough.

Correspondence ID: 2287

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2288

Fences make a Zoo. This is no place for a Zoo.

Correspondence ID: 2291

Our family encourages you to remove a fence that endangers the lives of the Tule Elk. Please care about these wild and beautiful animals!

Alice White

Correspondence ID: 2292

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of

letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

This is a no brainer. I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 2294

Please save the elk!

Correspondence ID: 2295

Please let the Elk roam free and take down the fence so they can survive with access to food and water at point reyes

Correspondence ID: 2297

Please tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

Correspondence ID: 2300

Free the elk, man

Correspondence ID: 2301

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that helps address the miserable conditions of the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I especially support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Additionally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I can't help but feel that all these positive changes will bring forth a better situation for all, including for the Park Service.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2303

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2311

Please finally set the California s Tule Elk heard at Pt, Reyes free.

Thank you from my entire family

Correspondence ID: 2312

Please remove the fencing. Please free the elk. They will die without your help.

Correspondence ID: 2314

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As a person who has lived 55 of my 65 years in California, and someone who still has many family members residing there, to whom I make frequent prolonged visits, I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

I am grateful to you for your valuable time and attention to this issue.

Best regards,

Holly Fraser

Correspondence ID: 2315

I strongly support a free-ranging tule elk population totally unconfined by artificial fencing barriers!

Correspondence ID: 2316

Re: Tamales Point Area Plan-Point Reyes National Seashore

care of superintendent point Reyes National Seashore

Thank you for considering a new management plan for the parks confined elk herd; I strongly support removing the Tamales Point ELK fence in order to allow natural roaming of the Tule Elk herd. I support Alternative B: removing the elk fence. I also support the park services collaboration proposal with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and the removal of invasive plants. Thank you for assisting with the survival and genetic diversity of the Tule Elk herd.

Thank you for your careful consideration

Ruth Eckert

Correspondence ID: 2318

Please take down the fences and let the Tule elk roam free in Point Reyes National Seashore. I volunteered for years at Point Reyes National Seashore and was distraught to see the pictures of them dying of thirst and hunger. It is important for the health of the Tule elk population to roam free in their native habitat, healthy for native plants.

Correspondence ID: 2319

Please Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk. Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 2320

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Claudia Mackey

Correspondence ID: 2321

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources, and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, the removing of the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk, and all that you do to protect our nation's natural environment.

Correspondence ID: 2325

I have very fond memories of Point Reyes and especially Tomales Point from a trip made several years ago. The Tule elk are prominent among those memories. Please register my strong support for Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Thank you for putting our natural heritage first.

Correspondence ID: 2326

Drought makes it necessary

Correspondence ID: 2327

An ill advised decision to build a fence to keep those animals in one spot. Glad it's being taken out.

Correspondence ID: 2328

save the elk and all wild life. Stop any wolf killing. Keep nature wild. Wild life did fine before we, homo not so sapiens, came along.

NO NO NO to the fencing

Correspondence ID: 2329

Please tear down this lethal fence to allow elk to roam freely and not be vulnerable during drought to dying unnecessarily.

This is fixable!

Correspondence ID: 2331

Let the elk run freely through their park!

Correspondence ID: 2332

Elk over cattle ranchers any day

Correspondence ID: 2335

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2336

Please do everything possible not to create deadly micro ecologies by fencing or any other barrier. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2338

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2340

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2341

Thank you for preparing a plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2343

Let the Elk be free, let the roam open lands

Correspondence ID: 2346

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

The only of my own words that i have the time to compose (given the weight of my several family medical responsibilities) are those which constitute this first paragraph. The restg are those which were composed by the Center for Biological Diversity. I urge you to recognize that this issue is important enough to me, and I agree with the Center to a strong enough degree, to have taken the time to write you at all, and to tsake advantqage of their composition to convey my public comment.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk

Correspondence ID: 2347

Pt. Reyes Tule Elk: Thank you for protecting them and respecting their ancient right to roam free.

Respectfully,

Kathryn Wild

San Diego, CA

Correspondence ID: 2348

I used to live in Point Reyes Station and am familiar with the situation. Cows degraded and Elk wounded restor the natural environment

Correspondence ID: 2351

I strongly support Tomales Point AreaAlternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you in advance for freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 2352

A free roaming fence is absolutely necessary!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 2355

Please remove the fencing that is prohibiting the elk herds from thriving in Tomales National Park.

Correspondence ID: 2356

It's their home, leave them and their land alone.

Correspondence ID: 2357

Time to do what is right for the herd. unnecessary death brought on by the fence is barbaric treatment of a marvelous animal.

Correspondence ID: 2358

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the Tule elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes and the elk deserve a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Your Tomales Point Area Plan better protects natural and cultural resources and, importantly, considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing

the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and will preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, which would incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point by adopting elements of the Tribal practice of controlled, prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I also strongly support highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources. The success of the plan will be augmented by the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing these beloved animals.

Jeri Iversen

Correspondence ID: 2359

I thought your jobs were to protect the habit and put animals first. It seem the Dept as lost track of what their purpose should be another reason why we are losing this Country.

Correspondence ID: 2360

Please allow the Tule Elk to roam free without the restrictions of fencing.

Correspondence ID: 2361

Stop treating animals like they are something to tolerate and indispensable when they cause issues in human society. They are very important to our survival and thrival!!

Correspondence ID: 2362

Dear NPS,

Wildlife are designed to roam free.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2363

Please continue the progress to allow Point Reyes Tule Elk to roam freely among their natural habitat. Taking down fences that restrict movement for any species is a kind and empathetic act that shows humility and respect. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2365

Tule Elk are dying due to the confinement from fencing. Please remove the fencing and allow the Elk to roam. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2367

Am I wrong? Aren't we supposed to be civilized?

Correspondence ID: 2368

It os the responsibility of the NPS to protect America's wildlife. I expert no less. Free the elk!

Correspondence ID: 2369

I strongly support Alternative B. I support removing the fence and allowing the elk to roam free. The plight of the elk penned up behind the fence has been heartbreaking to witness. I have always thought that the purpose of the National Parks is to protect the natural world and the wildlife living there. The treatment of the elk has been a stain on the Park Service. In fact, I would support getting rid of all of the ranching and dairy operations on the National Seashore by whatever means necessary. Cooperating with

Native American tribe in the management of the park is an innovative and wise move. I support it. I support any and all efforts to remove invasive plants and efforts to restore native habitat.

Correspondence ID: 2370

Please create a management plan for Point Reyes National Park that includes removal of the fence which confines the tule elk herd to Tomales Point. These animals should be allowed to roam the entire park area to maintain and grow the herd. The management plan must also include collaboration with the local indigenous people who can be gently responsible for managing the habitat of the area for all native species. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 2371

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. We want to express that we strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The whole point of 'wilderness' is that the ecosystem is enabled to function freely and for its creatures to live naturally in their environment.

However, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

We also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. They have lived within this environment sustainably for centuries.

We support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, we support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 2372

They deserve to live free too. Man is taking way more than his share of the earth.

Correspondence ID: 2377

Some species need free range to continue. All species have a right to life, and their lives have physical and psychological significance to humans.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. More needs to be done.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

For all the species of the West, we need CONTIGUOUS WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.

As a representative for this country, we entrust you with not just our present gain, but our future!

Thanks,

Suzan Heglin

Correspondence ID: 2379

Help the Elk please

Correspondence ID: 2380

Please take down the fence that is the cause of starvation and death of the beloved tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 2381

Regarding the tule elk, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I have visited Point Reyes multiple times on visits to Colorado, and am concerned about the fate of the tule elk.

Please help them to grow and thrive.

Thanks for your time.

Correspondence ID: 2382

This is one of the few natural areas left just North of San Francisco. and the elk have every right to be able to live on this property as they have for millennia. Putting up a fence will hinder them from thriving

Correspondence ID: 2384

I want as much protection for elk and other wildlife habitat as possible.

Correspondence ID: 2385

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I take pleasure in seeing tule elk at Point Reyes. They should roam freely in a national park. Keeping them fenced has had adverse effects on the population in the past.

So, thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that can provide new management ideas for the park's elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, because it would bring down the fence that has confined the herd. Letting them roam as they wish accords best with the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

I understand that the Tomales Point fence has caused periodic population loss during drought conditions that have then required intervention to provide water sources for the herd. Obviously, confinement

affects genetic diversity, as it prevents natural mixing and breeding with other elk in the park. Point Reyes must have a plan that most allows elk to interact naturally within what is, after all, a national park.

I have become convinced that Native American tribes can better manage natural resources than federal managers. So, I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2386

Protect

Correspondence ID: 2387

Dear NPS,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Michael Henderson

Correspondence ID: 2388

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Sadly, I'm finding it hard to understand why they haven't been released already. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. Please do it soon.

Correspondence ID: 2390

Kindly allow the elk to roam freely. This is simply the humane way to act. Thank you for your kind consideration!

Correspondence ID: 2391

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2393

It is insane for you not to allow the Elk water to drink.

Correspondence ID: 2394

Let the roam. A crucial part of our eco-system. Have driven to Boulder, Co. many times and when the elk were at the side of the freeway or the road, traffic always slowed and so many cars and trucks and campers, etc. stopped occupants got out to gaze the simple and incredible sight.

Correspondence ID: 2396

Let the Elk roam free. Tear down the fence.

Correspondence ID: 2400

FREE THE TULE ELK !!

Correspondence ID: 2401

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Park Service please support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 2403

I support free roaming elk. The property the elk live on should not be leased out to the cattle people.

Correspondence ID: 2404

Please unfence these magnificent wild animals and devise a management plan that assures them a healthy population. Thank you for allowing us to comment.

Correspondence ID: 2406

Save the elk! Let them roam free.

Correspondence ID: 2407

I am writing in support of a collaborative management plan in Pt. Reyes that will allow the elk herd to roam freely. This is the ethical thing to do as confining animals is contrary to the NPS mission. It is also the logical and ecologically sound thing to do, as elk naturally have move to avoid predators, find food and water, and avoid destroying water sources by trampling and over-harvesting their food sources and other vegetation.

Correspondence ID: 2408

Elk herds are meant to roam for miles, please remove fencing! Thank you, Roberta Teubner

Correspondence ID: 2411

I want this barrier removed so these animals can freely roam and find sufficient food and water.

Correspondence ID: 2412

I support taking down the fence in the Point Reyes National Seashore, that was confining the elk herd. Let the animals range freely. We've taken up too much space for human habitation!

Correspondence ID: 2414

As an informed environmentalist I would like to see the Elk restored to their natural environment and cows eliminated

Correspondence ID: 2415

We need to stop trying to control Mother Nature

Correspondence ID: 2417

MANAGE THE ELK HERD PROPERLY, NO FENCE!!!

Correspondence ID: 2420

Please do all you can to protect and support these elk.

Correspondence ID: 2421

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 2424

No lethal electric fences

Correspondence ID: 2428

I strongly support a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and

considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Therefore, I urge you to adopt Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2430

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that actually helps serve the wildlife the park was created to protect instead of the ranchers who steal our public funds for the betterment of their own profits. Please continue to uphold the mission of the park and work to protect natural and cultural resources and consider a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2431

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan.

I hope that you will choose Alternative B, which will remove the elk fence, allowing the herd to roam its more natural range, and help re-create a wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal perspectives and ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point, including consideration of prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2433

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Please use your power for good and protect elk.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Respectfully,

Ruth Ann Wiesenthal-Gold

Correspondence ID: 2435

I am one of those American Citizens who has traveled to and through the US States and National Parks all over the lower 48, and also the other two. Our national parks, wilderness areas, scenic protected lands, forests, waters, are the best of American Ideals of Democracy manifested through the instinct to preserve that which was extraordinary.

What trouble to humans is so grave, that this unique, isolated, much threatened herd of critters surely has a place, not a corral, a space, the space in which they have always existed. Will we not assist them to try and survive the 7th. extinction? Can we not give them the room to survive on this planet with others like them who have evolved through millennia?

Can we be that arrogant, that ignorant?

Correspondence ID: 2436

I support Alternative B management plan because I am interested in preserving the integrity of this wilderness park. I do not visit parks to observe cattle. Remove the fence and allow these wild elk to roam. I also support collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in an attempt to return this land to its natural state by using prescribed fire and research burns enhancing habitat for wildlife. Thank you for providing this opportunity to add my voice to this process.

R.S. LaSalle

Correspondence ID: 2437

Save wildlife, don't destroy it. It is their planet too!

Correspondence ID: 2439

Your decisions matter to set trends for humanity's future. Humans need NEW attitudes about respect for

ALL BEINGS ie anything that “be's” ie exists, whether animate or inanimate. Less invasive, disruptive, exploitative, anthronarcissistic “management”. for our convenience and ego... more natural nature. We have not done a good job of “managing” our planet with its now jeopardized TRULY natural systems,

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2440

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear NPS,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales

Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Gratefully, Kirstie Palmer

Correspondence ID: 2441

Be nice.

Correspondence ID: 2442

Please allow the Tule elk to access more of their natural habitat. This effort will help other species, advance human contact with the species (education), and restore some historical range of a once widespread species. Take down the fencing!

Correspondence ID: 2445

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2446

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

The role of your organization is critical to endangered species and our national biodiversity.

I commend you for your continuing supportive actions.

Thus, thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk

Correspondence ID: 2447

Come up with a better plan that doesn't involve animals dying!

Correspondence ID: 2448

NOW!

Correspondence ID: 2450

Tear down the fence and stop killing elk. They need to be able to roam freely without being killed. Stop murdering animals

Correspondence ID: 2453

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also gladly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I gratefully support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I completely support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2454

Please Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk!

They can't do it by themselves. They need help, and they need to be free.

Sincerely, Jan McDermott

Correspondence ID: 2455

Please find a different strategy for containment. The fence is barbaric.

Correspondence ID: 2456

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Tule elk are majestic animals that were almost gone due to hunting in the past, but a fence is artificially preventing the herd from moving about the park and at times not finding enough water to drink. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2457

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 2458

Please remove the fence and work with the surrounding people to let the elk roam naturally.

Correspondence ID: 2459

Please enact policies that will protect the endangered elk at Point Reyes. These animals have been confined to an area that does not sustain their lives. They are dying during droughts, and being forced into an area completely inadequate for their well-being.

It is imperative that you implement a collaborative management plan that conserves this important species and allows them to live out their natural lives without undue hardships and unreasonable restrictions.

Correspondence ID: 2460

Elks are majestic creatures and deserve to roam free. I support removing the elk fences and Alternative B which would free tule elk to move freely and help preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2462

I am one of those American Citizens who has traveled to and through the US States and National Parks all over the lower 48, and also the other two. Our national parks, wilderness areas, scenic protected lands, forests, waters, are the best of American Ideals of Democracy manifested through the instinct to preserve that which was extraordinary.

What trouble to humans is so grave, that this unique, isolated, much threatened herd of critters must be caged? Surely they have a right to a place, not a corral, a space, the space in which they have always

existed. Will we not assist them to try and survive the 7th. extinction? Can we not give them the room to survive on this planet with others like them who have evolved through millennia?

Can we be that arrogant, that ignorant?

Correspondence ID: 2463

Fences? That is your best idea? Yes, I understand you are trying to micro-manage wildlife because that is your habit, but they don't need to be "managed," they need freedom to be. Leave them alone. Thank you for listening.

Correspondence ID: 2465

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2466

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Listen to them, allow free range elk.

Correspondence ID: 2467

As a former Research Biologist for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, including research in Cades Cove removing cattle and stocking Elk, I support supporting Elk populations at all National Parks.

Correspondence ID: 2470

I wholly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan which would protect the Tule Elk by removing the elk fencing and allowing this beautiful, native animal to once again roam free within Tomales Point.

I am also pleased to learn that under Alternative B, the NPS would work to remove invasive plant species to allow native plant communities to expand and provide the needed benefits for wildlife and biodiversity.

Please adopt Alternative B and allow the Tule Elk to roam free and thrive. This plan is long overdue.

Sincerely, Kimberly Tays

Correspondence ID: 2471

Please take the fence down and allow the elk to roam freely, it is unnatural for them to be pent up

Correspondence ID: 2473

I support free roaming animals in our parks

Correspondence ID: 2475

Elk are a free roaming species that can not live naturally confined by a fence, especially without adequate resources. Please reconsider your care of these animals.

Correspondence ID: 2477

As a professional wildlife biologist, I urge you to tear down the fence and allow the tule elk to roam freely throughout the national Seashore. They need to spread out to protect themselves during times of stress, especially drought. Thanks for your serious consideration.

Sincerely, Michael Kutilek, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus, San Jose State University

Correspondence ID: 2478

Please tear down the fence, and allow the elk to roam free with good management. thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2479

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. This is sorely needed or their entire ecosystem will be impacted. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence permanently and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Isn't that what your goal should be???

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals (which adds to your expenses as well), and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk!!!

Correspondence ID: 2480

Dear Park Service,

Thank you for proposing to take down the fence for the elk and developing a collaboration with Native Americans. I support taking down the fence at Pt. Reyes so that the elk can be free-roaming. I grew up near Pt. Reyes and recall on very rare occasions as a child seeing wild elk in the hills. The elk need all the protection that we can give them.

Thank you,

Alexandra Hopkins

Correspondence ID: 2482

I am in support of removing the fencing that prevents Tule elk from wandering freely.

Correspondence ID: 2483

Please do what is necessary to free the Point Reyes Tule Elk. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2484

The Tule Elks should be allowed to roam free.

Correspondence ID: 2486

My grandparents lived in Stinson Beach in the 1950s and our family (and 2 others) used to descend on Stinson Beach every summer for fun and recreation at the seashore. Point Reyes was just up the coast and we would take day trips up to that area to explore. I do not remember seeing any elk there when I was young.

As adults, those same 3 families would get together to return to Stinson Beach and we got to know the newly created Point Reyes National Seashore. At this time, the elk had been reintroduced to the area. It was interesting to see the co-existence of the wild fauna (elk) and the domestic fauna (cattle) on the Point. I believe that the proposal by the NPS to remove the fencing that artificially keeps the elk in the northern part of the PRNS near Tomales Point. Since I have left the area, I have heard that the elk have often been severely stressed during drought years by lack of water in this area. With climate change, these stresses are likely to continue. I know that the NPS does not like to interfere with natural processes, so rather than artificially feed and water the elk herd (making them more like domestic stock), removing the fence would allow the elk to forage and find water over a larger area.

I am also a supporter of reasonable efforts to remove and/or control invasive plants.

I believe both of these measures are part of Alternative B, therefore, I support Alternative B.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this plan.

Correspondence ID: 2487

Take Down That Fence in the Point Reyes National Monument and let these tule elk roam free no matter what the dairy folks have to say about it. That fence is a travesty and it is destroying these animals. Take Down That Fence NOW.

Bill Leikam,

President & Co-founder

Urban Wildlife Research Project.org

Correspondence ID: 2488

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2489

Free the elks

Correspondence ID: 2491

I have been a neighbor of elk herds in the mountains of Colorado for 40+ years. These beautiful animals have a right to live in safety and protection. Without harm or harassment from humans.

Correspondence ID: 2493

Please proceed with plans to remove the Tomales fence which blocks elk from obtaining water during times of drought. These animals need to be able to roam the park freely in order to survive. Wildlife is a joy for citizens to see in the wild, and we want our governmental agencies to support them on public lands. I agree and encourage you to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to manage natural resources, including the elk and endangered butterflies, in an eco-sensitive way.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Nancy Behrens

Correspondence ID: 2496

Elk should be free to roam on their land for their survival. Don't fence them in!

Correspondence ID: 2497

I strongly support Option B which will help Elk to roam freely and stop needless death and injuries caused by the fencing.

Correspondence ID: 2498

I support a free-roaming elk population.

Correspondence ID: 2499

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan

To: Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Again, I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan at Tomales Point.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Correspondence ID: 2500

Please tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again. The Elk were at Point Reyes long before we came from Europe and started trying to control nature. Humans are the invaders and have no right to stop the Elk movement.

Correspondence ID: 2501

The Tomales Point Area Plan can be a positive step in protecting the tule elk. Therefore I fully support Alternative B, removing the fence that confined the elk so they can roam naturally.

This alternative will also better preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point. When trying to protect a species, it is so important to consider their migration routes and any areas used during periods of stress, such as drought. The current fence has inhibited this and made the conservation effort rather useless in the long run.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Incorporating their traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point will be highly beneficial for the tule elk and creates a positive relationship with the native groups involved.

Highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies is a win/win situation.

Lastly, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. Nature involves eco systems. When these eco systems are respected and utilized properly, the outcomes far outweigh any initial costs.

Thank you for reading my input.

Correspondence ID: 2502

I am pleased to see that you have an Area Plan for Tomales Point. I very much support Alternative B which would remove the elk fence to let the elk herd roam.

The fence has caused elk to die during droughts and has required water to be provided to these animals stuck behind the fence.

I believe that allowing the tule elk to roam and behave naturally is a better plan. I also support controlling invasive plants to protect natural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2503

The elk have suffered and died for way too long.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2505

To: National Park Service

I want to thank you very much for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I have many time over the years enjoyed coming across the elk when visiting the area and would like to see them survive and thrive. They are a magnificent animal.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I also support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for for your efforts infreeing the important elk.

Dorothy McQuown, Ph.D.

Correspondence ID: 2506

Please help the Point Reyes Tule Elk survive. Open the fence so that no more elk have to needlessly die. Allow the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to participate in a new management plan for Tomales Point. They can be stewards in managing the herd and taking care of the environment to insure their long term survival. There has to be a better way to keep these animals alive.

Correspondence ID: 2508

Hard to believe it's taken this long to consider a free roaming elk herd...please implement that now.

Correspondence ID: 2513

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly support Alternative B which removes the elk fence and allows an unconfined elk herd. Alternative B will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a sound management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2516

I support the Tomales Point Area Plan as well as the tearing down of the fence there. The fence has caused a decrease in elk population which leads to other environmental problems in the area.

Correspondence ID: 2517

I urge you to do the right thing and protect these beautiful animals.

Correspondence ID: 2518

LET THESE ELK ROAM AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST...!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 2521

The elk should be allowed to roam the park freely. It is not like they are predators.

Correspondence ID: 2522

Please consider doing things in a way that doesn't negatively impact nature.

Correspondence ID: 2523

The elk should be allowed to roam the park freely. It's not like they are predators.

Correspondence ID: 2524

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2526

Dear National Park Service official,

I just wanted to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As you know, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I think it's a great idea that the National Park Service is proposing to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Although I live in Minnesota, where small elk populations are also under stewardship, I look at what you're doing in California and am optimistic about what can be done elsewhere, with the right plan. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2527

Please allow these elk to roam free

Correspondence ID: 2528

Do what is right for the elk.

Correspondence ID: 2529

Why are the Tule elk being singled out again? They deserve, and we want, a free-roaming herd of elk and we need and demand a collaborative management plan. Do better! We only have one planet, limited species, and no PLANET B!

Correspondence ID: 2530

I believe the Elks should be able to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 2532

Protect the environment

Correspondence ID: 2533

It is time mankind starts to think of the animals fighting for their rights, lives and homes. Mankind is taking over too much land and disregarding the animals that had it first. We need to let them have their freedom to roam in their own land(s) and live as God placed them.

Correspondence ID: 2534

Please let them roam free

Correspondence ID: 2535

Why is it that mankind has to destroy almost everything in nature? Please take down the fences which limit the mobility of elk in the Tomales Point Area. If we can free bears and other animals which CAN

pose danger to people, WHY can't we free elk which pose almost no danger? And BTW - I have been a member of the National Park system for many years.

Correspondence ID: 2537

support a free roaming tule elk heard at point reyes.

Correspondence ID: 2539

It is unconscionable to pen this herd, period. Humans have cause more environmental disasters under the guise of government protection. Time for the National Park Service to get out of the way.

Correspondence ID: 2541

Tear down this fence. Animals should not be confined by fences. Let them roam free. Elk need freedom.

Correspondence ID: 2542

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent Craig Kenkel

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for helping drive protection of natural and cultural resources within Point Reyes National Seashore by actually enforcing existing law and policy through this review.

I support Alternative B to remove the hideously misguided fence blocking off Pierce Point's Tule Elk Reserve – a fence itself in violation of the spirit if not the letter of the Phillip Burton Wilderness legislation – from the rest of the 71,000 acres of National Seashore habitat. This 1978 fence installation demonstrates the woefully unbalanced influence of less than 20 federally well-compensated rancher families, opposed to the millions of people who have continuously voiced support for a cattle-free National Seashore over the decades. You know this is not hyperbole, and that cattle have no place in a National Seashore with mandate to restore and protect natural wilderness, habitat, wildlife, soils, and waters.

The clearly evident and often-documented cruelty of this fence has caused significant die-offs of the magnificent and rare Tule Elk through thirst, starvation, stress, and genetic-diversity suffocation.

I will support Alternative B's proposed collaboration with Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) – IF there is publicly open and accessible transparency, information, and participation concerning all NPS, PRNS, and FIGR negotiations to apply California Native traditional ecological knowledge (TEK); tribal cultural protections; and mixed-review prescribed fire burns, invasive plant removal, and other such methods and practices within the National Seashore.

Such negotiations blocked from taxpayers' and other public scrutiny and participation – with lack of written, audio, or video/film records and archives available for review and input by the people – are outrageous, possibly illegal, and subject to additional litigation pressures by environmental and cultural watchdogs upon park unit management.

While Alternative B has its weaknesses, it is imperative that it be used as another purposeful step forward to rid the National Seashore of all its befouling cattle ranchers – all paid millions of federal tax

dollars to vacate 50-60 years ago. Then, we can begin to truly address and implement the gargantuan task of National Seashore restoration and protection – including of its lands, waters, and air, from hillsides to ocean.

Thank you, Superintendent Kenkel.

Sincerely, Mark A. Walsh

Writer, Editor, Analyst, Advocate

Correspondence ID: 2544

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!! Remove the fence and let the elk access more of the park - including water! These elk lived there before ranchers & fences. Please give them the natural space they deserve!

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2547

Hello,

My last comment was made in error .i am overtired.

Please - no fences . The elk must be permitted to roam free.

Thank you very much!

Vicki Shulof, Psy.D.

Correspondence ID: 2548

Let animals roam free!

Correspondence ID: 2549

In this time of intensifying heat with climate change, the Tule Elk are suffering from lack of water and food. Please free them. Do not condemn them to continued starvation and death. Where will they go? Perhaps some management of direction of migration, if possible, to unpopulated areas. But please do not continue to maintain a death camp on the ridge.

thank you for opening this matter to public opinion.

Correspondence ID: 2550

Please stop killing Nature and all of its wildlife

Correspondence ID: 2552

Please free the elk with Alternative B and take down the fence in Point Reyes! Tule elk deserve to roam freely in their native habitat, not cattle.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2556

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

This is an appalling decision made without any thought of the welfare of these innocent animals that like all animals face the greed and indifference of man's decision on their survival. We have a responsibility to be CARETAKERS - not to exploit them, take their homes and hunt them to extinction. Man is the only creature that kills for pleasure and continues to cause suffering and pain to the gift of wildlife! Shame on us and especially on those who have the decision of their lives in their hands.

Correspondence ID: 2558

Please!

Correspondence ID: 2559

Thank you for protecting the elk who roam in Point Reyes by your proposal of tearing down the lethal fence that could endanger them. They deserve protection and preservation as an important species.

Correspondence ID: 2560

Please collaborate with indigenous leaders in maintaining elk herds naturally. Using fences doesn't respect the animals' instincts nor the indigenous people's relationship to them. Remove the fence and seek assistance from indigenous leaders. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2561

It's time to actually provide for the survival of the Tule Elk. They must have free range and the idea of having indigenous people help guide this is a good idea.

Correspondence ID: 2562

I strongly support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. It is critical that the tule elk are allowed to freely roam in Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large die-offs of elk, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. This is irresponsible.

The Park Service should collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point. The Tribe's management plan highlights historic Tribal use of cultural resources to protect habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Please take these measures to better conserve natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2563

We cannot put it better than this:

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2564

Wild animals don't recognize political or social boundaries. We need to adapt to nature's needs as we share this place we call earth.

Correspondence ID: 2565

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I STRONGLY SUPPORT Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Judith Smith

Correspondence ID: 2566

The Pt. Reyes elk herd needs to freely roam the park instead of being confined by a fence that prevents them from behaving naturally and finding adequate water during drought. The genetic diversity has suffered because of the fence weakening the herd. I think the proposed collaborative plan between the park service and Federated Indians of Grayson Rancheria is an excellent idea in order to utilize traditional ecological knowledge in the management of resources. Invasive non-native vegetation also needs to be controlled in order to enhance natural habitat for the elk and butterflies. Thank you for trying to make a better home for the Pt. Reyes elk herd and for taking care of the park.

Correspondence ID: 2567

I want to reiterate my support, previously voiced, for allowing the Point Reyes Tule elk herd to roam free.

Correspondence ID: 2570

Please remove the elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 2572

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

STOP WASTING TIME AND REMOVE THE FENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

THE ELK BELONG THERE - STOP STARVING THEM OUT.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2573

Please allow the Point Reyes Tule elk population to live and operate in it's own natural ecosystem. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2574

So important!

Correspondence ID: 2575

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Once more wasting our country's life resources thru poor management thru attitudes of waste and disrespect. Please enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2579

I support the plan of letting the Tule Elk to roam freely by removing the fence. It is unnatural for these large mammals to be confined. Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 2580

Please support a plan that allows for a free-roaming Tule Elk herd. I appreciate any protection of these animals and collaboration with indigenous native tribes to enhance the health of the environment.

Correspondence ID: 2582

Help the environment

Correspondence ID: 2583

I support a Free roaming elk herd without fences.

Correspondence ID: 2585

the refusal to let be what is because ranchers want to take over the beautiful Point Reyes area so they can make money is just heartbreaking. Many, many people hike or walk through the area, locals, tourists, you name it. The elk have been there for a very long time.

But, because money talks at the expense of the earth and everything wonderful on it, the National Parks and Recreation will hand everything over to the cow owners. And we have more of the same destruction and loss of natural resources because just a select few want it.

There have been numerous complaints about this issue over the past 10 years at least and they are always ignored.

What is the matter with people who will do anything to make a profit? Anything! Give wildlife a break!

Don't they see what humans are doing to this planet?

Don't kid yourselves, this might seem a small issue to the select few living for a profit no matter what, but this kind of thing has been going on all over the planet. Just do a little research and you'll find how much land and how many species have become or are becoming extinct because of greed.

Wake up!

Correspondence ID: 2587

I was very sad to hear that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2588

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. In my experience Native Americans do a much better job of providing a great visitor experience in wilderness areas.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2591

As human, we should be humane. We should protect wildlife and all life on our planet. Any unwarranted death especially if avoidable, should hold accountability for those that failed to protect, or whose actions or inaction caused the death.

Correspondence ID: 2592

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. No wild animal should be fenced out of its natural range.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2595

Would really appreciate your defending these elks to roam free without the fences so that another species of animals would not be on the endangered list.

Thank you so very much.

Correspondence ID: 2598

Please support this cause.

Correspondence ID: 2600

For crying out loud: PLEASE TEAR DOWN THE BLOODY FENCE SO THE TULE ELK CAN ROAM AS THEY NATURALLY DO AND LIVE THEIR LIVES WITHOUT HUMAN INTERFERENCE AND RESTRICTION.

THANK YOU.

Correspondence ID: 2601

Having visited the area and seeing the elk behind fences was a big disappointment while the ranchers are running cattle on their holdings inside the park. I've visited a fair number of our parks and this is the only time I witnessed a wild herd of elk fenced in and subject to all the vagaries of nature without the ability to move freely in the face of natural disasters. What's the point of having them around if they're not allowed to be the wild creatures we portray them to be but instead are just like the livestock of the ranchers. Its actually pretty sad and should end as soon as possible.

Correspondence ID: 2604

I strongly support a free-roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 2605

I hope that there can be space for the Elk, while maintaining at least some of the ranches within the National Park

Correspondence ID: 2606

The elk herd has been artificially confined in a fraction of the space of their habitat it would normally roam in. Clearly, that has proven to be a very costly decision for the elk, many of which have died. The fences need to be removed so they can roam freely and have the ability to deal with adverse climate impacts without being trapped in a prison from which they cannot escape.

Correspondence ID: 2607

Let them run free - it was their land before ours. All animals deserve to be treated with respect. They are living beings also.

Correspondence ID: 2608

I am writing to express my full support for Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. The elk herd should not be restricted within these artificial barriers and should not be confined based on a prioritization of livestock interests. Alternative B will also help preserve the wilderness at Tomales Point by naturally grazing the landscape.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2609

I'm glad to hear that your organization has found a way forward that will be more natural for the elk and restoring for the tribe that will help you with that.

Correspondence ID: 2613

FREE THE POINT REYES TULE ELK NOW!

The National Park Service had no business allowing the cow ranchers to stay since they were paid MILLIONS of tax payer money to leave!

Now they want to bring in pigs and goats to pollute the land and water and beach in worse than it is now!

Point Reyes is a NATIONAL PARK not private land for cows. A NATIONAL PARK is for the enjoyment for the people not polluting cattle!

Correspondence ID: 2615

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

For these reasons I support Alternative B, Letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

I also support the agency continuing to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 2618

Elk need room to roam. Put science and wildlife before subsidising ranchers grazing cows on national land.

Correspondence ID: 2619

Free the time elk to roam. Take the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 2620

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the Park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic deaths of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2621

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2623

I support the free ranging Elk Plan.

Correspondence ID: 2625

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As a long time Northern California resident I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2628

Let these endangered Elk live. Let them roam free so they can find water.

Correspondence ID: 2629

I care deeply about our National Parks and Beautiful Places and always hope you will "do the right thing" to preserve The Wild. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. God bless our beloved wildlife our wild places, and YOU for protecting these precious entities.

Correspondence ID: 2630

I believe the Park Service's proposed plan to remove the Tomales Point elk fence. Removing the fence will make it easier for the herd of elk to survive, to mix with elk of other herds to increase their genetic viability and to help preserve this herd from extinction, which it has already come close too in the past. Let the elk live like they should, without the fence.

Thank you, Bob P.

Correspondence ID: 2631

I simply wanted to let you know how my Grandparents lived in San Francisco as immigrants, from Italy, and both my Mother and myself, were born there.

Driving around INCLUDED Point Reyes, and all Sacred Animals living in this Sacred Space!

Why I THANK YOU DEARLY for protecting them,

as All animals on this Earth are Sacred...

Correspondence ID: 2633

Ow

Correspondence ID: 2634

Please allow the elk to roam free without restrictive fencing that causes their untimely deaths.

Correspondence ID: 2636

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach, refusing to provide food or water....so ranchers squatting on OUR land can make money at our expense.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Correspondence ID: 2637

Please let the elk run free! They were here first! It is our responsibility to ensure their safety and healthful existence. It is your responsibility as our designated agents to act accordingly. Thanking you in advance, and wishing you well!

Correspondence ID: 2639

I am writing because I am concerned with the ongoing inhumane treatment of the Free Point Reyes Tule Elk. The elk are kept in a fenced area without a regular source of water. They are even prevented from having water provided to them. All of this is due to cattle being allowed to ruin the park while the wildlife that it is meant for is allowed to die so cattle can graze on their land. My understanding is that you may remove the fence so the elk may roam the park as many of us see as appropriate. You appear to have attempted to move this group of elk to die out, so the cattle don't have any competition and the cattlemen won't pay what is appropriate for the land and the public will no longer know what is happening. The elk should be roaming and increasing their genetic pool rather than have it continue to shrink as they are maintained in a small area where they can be killed off.

I support the Park Service's management plan that would have the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources,

Correspondence ID: 2640

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect natural and cultural resources while considering a new management direction for the confined elk herd.

As I believe all animals should be free, I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Alternative B will free Tule elk, allowing them to roam naturally, which will best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions (which will only increase with global warming), required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes should have a management plan that lets elk roam free to behave naturally within the park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Please free the elk!

Correspondence ID: 2641

they need natural room to roam, not a fenced-in zoo environment.

If at all possible, make their space what they are used to and need.

Correspondence ID: 2642

The elk should be allowed to graze and roam throughout the park for their own safety and health and to be seen by people who come there. To hear that you are considering their freedom is good to know, but the fact that they were confined to a smaller area with less resources for survival is cruel and not acceptable on any level! Please allow the proper management and care of these beautiful creatures in your care!! VK

Correspondence ID: 2644

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2645

Please remove the fence to allow the Elk to reach a water source in drought conditions.

Correspondence ID: 2646

The Park Service must tear down the wall! Elk are iconic . Humans depended on them for tens of thousands of years. Why is modern humanity so stingy about sharing our land with the great herds? Most large mammals are gone from the earth because of humans. Please take down the fence and restore the habitat. Also my dad was a great hunter and sportsman- it would have broken his heart to see what is happening to wildlife in America.

Stephanie McQueen

Correspondence ID: 2648

Wild animals deserve to be left in the wild -- not penned up. You are cruelly killing those magnificent elk by penning them up. They deserve protection -- or at least being allowed to enjoy freedom.

Correspondence ID: 2649

Give wildlife a life without guns killing. I enjoy wildlife and nature, so please spare life of all creatures.

Correspondence ID: 2653

Thank you for arriving at a plan for conservation and management of Tomales Park. I support option B, including removal of the sometimes deadly fence, allowing the elk herd to roam more naturally. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2654

Animals should be as free as humans

Correspondence ID: 2655

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Gopinath

Correspondence ID: 2656

Free the elk! I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an elk herd. Wild creatures need to be free. Domesticated creatures also need to be free.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2657

Please let the Tomales elk roam free. They are made artificially vulnerable by the fence that traps them. Walls are not natural. Please engage in a co management plan that respects the animals rights and the human capacity to care for them! They should not be imprisoned.

Thank you for your time.

-Dr. Adriana Garriga-López

Correspondence ID: 2658

I support a free roaming elk heard!

Correspondence ID: 2660

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2662

Please do what is best for the Elk to help their survival.

Correspondence ID: 2668

At long last please allow the TULE ELK to roam wherever in POINT REYES.

Correspondence ID: 2669

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that protects natural resources and considers a new management direction for the elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, which removes the elk fence and allows the herd to roam freely.

The elk fence has caused significant die-offs during droughts, required emergency water interventions, and reduced genetic viability by isolating the herd. Point Reyes deserves a plan that lets the elk roam and behave naturally.

I am also in favor of the proposals that control invasive plants in order to better protect natural resources.

Thank you for giving these majestic elk the ability to roam wild and free!

Correspondence ID: 2671

I fully support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Forcing elk to stay within a fenced area that does not provide enough water is inhumane and poor management.

We must do better.

Correspondence ID: 2672

Please remove fencing that maims and kills elk. Please work to help all animals live safely.

Correspondence ID: 2674

As a stakeholder, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2675

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

Correspondence ID: 2676

Please do not injure our elk population needlessly

Correspondence ID: 2678

Tule elk deserve protection. It's not all about the human species.

Correspondence ID: 2679

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2680

Please tear down the fence. Animals deserve to live on the planet too.

Correspondence ID: 2681

Can we please start realizing that nearly everything we try to improve in nature, we usually end up making much, much worse? A fence in the wilderness? Really now. It's been proven that it cuts off elk from resources, AND THEY'RE DYING. Do we really need to submit talking points in this case? Shouldn't it just be acknowledged to be a failure, and reverse everything?

Correspondence ID: 2683

Please eliminate all enclosures and fencing that are harmful to elk. Thank you for ensuring their futures.

Correspondence ID: 2687

I support the deconstruction of the fencing confining the Tule elk herd in the Tomales Point area. A free roaming herd should be the norm, and must certainly constitute a critical element of a healthy environment. Increasingly, we need to use all resources and means at hand to sustain and maintain local wildlife during this challenging era of climate change. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2688

I am writing in support of the Tomales Point Area Plan, Alternative B, with its proposed new management plan for the the national park's tule elk herd. The removal of the elk fence will allow the elk to better survive during drought years and to mix with other elk in the park to keep the herd genetically viable. I am also in favor of incorporating Graton Rancheria's views on ecological management of the Tomales Point area and of the Area Plan's proposal to control invasive plants. Thank you, Debbie Patrick

Correspondence ID: 2690

The Hu-Man Creature likes jails and prison, but the rest of the Animal Kingdom is to roam free and unencumbered by human traps gates and all confinements down. The history of humanity is ugly stupid cruel violent. This planet is of and for the Plant and Animal Kingdoms; the human creature is but a tourist from somewhere far far away a long long time ago. If only we could return them...

Correspondence ID: 2691

Do not isolate and starve elks!

Correspondence ID: 2692

Please protect the wildlife. When we lose them we will never get them back. Please. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2693

Your fence has been an affront to our wildlife, which has always batted last, and to Americans like me who have been angry about it since its beginning.

Please removal the fence. Let the Tomales Point elk herd expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water. Any other action is abusive, anti-wildlife, and horrible PR for the Park Service, for whom I HAVE VOLUNTEERED FOR YEARS. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2694

The woods are for wild animals, not people.

Correspondence ID: 2695

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Please allow the elk to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 2696

I could go on and on and tell you how excited I am that you have prepared a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources, but you know all about your plan and what a tremendous forward movement it represents!

I mean, forward thinking, how cool is that?

I totally support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This frees the tule elk and best preserves the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I mean, freedom, isn't that what all life is about?

The Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point is great creative use of Tribal knowledge and expertise.

I mean, creative approaches, just terrific.

The management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies fits properly into the whole collaboration.

Finally, I'm all about the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. This rounds out the ecological angle.

Thank you for freeing the beautiful elk.

Correspondence ID: 2698

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2705

Please let the elk run free. No fences that can hurt them.

Correspondence ID: 2708

Let the animals roam freely!

Correspondence ID: 2710

Thank you for supporting and restoring the Tomales Point Area. I strongly support Alternative B, which will remove fencing to restore tule elk free range so that they can reach water sources, mate outside the confined herd, and provide a balanced ecosystem. The NPS plan must include protections for endangered habitat and butterflies.

The NPS should consult with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to understand the tribal needs, heritage, and obtain knowledge from them about the land. Native Americans are a major resource with land management.

Removing the fence is a great improvement!

Sincerely, Nancy Linder

Correspondence ID: 2712

Protect elk

Correspondence ID: 2713

Thanks for helping the Elk survive.

Correspondence ID: 2714

Wanted to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Sincerely

Susan Fanning

Correspondence ID: 2717

Dear National Park Service,

I wish to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for helping the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 2719

Numerous mailings I receive say this fence is counterproductive and cruel. I imagine that it was meant to help control poaching. I hope that their freedom and their safety can be combined.

Please listen to Center for Biological Diversity and other trustworthy groups. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2721

Please Protect the Elks.

Correspondence ID: 2723

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Alternative B will remove a fence that has confined the elk to one small part of the Seashore, preventing the herd from migrating to find water and food sources during droughts that has led to severe die-offs.

Last, I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 2725

Many species have been at the brink of extinction - some have come back. Help all which have, especially the "big ones"

Correspondence ID: 2727

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Maintaining a healthy, genetically-diverse herd is an important management strategy and one that should be prioritized. The Tomales Point elk fence has required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals and has caused periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions. Keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park has decreased genetic diversity which in turn adversely affects the health and viability of the herd. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that provides the best habitat and natural resources for the elk.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for choosing a responsible management plan.

Correspondence ID: 2728

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2731

Free the tule elk at Point Reyes!!!

Correspondence ID: 2732

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan.

I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This will free the tule elk and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes needs a plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support working with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Please control invasive plants and protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2733

Please free the Point Reyes Tule Elk that have been confined in a fenced area for far too long already! These elk are subject to inbreeding and occasional dieoffs from drought and/or starvation. Please allow these magnificent famous worldwide Elk to roam free with surrounding elk herds! Do the right thing!

Correspondence ID: 2740

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 2742

to keep elk healthy they need to roam.

What a shame to kill them with a fence.

Correspondence ID: 2743

Please let these majestic creatures roam freely as they should be without any restrictions laid in place. There should be no man made barriers to trap these elk and let them starve to death. This is inhumane and a cruel practice that needs to stop now.

Correspondence ID: 2745

Free the Tule Elk; demolish all barriers.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2747

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Our wildlife needs protection, not elimination.

Correspondence ID: 2751

Hi,

I think it is important to allow the Elk to roam without being fenced in.

Thanks

Correspondence ID: 2752

It's time to open more space at Pt. Reyes to the elk herd while implementing a responsible management plan to prevent overpopulation or other problems.

Correspondence ID: 2753

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2757

The continuing existence of most wildlife species in the modern age is often determined by how humans plan new proposals for business, housing, recreation, and much more.

When we think about new developments, we should anticipate and look for alternatives to significantly limiting or destroying animal and plant habitat. There are many laws requiring that we routinely consider how the impact of proposed changes will affect the environment.

Let's remember that animal life matters and to prioritize its protection. I believe most people in this country favor a mutual coexistence between human and animal species.

We all share one world, and it is so much better for all with abundance and diversity.

Correspondence ID: 2758

I have commented on this issue many times in many ways over the last several years.. Having been and seen the land management within the park, my wife and I were so disappointed that the National Park Service could be so irresponsible in the management of Tule Elk.

It is long past time, to correct this wrong.

It is time to let Tule Elk roam free and to restore public land to natural condition.

Clinton Nagel

Correspondence ID: 2759

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I have been sightseeing and backpacking in the Point Reyes peninsula, and have seen an elk herd there. I strongly favor allowing the elk to roam naturally.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Sharon Fritsch

Correspondence ID: 2762

The fences are KILLING everything. Manage this properly.

Correspondence ID: 2764

Dear National Park Service Superintendent,

Tear the wall (fence) down!

Thank you. Let the elk roam. Let them encourage wildlife growth and diversity. Let nature thrive.

Roman A. Weis

Correspondence ID: 2767

Please rescue this out they have done nothing to deserve this

Correspondence ID: 2768

This appears to be an opportunity that is a neat and right thing to do.

I can figure it out and I flunked out of The College of Forestry @ Syracuse University in 1961.

Correspondence ID: 2770

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 2774

STOP ALL INHUMANE TREATMENTS OF ALL ANIMALS EVERYWHERE.

Correspondence ID: 2775

I strongly support Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements that aim to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2776

Sorry - we need to care for all earth's critters. We need balance. All of us together can either take care of one another or we can show our might and take up all the space and destroy ourselves too.

Correspondence ID: 2777

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2779

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required

emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2782

This is a good plan. Put politics aside and adopt it.

Correspondence ID: 2783

I strongly support Alternative B, which would remove the fence and allow the elk to have access to forage and water even during times of drought. The fence has caused suffering along with unnecessary deaths from dehydration and starvation. This is a national park, and as such, wildlife such as the elk and endangered butterflies should have priority over cattle and ranching interests. I also support collaboration with Native American representatives to ensure that cultural as well as ecological considerations are addressed.

Correspondence ID: 2784

Please allow the elk to roam freely...thank you for considering in tearing down the harmful fence-that would be wonderful.

Correspondence ID: 2786

I strongly support Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2787

Thanks

Correspondence ID: 2788

The Tomales Point Area Plan finally deals with a bad ARTIFICIAL situation where animals are dying because Man has decreed where they shall live. Everything is a compromise because there are too many humans with too many perceived needs. Considering how many of US there are, and how few other mammals left, the balance needs to be shifted back to give them a place to live (all year round).

Much worse than that is the ongoing effects of climate change. Freeing up the animals is the present need, but we all need to keep an open mind to future changes that will be necessary just for the animals to survive.

Correspondence ID: 2791

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2792

Whether it be the passenger pigeon, the Carolina Parakeet, or the American Bison, we as a nation have a deplorable track record when it comes to saving/managing our wildlife. As Rachel Carson once intimated...when you destroy the natural world, do you still maintain the right to call yourself civilized?

Correspondence ID: 2794

Civilized sane people PROTECT animals. Deranged monsters abuse, hunt, trap, torture and kill them. Our government provides agencies to protect our national parks and wildlife.

I fear that the often forget their goal and protect farmers with free land and hunters with deranged minds. I urge the various agencies to {PROTECT the animals) and keep the monsters out of our parks, etc.

Correspondence ID: 2798

The Tule Elk roam free in my rural N. Mendocino County area of Laytonville, where I have not heard any reports of troubles from them, though they are frequently spotted.

Correspondence ID: 2799

Get rid of the fence. Let these animals get out and access the water and space they need. Quit letting the ranchers rule our parks and public places, please.

Correspondence ID: 2801

You are charged with the stewardship of our truly natural resources, including our wild animals and their habitats. Please do your best to nurture their environment and their free movement within.

Correspondence ID: 2802

Nature is allowed to roam free. Period.

That is their birthright.

These majestic beings MUST be given this opportunity to live the REAL WAY....

We have no right to harm them with these ridiculous fences.

Humans must be the ones to protect this planet, Her inhabitants & use COMMON SENSE.

There is NO ROOM for ignorance & stupidity.

Blessings to the innocent ones.

SGMKJ

Correspondence ID: 2803

I grew up in Marin Co. and have seen firsthand the damage done by cattle at Pt..Reyes. Their presence should be limited while at the same time the Elk should be less restricted. The cattle are heavy animals and they are pounding the soil into inches of dust and manure which eventually wash into the surrounding waters. You can't tell me there are no others place for cows than a National Recreation Area. It embarrasses me when I bring friends out there. Meanwhile the elk pay the price.

Correspondence ID: 2804

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As someone who has visited the Point Reyes National Seashore on a number of occasions, I am quite interested in the successful implementation of a new Tomales Point Area Plan. I back the proposed Alternative B. Please remove the Tule Elk fencing which has caused hardship in draught and the necessity to haul water to the enclosed area.

Allowing the Tule Elk to roam freely will improve genetic viability and balance the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Along with Alternative B, I also encourage the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. They have the historical ecological knowledge of the area and should be included in all types of management planning. Including historical and current information about the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in the plans should be considered mandatory!

I urge the Park Service to utilize all available methods to enhance habitats for the Tule Elk and for the endangered Myrtle's silver spot butterfly, including but not limited to carefully monitored prescribed fire and research burns, and nontoxic control of invasive plants. Planting of both large and adult stage flora for the Myrtle's silver spot should be part of the plan.

Thank you for considering my input for such a special place,

Tara Dubarr

Correspondence ID: 2805

PLEASE PROTECT THE TULE ELK.

THANK YOU, KAREN EMANUEL

Correspondence ID: 2807

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

There is no good reason to confine these elk. Point Reyes is a National Park where the welfare of the animals that live there should be an important part of park management. The elk fence should be removed.

Correspondence ID: 2809

Every animal should be able to ROAM FREE AND LUVE FREE as intended

Correspondence ID: 2811

At this point, any action to restore the ecosystem back to what it once was should be taken .

Correspondence ID: 2812

Hello,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support

Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

This seems the most reasonable plan, and it is time to make the change.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2814

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

The fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management. I support highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 2815

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has confined the natural elk range by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the following;

- The Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.
- The management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.
- The proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you considering my comments supporting Alternative B to allow the tule elk to roam freely.

Dave

Correspondence ID: 2817

The animals have the right to a free-range lifestyle, one that doesn't involve hunting of any kind. No fences that harm animals as they attempt to leap over them and they end up skewered onto them. There is too much of that villainy.

Correspondence ID: 2819

The Tule Elk herd is part of what makes Point Reyes such a special place. So I am glad you have developed a Tomales Point Area plan which would better serve the herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

When the elk are fenced in they are unable to forage adequately during drought and other adverse conditions. It also hampers their genetic diversity since they are unable to mix with other elk in the park. They would benefit as would the park from letting the elk roam freely.

I am also glad that you propose collaborating with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. This will strengthen the park as a whole and be respectful of the original human inhabitants.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2820

Dear Sirs

Please give Point Reyes Tule Elks their freedom. .This is the only compassionate way to treat them.

Your show of kindness will show to the world your great compassion.

Yours faithfully

Ong Family n Friends

WP Tai

B Tai

O Tai

Correspondence ID: 2822

Let the elk move in their natural territory.

Correspondence ID: 2824

Elk should be allowed to roam freely within the park. it's time to change the rules.

Correspondence ID: 2825

Fencing in wild animals is inexcusable. What are you thinking. Tear down those fences and let the elk live their lives!

Correspondence ID: 2826

Take down the fence, save the elk!

Correspondence ID: 2828

I approve of your new plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Tule elk will have access to water during times of drought. There have been high numbers of die offs during drought in the past. Your plan to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is a wonderful idea. It wil utilize their knowledge of ecology and respecting nature and the land. The environment for the elk, and endangered butterflies will be enhanced.

Please adopt these plans. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

Roberta Kessler

Correspondence ID: 2829

Thank you for the opportunity to submit input on this matter. I urge you to remove any fencing which interferes with the Tulle Elk being able to roam freely within Point Reyes. The current situation has resulted in countless elk deaths, and due to the endangered status of this species any deaths have the potential to cause harm to the genetic diversity within the species. Allowing the elk to roam freely, and working with the local Native American tribe regarding management, will also be beneficial to the ecosystem, allowing better balance among resident species.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2832

Having once lived in Mendocino county for 40 years I've felt privileged to see the Tule elk on drives through the counties of Northern California. Knowing that this fencing will most assuredly reduce the population of the elk from reduced food availability and their imprisonment of their reduced land to graze. This fence was a terrible idea when it was just bandied about but it's actual presence it's even worse. This Tule elk herd is treasured by all of Northern California and I want this fence gone. These elk are an endangered species and they should be treated as such.

Correspondence ID: 2833

I support the proposal for a free roaming elk herd and the collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria.

Correspondence ID: 2834

We are seeing more and more attacks of wildlife in this country. The endangered species has lost protection & Wildlife is in more danger every day. Please protect these animals from unscrupulous politicians and hunters just looking for another trophy.

Correspondence ID: 2835

It is about time that the elk be set free. It is a travesty of justice to keep elk constrained while cattle roam free and have water available even if the greatly pollute everything while trampling the native vegetation. At least please adopt the plan that requires to free the elk.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 2836

Idiots.

Correspondence ID: 2837

Please do everything possible to help animals thrive in a natural environment. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2842

We are part of an ecosystem and we humans need to stop messing it up!

Correspondence ID: 2844

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please tear down the lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again and enter into

a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Jane Hoffman

Correspondence ID: 2848

Please allow the Tule Elk to roam free in Point Reyes and remove the fence and please support a collaborative management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Correspondence ID: 2849

Dear Park Service,

I support free-roaming elk and the collaborative management plan with the Federation Indians of Grafton Rancheria. These elk should not suffer and die because they are trapped. Please don't share publicly my personally identifiable information.

Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 2853

Common Sense Prevails??

Let the Tule elk roam free. Get the cattle grazing our public lands out while at it. TxS

Correspondence ID: 2854

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2855

I absolutely support a free roaming elkherd. Penning them in a smaller area, especially during times of drought, is a cruel death sentence.

Correspondence ID: 2858

Take the fence down !!! Stop the dying of the elk it is senseless, inhumane and wrong !!!

Correspondence ID: 2859

Please don't restrict the Tule elk. I come all the way from Massachusetts to hike Point Reyes and one of the main reasons my wife and I do is the opportunity to see these awesome animals in their natural environment.

Correspondence ID: 2860

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required

emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 2861

Save the elks-

Correspondence ID: 2863

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Correspondence ID: 2866

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the Tule Elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2867

Animals in the wild need to be in the wild and not chained up.

Correspondence ID: 2868

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 2869

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2872

Megafauna were a keystone species throughout the world, and many ecosystems have yet to adapt to their disappearance. Allowing elk, some of the last megafauna on the West coast, thrive and expand with a collaborative and community based management plan is going to be the healthy and most beneficial management plan that is proposed.

Correspondence ID: 2873

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again!

Thanks for realizing the importance of these animals roam freely!

Diane Lesser

Correspondence ID: 2874

Let the elk roam free. Support and protect them.

Correspondence ID: 2879

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Appriciae the consideration regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan to better insure the safety of natural and cultural resources and focuses on a new approach for the park's confined elk herd. I'm writing to convey my

support for "Alternative B", removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This method seem to allow the tule elk their best chance at a more natural life while preserving the habitat of Tomales Point.

Ot's quite obvious the The Tomales Point elk fence has contributed to herd die-offs during water shortages in the area, and has along with other stresses is decreasing the genetic quality of the population. Point Reyes need to deploy a plan focusing on getting these elk roaming freely through the national park, to make the most of their instinctual behaviors

Secondly, I want to declares my strong support of an official collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and the Park. It's crucial to incorporate the traditional ecological knowledge these tribes have developed into the management of Tomales Point into the future.

Appreciate you listening to the public on these matters to help conserve these important wildlife, and ultimately the environment itself.

Correspondence ID: 2880

Please help the wildlife....

Correspondence ID: 2881

Please protect the Point Reyes Tule Elk and let them roam free without the risk of electrocution by an electric fence.

Correspondence ID: 2883

I strongly support the widest safe range for the Point Reys elk. They should be supported with food and water if needed. Please enhance their habitat to the fullest extent possible.

Correspondence ID: 2888

The Elk need to be Free.

Correspondence ID: 2889

It's clear that the Tomales Point elk need more space to roam freely. Please make sure they have that generous extra space.

Correspondence ID: 2890

Why have people turned on animals? They are beautiful creatures that have taken care of our environment and biodiversity

Correspondence ID: 2891

Thank you for allowing public comments regarding this matter.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd, regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan because it will better protect natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

There are aspects of the Plan as it stands that defy good sense. For example, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Not a great plan at the end of the day if the goal is to protect biodiversity.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. The proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources are sound as well since they would strengthen biodiversity as a whole.

Thank you for doing all you can to free these elk and improve the health of all life.

Correspondence ID: 2895

ELK AND ALL ANIMALS SHOULD BE ABLE TO LIVE THEIR LIVES ROAMING FREE!!

Correspondence ID: 2898

Our wildlife and national parks are very important to me and I applaud the National Park Service's serious consideration in taking down that fence and letting elk roam free. Thank you.

Linda I. Hixson

Correspondence ID: 2899

I am for this or I wouldn't be filling out all this information!!

Correspondence ID: 2901

Pls. support free-roaming elk! They can't survive droughts when fenced in.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2902

I am a former resident of the San Francisco Bay Area and have been following debates about the tule elk for quite some time. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. The elk need and deserve full access to the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for putting together this plan and for prioritizing the needs of the elk!

Correspondence ID: 2904

How awful to hear about the conditions these Elk live in. They are big majestic animals cornered and perhaps thirsty or even unable to graze enough. Sometimes I contribute to the Park Service but you never know how they really operate. I am glad someone saw what you do with that fence and taking it down is the right solution, unless it puts them in danger. Then you need a better solution. People should think of what is best for the animals. Who will we protect when climate change comes for us? That too is a possibility. It is not a solution when people gawk at Bison every year putting them in danger too. There should be one large park designated to preserving wildlife where people are not allowed. It should not be funded by tourism. Maybe in our taxes or better by billionaire taxes. If the animals are in a proper environment that is always the wise choice.

Correspondence ID: 2906

Please tear down the fence! The elk should be allowed to roam free.thank you very much.

Correspondence ID: 2911

I have been worried about the condition of the Point Reyes elk for years because of the fence that was responsible for elk deaths and because I don't think Point Reyes is the proper place for cattle ranching or the native elk should be sacrificed to benefit cattle ranchers.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. They are desperately in need of a new plan and I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, save elk lives and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. The fact that the fence was ever built is appalling and the suffering the elk endured is inexcusable. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I think including them is absolutely the right thing to do and their deep ecological knowledge will be very helpful to Point Reyes. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. Seeing their suffering over the past years has been unbearable and this plan gives me a great sense of relief.

Correspondence ID: 2913

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2914

As a hiker that has visited the Tule Elk Refuge as well as other elk refuges in Wyoming and Colorado I understand the importance of freedom of movement for these beautiful creatures.

Correspondence ID: 2915

I completely support tearing down the fence that restricts the elk, and the formation of a cooperative management plan with the Native Americans (Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria).

Correspondence ID: 2917

Tear down the lethal fence and let the Tule elk roam freely in the park once again.

Correspondence ID: 2920

PLEASE, PLEASE TEAR DOWN THAT FENCE TO SAVE OUR BELOVED TULE ELK!

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for this proposed plan. I hope to once again before I die to see these beautiful animals roaming freely, and I'm already age 80. Please hurry.

Correspondence ID: 2922

I am writing to urge you to get rid of the fence penning the Elk in the part in. Point Reyes is a natural area, not a zoo, and this fence keeps the Elk in conditions that threaten their survival and trap them unnecessarily. Without the fence they can return fully to the ecosystem to which they belong and to which they are necessary. Please get rid of this outdated and inhuman obstacle to a thriving Elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 2924

Please approve Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2925

The elk in Point Reyes National Park need to roam free and be a part of the ecology of the total park. This would reduce the overcrowding in the small restricted area, but will require some sort of population control in the future. Predators or some other control mechanism must be planned for now. Predators would seem the best solution.

Correspondence ID: 2927

I am glad you will be allowing the Free Point Tule Elk to roam as they require in order to find adequate food and water since our erratic climate will change both over time.

Please monitor the growth of unwanted vegetation to allow our native, healthy vegetation to survive as a source of sustenance also.

I support Alternative B heartily.

Thank you Ruth Snediker

Correspondence ID: 2929

Environmental protection and species preservation are among the issues most important to me as an active and engaged voter who hasn't missed an election in 33 years.

Please do all you can to honor and protect this California native.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2931

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Tell the Park Service you support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

We're providing sample comments below, but please submit a message in your own words through the National Park Service website.

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2932

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk and working to protect our wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 2933

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

This cruel fence has been solely responsible for the deaths of many elk are trapped behind this fence, with no reasonable, means to find proper water supplies and proper healthy forage.

The national park service is not designed to provide ranching services with ranching accommodations inside of Public lands.

It is unacceptable and inhumane for this fence to continue to exist. This is causing massive pollution within the region within the coast and manure spreaders have to come out just to manage the massive amounts of waste from capitalist cattle ranchers private property.

I am urging the national park service to take down the fence that is a massive tragedy of unbelievably cruel means.

National parklands wildlife must be able to thrive and exist in their natural habitat, without intervention from cattle ranchers.

Cattle ranchers can take their private property home where they belong not on public lands. We're obviously killing hundreds of tule elk overtime is a prime example of why this should not occur.

It has been a long deeply saddened experience to watch these animals literally die due to not having water access.

The troughs that have been installed or a toxic waste. No animals should be left with that as their only source of water. It's full of bacteria, fungus algae it is non-potable water.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. The alcove also been suspected of not having proper forage, also leading to greater incidence of disease and death within Tulio population. The cattle on point Reyes have spread Johnes disease to the wild elk which has been also attributed to many elk deaths. To me, it is unacceptable that the national park service would cater to cattle ranchers to this extent to build this ridiculous monstrosity of a fence. This fence needs to come down, and we break down any To me it is unacceptable that the national Park service would cater to cattle ranches to this extent to build this ridiculous monstrosity of a fence. This fence needs to come down and we break down any procedures of the Cal ranchers used to cry and moan up to park management for unrealistic unacceptable considerations. process that the cattle ranchers used to cry and moan up to Park management for unrealistic unacceptable considerations. Cattle ranchers can't take what they have been offered that they can take their cattle home. They're only on public land because of the massive amounts of welfare that they've been given for these leases.

Correspondence ID: 2934

I strongly support Alternative B, let the elk roam free, instead of a large cage.

Correspondence ID: 2935

Please take care of these beautiful creatures as they are a one of a kind and deserve your thoughtful management and preservation.

Thank you so much.

Correspondence ID: 2936

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Sir or Madam,

Thank you so much for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support

Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2937

I support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our BELOVED elk.

Correspondence ID: 2938

Please remove the stupid elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 2939

The Elk Herd should be allowed to roam free, not fenced

Correspondence ID: 2940

It is a crime to artificially confine these elk to an environment that is subject to drought. Please free them from this constraint

Correspondence ID: 2941

FOR GOD SAKES DO THE RIGHT THING THIS IS UNCONSCIONABLE

Correspondence ID: 2943

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of

letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 2944

Let the elk roam! The fence is an outdated approach and we need to return these overhunted creatures back to their territory. The collaborative approach will integrate the traditional tribal approach and the modern environmental approach. Alternative B is the way to go. Act now!

Correspondence ID: 2945

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I have been following this issue for some time and now thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2948

It is cruel to confine the elk herd to such a limited range where they cannot get adequate food and water.

Correspondence ID: 2949

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you, Michelle Mitchell

Correspondence ID: 2950

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2951

Thanks for the Tomales Point Area Plan that is better is people and elk. Please choose Alternative B, and remove the elk fence and stop confining elk. This is good for the wilderness.

The loss of genetic diversity and the deaths of elk caused by the fence are terrible and the fence must be removed.

I also you to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and have them do the things they have done for millennia there and make sure their cultural resources are protected and celebrated. Lastly, I also support controlling invasive plants.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 2952

I cannot tolerate any unfair or abusive treatment of animals in any circumstances.

Correspondence ID: 2953

The elk should not be subjected to a fence that kills that kills them. They are meant to be free-roaming.

Correspondence ID: 2957

I wholeheartedly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Removing the fence is the most humane way to address the situation. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for caring for the elk, our environment, and the people.

Correspondence ID: 2958

The only thing I don't understand is why/how you can allow hunting of such a rare Elk and why you would allow cattle in the park. The Elk have seniority. IMO people should not be allowed to graze on public lands. They should graze/feed/run their cattle on their own damn property not ruin public lands/water. Cattle, sheep, goats are destructive and they spread all kinds of disease. In fact these Point Reyes ranchers Cattle infected the Tule Elk with John's disease! and had/have the freaking nerve to push the park to place the Elk behind a fences or to kill any that wandered onto the ranch leases.

To hell with the cattle/dairy ranchers. Get em off OUR LAND nationwide.

Ranchers everywhere are killing off all our Wolves, Bears, Cougars and anything else they don't like on OUR PUBLIC LANDS, fed and state. Pure greed and selfishness.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2960

It is past time to recognize the effects of humans and climate change on all wildlife. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Please do all possible to manage all plans in the most efficient

kind, animal / elk friendly ways possible for the benefit of humans and wildlife alike. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 2961

Let's stop killing the Tomales Point elk herd. The elk fence is not a part of a natural environment.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2962

Stop killing nature!

Correspondence ID: 2963

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 2965

Please allow the elk herd to roam freely. They are a unique herd that ppl can watch & enjoy in a real & natural setting.

Correspondence ID: 2974

Protect wildlife, please!

Correspondence ID: 2976

Take this fence down... And stop killing these ELK by drought due to this damn fence ..

Correspondence ID: 2978

Dear Sir,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that supports free roaming for Tule Elk.

Sincerely yours,

Sesame Fowler

Correspondence ID: 2979

These endangered animals need to roam the park, unhindered by fences, especially in times of water insecurity.

Correspondence ID: 2980

I SUPPORT THE REMOVAL OF THE ELK FENCE TO ALLOW FREE RANGE ACCESS FOR THE TULE ELK HERD. I AGREE WITH THE FEDERATED NATIVE TRIBE THAT THE ELK ARE AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF THE POINT REYES ECO-SYSTEM.

REMOVAL OF THE FENCE IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION FOR THE NPS TO RESTORE THE BIODIVERSITY OF THE POINT REYES PENINSULA.

THANK YOU, PHILIP C. HOFFMAN

Correspondence ID: 2981

Elk are roaming creatures, and they deserve to do so freely and unhindered. Animals deserve better, and we humans need to be better stewards of this earth, and coexist with the wildlife we share this planet with.

Correspondence ID: 2985

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2987

These animal deserve to roam free. This is their home and my taxes pay the salary of the the branch of the government that polices the out doors.

Correspondence ID: 2989

STOP IT !!!

Correspondence ID: 2991

Thank you for considering a new management direction for Tomales Point. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As you must know, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Correspondence ID: 2992

I'm glad you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 2993

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 2994

Please help

Correspondence ID: 2995

I request that you remove the fence causing starvation for the Tule elk. There is no reason that a better plan cannot be conceived. Many places need more prey animals. I remember when we were all so excited to have Tule elk in our GGNRA. There are forms of population control that are not cruel or traumatic. Please let someone with sense and compassion put these alternatives into effect.

Correspondence ID: 2997

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live! So glad the Park Service is proposing to tear down the lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again. I also applaud the agency proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 2999

Tule elk populations are rebuilding, after nearly reaching extinction. Now they face continued danger if they remain confined to only a part of Point Reyes National Seashore. It is cruel to confine these animals in such way, making it impossible for them to move toward resources and away from danger when drought sets in or weather and climate disaster strike, all of which are the result of human action, which has been threatening this animal for decades. I support the removal of the fence that convinces the tule elk unnecessarily and perilously. Let them roam!

Correspondence ID: 3001

Thank you for removing the fence so the Elk can move about freely.

Correspondence ID: 3002

Thank you for proposing a new plan for managing the elk herd in Tomales Point. I strongly support Alternative B -- removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has harmed the herd in many ways. Many elk have died during periodic drought conditions, in spite of emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals (which would be largely unnecessary if the herd were allowed to roam freely into other sections of the Park). The fence has reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam freely and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point, including using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered

butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for working to remove the harmful restrictions on the Tomales Point elk herd that have been in place too long.

Correspondence ID: 3003

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for proposing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for supporting these sensible changes.

Correspondence ID: 3005

I am so glad that you made the right decision for the Elk I was considering not renewing my membership to the NPS . I gladly will support intelligent management.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3007

To whom it may concern,

It seems to me there is no good reason to deny the elk free range of the entirety of Point Reyes. Please remove the fence!

Sincerely, Ms. Sarah Suhich

Correspondence ID: 3008

Science based studies indicate the Point Reyes herd of Tule Eld need more room to graze and access to water and the existing fence is limiting there survival.

I request that you look to science and remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 3009

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3010

Expand the grazing territory for the Pt. Reyes tule elk. An expanded range will allow them to forage for water and not be held captive without management.

Correspondence ID: 3013

Thank you for preparing the Tomales Point Area Plan, which aims to better protect the area's natural and cultural resources while considering a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I am writing to express my strong support for removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative is crucial for the welfare of the tule elk, enabling them to roam naturally and best preserving the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point area.

The existing elk fence at Tomales Point has had severe negative consequences. The confined elk have experienced significant, periodic die-offs during drought due to a lack of access to adequate water sources. These die-offs have necessitated emergency interventions, including providing water to the trapped animals. Additionally, the fence has severely impacted the genetic viability of the elk herd by isolating it from other elk populations within the park. This genetic isolation can lead to inbreeding and a decrease in the overall health and resilience of the herd.

Allowing the elk to roam freely will mitigate these issues by providing the elk with access to a broader range of resources and habitats. This will enhance their ability to adapt to environmental changes and improve their overall health and genetic diversity. Point Reyes National Seashore deserves a management plan that reflects its commitment to preserving natural processes and biodiversity.

Furthermore, I strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point is a forward-thinking and respectful approach that acknowledges Indigenous peoples' deep connection and expertise regarding the land. Highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources enriches the visitor experience and fosters a deeper understanding of the region's heritage.

I also commend the management plan's commitment to using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. These practices are vital for maintaining healthy ecosystems and promoting biodiversity. The controlled use of fire can help manage invasive plant species, restore native vegetation, and create a more balanced and resilient landscape.

Additionally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and enhance the protection of natural and cultural resources. Invasive species pose a significant threat to native biodiversity and ecosystem health. Effective management strategies are essential to preserving the integrity of the park's ecosystems and the species that depend on them.

Sincerely, Keely E Berg

Correspondence ID: 3014

SAVE THE ELK

Correspondence ID: 3015

Please let the Elk roam free, no fence.

Correspondence ID: 3017

I lived in Santa Rosa/Napa most of my life, before moving to Oregon. I regularly hiked at Point Reyes. My favorite hiking place! Seeing wildlife while there was incredibly beautiful, so natural and up-lifting. My understanding is that cattle have no right to be on a National Park Service, particularly in favor of wildlife! PLEASE let the wildlife be WILD!

Correspondence ID: 3018

Please restore the proper land to these elk for their health and well-being. They should have priority over grazing of cattle, etc. Restoring nature and the balance is always for the best. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3020

Let the elk decide where they want to go

Correspondence ID: 3022

I support the right of tule elk to roam freely throughout the park.

Correspondence ID: 3023

Please immediately remove fencing confining the Tule Elk at Tomales Point National Park. They must be allowed to thrive and foam free.

Correspondence ID: 3024

Allowing the elk to roam freely helps biodiversity and allows them to find food sources beyond their currently confined area.

Correspondence ID: 3025

Please allow these elk to roam freely throughout the park area. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3026

We cannot disrupt nature without disastrous impacts. The Tule elk knowhow to survive. Their choices must not be limited by us.

Correspondence ID: 3027

Tearing down the fence that confines the Point Reyes Tule Elk to Tomales Point is an excellent plan to save the herd from die-offs during droughts. The Elk are much too valuable to risk harming them by leaving the fence in place.

Correspondence ID: 3031

I fully support the removal of the fencing that is preventing the Elk herds on Point Reyes from accessing their usual territory.

Anne Caldwell

Correspondence ID: 3032

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3034

I support your implementation of alternative B, removing the fence so that the elk can roam freely, and not be subject to die-offs due to lack of water. A management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria can bring a collaborative solution, but the fence must go. Thank you for your work on this.

Correspondence ID: 3035

NPS) has initiated a public comment process for their Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore that analyzes three alternatives, identifies a preferred alternative, and incorporates feedback from previous public comment opportunities.

The NPS "preferred alternative," Alternative B, would permanently remove the 8-foot fence that has kept the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd trapped without sufficient water or nutrition since 1978.

Please-permanently remove the fence!

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but we believe that removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane solution for these once-endangered wild animals.

We argue that it is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach.

Thank you for helping to make our long-held hope for the Tomales Point elk a reality by supporting the NPS plan to remove the fence!

Sincerely, LIII D

Correspondence ID: 3036

I support the revised proposal!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 3038

I support alternative B. By allowing the elk the freedom of movement, they can better meet climate challenges, reduce damage to the Tomales Point fenced in area due to confinement, and remain genetically viable as they mix with other herds.

Additionally, it is essential that the Park Service collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point land and resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk!

Correspondence ID: 3039

I support Alternative B for Tomales Point Area of Pt. Reyes National Seashore.

Please remove the elk fence, work with the Indigenous People of Graton Rancheria, control invasive plants

and encourage Native plant species, and protect cultural and natural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3043

Using a fence that kills Elk is not a practical & especially not a humane way to manage wildlife in a National Seashore!

Correspondence ID: 3044

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end. Please remove the fence and let them roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 3046

Having visited and hiked Tomales Point last fall and witnessing the confined area of existence for the Tule Elk, I strongly support the proposal to allow free roaming for the elk. They are the native inhabitants of the area and need the expanded habitat for a healthy survival of the species.

Respectively, Garth Orkney

Correspondence ID: 3048

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3049

Please; nothing could be more disruptive, cruel and terrifying that these beloved creatures, so majestic and incredible are not allowed to roam free in their own habitats. Please punish any attitude and measures that prevent them to do it, with jail without bail. We are nothing without nature.

Correspondence ID: 3050

It seems inconceivable to me that fencing the elk or any animal away from a water source is even what has been happening. So I hope that you read the comments below, read, heard and understood by me, and vote for Alternative B which removes the fence and combines the herd.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3052

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

I support a free-roaming elk !'

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

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I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Thank You, LD

Correspondence ID: 3053

As a Northern Californian who still has family there, I strongly support alternative B for the Tomales Point environmental plan. The elk fence should be removed so that the elk can roam wider in search of water and forage, and intermingle with other elk herds.

Correspondence ID: 3058

I am writing to express support for the proposal to remove the fence that confines the Tule Elk to Tomales Point. Please remove the fence as soon as possible. I also support close collaboration with the indigenous people native to that area, about this matter and all other ecological issues.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 3059

These large r animal s were created to roam freely

Please a se all I w them their birthright

Correspondence ID: 3060

Please remove this terribly harmful fence and allow the elk to roam freely. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3061

I support a free-roaming elk herd at Pt. Reyes, and a collaborative management plan that will ensure Tule elk can forage for the resources and water they need to survive. The current area is too limited, and prevents natural movement and behavior.

Thank you for allowing me to share my comments.

Correspondence ID: 3062

Please, oh please, do the right thing for nature.

Correspondence ID: 3063

It's very important for me to protect all Environmental, including all Animal, I no longer eat chicken, beef pork I have changed I am against violence & pain to all animals

Having all these great protectors that made me see clearly & change! I read & sign petitions every day!

Thank you!

Aixa Fielder

Correspondence ID: 3064

this is the better way fo their survival

Correspondence ID: 3066

Hi,

I've been going up to Point Reyes since moving to the Bay Area in the 90s. It's probably my favorite local park, and the tule elk are a major part of that.

I'd like to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for your consideration.

-Jim Coursey

Correspondence ID: 3069

We need to have more respect for the natural world. In particular, in this situation, I ask that you please eliminate the fencing which causes the Point Reyes Tule Elk to be restricted. Please let them roam.

Correspondence ID: 3071

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Please let the Elk roam naturally and free. I therefore thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support Indigernous people having a larger say in the management of lands. the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and

traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Nikki Sachs

Correspondence ID: 3074

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3075

Elk are an important species in the eco-system in the U.S. They are part of the eco-system to keep vegetation from over growing. They are an important part for wolves to survive. Please don't keep that dangerous fence up. Please let the elk roam naturally, doing their part in keeping vegetation in check and also being part of prey for wolves. Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 3076

Dear National Park Service:

Wilderness is the best antidote for our world suffering climate chaos and a lack of biodiversity. There are no fences in wilderness. The tule elk are being constrained as they would be in a zoo.

Please remove the fence that has been disastrous for the elk population, and rewild the area with a concentration of native plants which will encourage butterflies and other desirable populations to thrive.

Let's all work toward the common goal of restoring nature!

Thank you for taking a scientific approach to the lands you manage for all of us.

Correspondence ID: 3077

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter.

Correspondence ID: 3078

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3080

Please tear down the fence confining the tule elk. As much as humans, or maybe more so, animals need to be able to roam freely. During times of drought, I understand some of these animals died. That is horrible. Do you feel good about that? Please let them roam free.

Correspondence ID: 3081

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural resources and supports a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I have visited the area and I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally.

The Tomales Point elk herd should have a management plan without the fence that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I also support the management plan elements to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you.

Martin Seybold, retired resource manager.

Correspondence ID: 3082

I support removing the fence and allowing the elk to roam freely in Pt. Reyes National Seashore. They are native animals and require unfenced space in order to thrive and maintain genetic diversity.

I also support involving the Federated Tribes of Graton Rancheria in the maintaining and preserving cultural contexts within the PRNS.

Correspondence ID: 3083

To whomever it may concern,

The whole world is well aware about the US's fencing strategies when it comes to those living on their own land before the first European settlers came to America and Australia. Please do not do it again with animals. They have done you nothing. They come in peace.

Please and thank you.

Regards,

Ajla

Correspondence ID: 3089

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Elk are not a threat to and confining them is a threat to them.

Correspondence ID: 3090

PLEASE FREE the TULE ELK!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 3091

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As a longtime Bay Area resident, I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales

Point. I strongly support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. It's also vital to implement the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Please free our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3092

Having visited there and camped outside—I believe the elk should be free roaming and not penalized by the government, or their neighbors

Correspondence ID: 3093

Time for the Elk to have freedom. If we want them to survive to multiply then they need freedom.

Correspondence ID: 3094

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan.

It is very encouraging that you are taking the survival of this herd as an imperative. Using this proposed plan that considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd would be best practices for the natural, the cultural (and the long-term financial) resources involved.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3095

These creatures deserve to live as freely as possible, existing alongside humanity.

Far too many species have been eliminated through our ignorance.

We are no longer ignorant.

We know full well that our acts as well as our failures to act will have permanent consequences.

It is better for our species to act appropriately. That grace will mitigate some of our atrocities.

So: DO THE CORRECT THING.

Sincerely, David M. Dunn

Correspondence ID: 3097

The beautiful and iconic Tule Elk should be able to roam free, not be penned in, and in times of drought prevented from getting enough food to eat. Keeping them from pastures seems like the antithesis of what the Park Service should be doing as the caretakers of this herd.

I'd like to say thank you for the intentions--and follow-through, I hope--to collaborate with tribal groups in the region of this park, It seems like the exact sort of thing that should be happening, and beneficial to all.

Correspondence ID: 3099

Please take down the fence that is harming the elk. I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3100

Please preserve our Elk!!! We to help our wildlife as much as we can!!!

Correspondence ID: 3101

Stop killing our wildlife. I understand a cull once in awhile but make it a lottery special hunt where the monies earned can go back into the system and that particular area! Let local sportsmen, not paid employees hunt!

Correspondence ID: 3104

I support a free a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

We're proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3105

Remove and/or minimize the fencing, ffs.

Earth first.

Correspondence ID: 3106

We must respect the lives of our animal kingdom if we are to be good stewards to the planet and the life it supports. We, as humans, ought to protect the lives of these creatures whenever we can.

Correspondence ID: 3107

Elks have no passports ...

Correspondence ID: 3109

Free the elk

Correspondence ID: 3111

Elk are wild animals and should not be confined to a space that keeps them from surviving when conditions turn into unlivable.

Correspondence ID: 3112

Quite simply, tear down this lethal fence, and let the elk roam freely in the park once again. This is obvious when considering their health and well being!

Correspondence ID: 3113

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

THANK YOU for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk!! For the respect and protection of all species!

Correspondence ID: 3114

Please save the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3120

Please protect the elks

Correspondence ID: 3121

I grew up believing it was the national parks were responsible for protecting the environment and the critters living in that environment.

I hope you will adopt plan B and stop your hypocrisy.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3123

Please let Elk roam free

Correspondence ID: 3124

These elk are dying because of this fence. This is ridiculous. They should be allowed to roam.

Correspondence ID: 3125

The Tomales Point Area Plan is a critical step in reevaluating the management of natural and cultural resources within the park, particularly concerning the tule elk population. The proposal to remove the elk fence under Alternative B is a significant move towards allowing the elk to roam freely, which could potentially alleviate the issues caused by the current confinement, such as genetic viability concerns and the need for emergency interventions during droughts. The collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria introduces an essential perspective, integrating Tribal knowledge and history into the management of the area. This, along with the use of prescribed fire to enhance habitats and the control of invasive plants, represents a holistic approach to preserving the park's ecosystem. The support for these measures reflects a community's commitment to maintaining the integrity of the national park and its inhabitants.

Correspondence ID: 3126

ROAM!!!! All animals should roam and be free

Correspondence ID: 3129

Please let the elk roam free, and continue to manage and remove invasive species.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3130

I strongly support alternative B, removing the fence and having free roaming elk.

Correspondence ID: 3132

Please remove the Tule Elk fence now!!

Correspondence ID: 3138

Please stop this cruel and unnecessary tactic of killing elk

Correspondence ID: 3140

I sincerely hope you plan to proceed with removing the fence that is keeping the elk from being able to roam freely at Point Reyes, as well as work with local tribes on assessing the area.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3141

I would love to see the Point Reyes elk expand in range and number. They're one of my favourite parts of visiting Point Reyes. Alternative B is attractive for its removal of the fence in order to allow this. Though, it's not clear how the elk will be protected from hunters if / when they venture out of protected areas..? It would be very disappointing to see them suffer the same fate as bears, wolves, and the like when they unwittingly wander over imaginary boundaries. I hope they will continue to be protected and fostered to thrive.

Correspondence ID: 3142

Free roaming elk

Correspondence ID: 3143

I support the free-roaming elk plan and hope it is put into place as soon as possible, before the heat and dry weather set in.

Correspondence ID: 3146

Please stop interfering with the natural environment and disturbing wildlife corridors. First Nations people are the only ones who know how to manage ecosystems properly. They have thousands of years of ecological knowledge that deserves our respect and attention. Listen to them and allow them to advise you with respect to land management. Stop putting up fences and barriers that disturb the patterns of wild animals. Protect the animals and the land.

Correspondence ID: 3147

Please allow the elk to roam freely so they may be more likely to be able to survive periods of drought. This is so important for the health of this species.

Correspondence ID: 3149

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk, and taking care to provide a protected, natural habitat for them.

Sincerely, Chelsea Friel

Correspondence ID: 3151

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for returning elks' freedom.

Correspondence ID: 3154

I'll keep it short: I strongly support free roaming elk.

Correspondence ID: 3155

Thank you for producing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I think Alternative B, by removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd, will provide the best management of this area.. This elk fence has caused significant deaths of elk during dry weather conditions.

This alternative will also best preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

I also like the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria so that they can add Tribal ideas and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management plan.

This Alternative B management plan, which lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park, should be given preference to the other possibilities.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Correspondence ID: 3156

Please stop confining these elk. It is cruel, resulting in avoidable deaths.

Correspondence ID: 3158

The evidence is irrefutable if one is being truly objective regarding the Tule Elk; artificial containment is not the solution to the preservation of the Tule Elk population. The Tule Elk need to be able to move freely throughout Point Reyes National Seashore to ensure the herd is healthy and thriving. The fence that currently confines them to Tomales Point must come down to achieve this, and ensure that there will be a healthy population of Tule Elk for future generations to enjoy and appreciate for their vital role in the park's ecosystem.

Further, the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point will only enhance matters further, both for the Tule Elk population and the park ecosystem in its entirety. The First Nations tribes have an accumulated wealth of generational experience and know-how in maintaining the environment, and this matter is no exception to this proven rule.

So I respectfully urge you, tear down that destructive fence, and move forward in formal collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in managing and sustaining the unique natural treasure of our great state of California!

Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

Leland R. Erickson

Correspondence ID: 3161

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 3163

Please continue to implement the fence less plan to allow the elk to roam freely. Also please incorporate the provisions of the plan so the the native Americans in this area can participate in the management of the areas, and of the elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 3164

No Elk fence!

Correspondence ID: 3166

Hi,

If bison in Grand Canyon and Yellowstone NPs and bears in Denali NP can all roam free as well as many animals in other National Parks... why not let the majestic and highly social Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore, the only national park where they live, move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Remove the fence that restricts the Tule elk's natural migrations in search for clean water and abundant food.

Remove the fencing and let the elk roam. If need be, add fencing to restrict human visitors - reduce human visitor impacts to our natural resources and wildlife.

Include /create wildlife movement corridors in your management plans and allow the animals to increase their range.

In proposing a management plan for Tomales Point, please collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Think and create an expansive, inclusive management plan that breaks boundaries and traditions regarding how to manage wildlife populations.. The priority now needs to be wildlife habitat enhancement and preservation.

Be the leaders in park service management creativity when managing our park resources - do not follow.

Remember our natural resources have been set aside as a National Park for a serious purpose - to preserve natural beauty and all wildlife habitats - the priority. Humans / park stakeholder's needs should come last after preservation of the park's natural resources and wildlife populations. These two park resources are why humans visit a national park.

Correspondence ID: 3167

I support elk roaming free, fence removal.

Correspondence ID: 3168

Please allow the elk to roam free. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3170

Stop electrocuting the elk

Correspondence ID: 3172

Nature and in this context elks needs space, space and space. Therefore give the elk more room to live and survive in. Regards Poul

Correspondence ID: 3173

How can you allow animals of the wild to be killed! They have much as right to roam around this earth than we do. You need to protect these animals from evil people who want to destroy this world. Show some kindness and love for these animals and protect them.

Correspondence ID: 3174

We live in Humboldt County where the wild roam. They are a natural part of our world and their appearance is welcomed by both residents and visitors to our semi-rural communities and our redwood forests. We beg you to stop limiting their range.

We support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. We commend the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 3175

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required

emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 3176

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

As someone who has supported efforts for their conservation for years, thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Regards,

Rachel G.

Correspondence ID: 3178

I am writing as an American physician and environmental protection/endangered wildlife advocate who strongly supports full protection for free roaming endangered tule elk throughout our country.

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California, that were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. However, instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end. I am very concerned because this National Park Service policy has caused large elk die-offs due to worsening periods of drought at Tomales Point.

After a review of these mismanagement policies for tule elk by the National Park Service, the Park Service is now proposing to tear down this lethal fence, which would allow tule elk to roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. I strongly approve of the collaborative tule elk management plan because it harnesses cultural resources while enhancing the habitat for the endangered elk and for endangered butterflies.

At this time, I thank you for your consideration of my letter and my recommendations. I extend my sincere appreciation and thank the NPS for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

Please understand that I strongly support Alternative B, which directs the removal of the elk fence and allows an unconfined elk herd to freely roam. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

It is crucial to understand that the present Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, and has required the provision of emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals. Please understand that this management plan has reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also completely support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. It is crucial to understand that I completely support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I again extend my deep appreciation and thank the National Park Service for proposing a collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians that will fully allow the beloved tule elk to freely and naturally roam Tomales Point.

Sincerely, Jean Marie Naples, MD-Ph.D.

Correspondence ID: 3179

31 mai 2024 - Please, note that i agree with each words written below. Very Best Regards. VB.

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3182

Please remove fence so that elk can move freely.

Correspondence ID: 3183

The fence stopping tule elk from roaming freely must

Must be removed. Their survival depends on them being able to roam free!

Correspondence ID: 3185

Please let the Tule elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 3186

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3189

Let the Tule Elk roam free. No fencing them in.

Correspondence ID: 3191

I believe it would benefit the elk if they were able to roam around free in their natural habitat, that's why I strongly support Alternative B which would remove the fence keeping them in closed, by removing it you allow them to finally cross into land that used to be part of their natural way of life, I thank you for

the Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects the natural land and cultural resources, I also support the collaboration with the Park service and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to better understand the importance of this land and also learn from their side of history and to share their knowledge and experience so it can help protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3192

These animals need protections. Too many of them are being killed off. Please help save them.

Correspondence ID: 3194

How is this happening?? This must stop!!

Correspondence ID: 3195

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Why would these animals be confined to a restricted area. They're meant to roam. They're elk!

Correspondence ID: 3196

It's essential the Park Service implement the removal of the lethal elk fence, and let the elk roam freely in the park once again. I believe the agency is also proposing a collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point. This would be a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources. I wholly support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 3199

We need to protect the planet and all of the animals.

Correspondence ID: 3200

Enough of killing our native wildlife. It is NOT ok to just go in and kill species that are part of the ecosystem. If we have to cull some of the animals, open up a special hunt and let the hunters pay a special fee to legally and ethically take some of the animals. To just go in and let government employees go in and kill animals is not helping the situation and people who do draw a special tag can use the meat. The money generated could go into a special fund or back to the park budget to help with maintenance and feeding programs.

Correspondence ID: 3203

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3206

You don't have to live near Tomales Point to appreciate Tomales Point. The Services' new Area Plan better protects natural and cultural resources, particularly freeing the confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing unconfined elk. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Much wildlife have suffered before you got to this point; it's the point most of the public supports.

It is wise that you recognize the importance of collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3207

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

What does it mean to be a national park? What does it mean to be the only national park with a population of California native tule elk that were once hunted to the brink of extinction? What should the future of the Point Reyes National Seashore be?

I am in favor of removing the elk fence (which I believe is Alternative B) and allowing the tule elk to roam naturally. I believe this is the best way to preserve the elk and the wilderness character of Tomales Point. The large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, requiring emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, are unnecessary tragedies caused by the fence. Maintaining the fence also reduces the genetic viability of the elk by keeping elk herds separated.

I also support the control invasive plants to better protect natural and cultural resources.

And I support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Thank you for your consideration,

Janet Parkins

Correspondence ID: 3209

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural resources. I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Thank you for freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3210

Please let the Tule Elk of Point Reyes roam freely. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3212

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park in which they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for doing what is necessary to save our elk!

Correspondence ID: 3213

Hello, Our wildlife is increasingly suffering and dwindling because mankind keeps pushing the boundaries of civilization further and further into its natural habitat. We can no longer ignore the facts and we must protect.

The Tule Elks at Point Reyes are being threatened by a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. Please tear down the lethal fence. The Elk must be let to roam freely throughout the park so they can thrive again. Thank you in anticipation for your support and consideration in this matter. Guillemette Epailly

Correspondence ID: 3214

Please allow these elks free access to trek in nature.

Correspondence ID: 3215

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3216

Animals cannot survive if imprisoned in limiting areas. Their nature wants to lead them to where they're

likely to discover food sources that will keep them thriving. Blocking them off from these areas is a death sentence.

Correspondence ID: 3218

The purposes of the system are (1) to track progress and milestones of park projects, including the legal compliance process outlined in the National Environmental Policy Act; (2) to allow park staff to collaborate with team members on a project, post plans and related documents for public review; (3) to provide public comment opportunity; and (4) to provide the NPS with a tool for comment analysis and response, which includes demographic information to better make informed decisions and serve the public

Correspondence ID: 3220

The purposes of the system are (1) to track progress and milestones of park projects, including the legal compliance process outlined in the National Environmental Policy Act; (2) to allow park staff to collaborate with team members on a project, post plans and related documents for public review; (3) to provide public comment opportunity; and (4) to provide the NPS with a tool for comment analysis and response, which includes demographic information to better make informed decisions and serve the public

Correspondence ID: 3222

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

My husband and I have camped near Tomales Bay. We have seen the elk and how the fence has been detrimental to not only the elk, but also the plant life, and other wildlife. Please take the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 3223

A collaborative manage plan for the Tule Elk at Point Reyes without restrictive fencing seems to be a very reasonable plan.

Correspondence ID: 3225

stop this immedety

Correspondence ID: 3227

I have been informed that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused the death of many elk during drought conditions. Also the fence reduces the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

Please instate a management plan that lets elk roam free in Point Reyes and prevent animal suffering.

Correspondence ID: 3228

I am commenting to express my strong support for Alternative B, which would remove the elk fence and allow the elk to roam freely in the park. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused the deaths of many elk during droughts and has also been the cause of a great deal of suffering as elk have been unable to access water during these periods. The elk have also been unable to express their natural behaviors, as they have been unable to roam over large areas due to the fence. Removing the fence will not only help the elk, but will conserve the wild character of Tomales Point by preventing overgrazing. Point Reyes National Seashore is a rare refuge of wildlife, wilderness, and natural beauty, and tule elk can be found in no other national park. They are a vital part of this important landscape and should be allowed to roam freely within it, having already been hunted to near extinction in California.

Correspondence ID: 3231

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Greetings and thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Probyn Gregory

Correspondence ID: 3232

Please save these wild animals by giving them freedom, space, and protection laws. Perhaps food and water for a while till they get their land and more natural life back. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3233

I support a free-roaming elk herd, that's their land and humans should learn how to share it with wild animals, not gun them down or confine them as they please. There is always a better way of peacefully managing coexistence between species.

Correspondence ID: 3234

Please, don't kill elke

Correspondence ID: 3236

As a northern Californian resident, I have long enjoyed the Tomales State Park and especially the Tule Elk. And so, I want to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. I so look forward to my next visit to enjoy these changes.

Correspondence ID: 3241

All animals should run freely. All of nature should be protected from destruction of any kind.

Correspondence ID: 3244

Lasst die Elks frei laufen!!!

Correspondence ID: 3245

Wildlife needs room to roam, it is not only good for them it is also good for the environment and all the people on earth

Correspondence ID: 3246

Please protect these beautiful animals

Correspondence ID: 3247

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 3248

NO FENCE! The elk need to roam free. The National Parks Service must do what is best for the wild animals under their care and stewardship.

Correspondence ID: 3249

I am very happy that you are preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that will honor and protect natural and cultural resources and will consider a much needed new management plan that will benefit the park's now confined elk herd. Therefore, I strongly support Alternative B which will remove the elk fence and finally free the now confined elk herd to be able to move more freely in the park. It also will preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As you are aware, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, since they are prevented from finding water and food so emergency intervention is needed to provide water and food sources to trapped animals. This horrible fence also ends up reducing the elk's genetic viability by keeping them separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes is a NP so it should have a management plan that lets elk roam freely and behave naturally within the park. It's long past time to turn Point Reyes back into a park for wildlife instead of allowing way too many of the park's acres to be destroyed and polluted by the dairy and ranching industries.

It's time to work with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Tribes to highlight their Tribal history and support their cultural resources by using prescribed fire when it can be safely contained, and research how burns can improve habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. The proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources is also something I support.

The tule elk deserve to be free so please pick Alternative B and help ensure that they will no longer die from lack of water and food.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3254

To whom it may concern,

My family is and has been extremely worried about the Point Reyes Tule Elk that are being kept in captivity. This is the very absolute worst thing you could do to wildlife. Wildlife including Tule Elk want

and deserve to be free. They have a natural driven instinct to roam and explore. Animals in captivity suffer greatly. They are often underweight and dehydrated. They don't mate properly and they die early deaths. Please please do the right thing for once and free the Tule Elk! Thank you for your time!

Correspondence ID: 3256

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3259

All creatures on this planet have the right to share it with us. Human Beings do not hold the title deeds to it so we need to stop behaving selfishly and protect all creatures.

Correspondence ID: 3260

Please allow for free roam herds. Save the elks!

Correspondence ID: 3261

Dear National Park Service,

i love the natural world and especially enjoy our national parks. I am therefore grateful for all work that you do.

i thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan to improve protection of the area's natural resources. i am particularly keen for you to adopt a new approach to the park's previously confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will best preserve the wild space my family and i have enjoyed for decades at Tomales Point. Point Reyes and its visitors deserve a management plan that allows the park to remain in as natural a state as possible.

I also strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point (and every natural space in California) should be a priority for the NPS. I also support proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing one of our fellow critters and looking after our most important spaces.

Correspondence ID: 3265

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support your proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3266

Free roaming for the elk. No fences to restrict their freedom in nature.

Correspondence ID: 3267

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federal Indians of Graton Rancheria, to management plans to protect Point Reyes, it deserves a management plan that let elks roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 3271

I am writing to ask you to please tear down the fence that confines the Point Reyes Tule Elk. The fence confines these majestic animals, plus they don't have access to water during droughts and die a horrible death. Free the Elk please!

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 3283

Stop!!!

Correspondence ID: 3284

Dear Sir,

Please keep the Tomales Point Area open to the elk population. As stewards of this property, the wildlife must also be supported. Thank you.

Laima Harmon

Correspondence ID: 3285

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a better Tomales Point Area Plan that protects natural and cultural resources. Please choose Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3286

x

Correspondence ID: 3291

Please tear down that fence. I would hate to be "fenced" in like that.

Correspondence ID: 3292

Fences aren't always a good idea. If elk run in fear they need to feel they can escape death not run into it.

Correspondence ID: 3293

I support a free roaming elk herd

Correspondence ID: 3299

Take affirmative action to let the Elk and other wildlife roam freely in this area!

Correspondence ID: 3300

Tule Elk and other species deserve freedom instead of fences! To know so many have died over the years in times of drought is especially sad. Wildlife needs the freedom to be wild, not walls that totally prevent passage.

Please come up with a solution to this problem that preserves the lives of wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 3303

Management of wildlife is the way to go. Not restricting herds from water and roaming.

Correspondence ID: 3305

I am writing regarding the elk herd covered under the Tomales Point Area Plan. I strongly support Alternative B, which removes the elk fence and allows the elk to roam free naturally and will preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point. The Park Service's collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal view and knowledge also has my support. Likewise, I support

proposals to control invasive plants and to better protect natural and cultural resources. Thank you for this new Plan freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3308

strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3309

Please protect and preserve Tule Elk and other vulnerable species.

Correspondence ID: 3310

please allow these elk to die off NATURALLY. If fenced in, they die of thirst during a rough, a cruel and UNNATURAL death.

Please be humane and let the elk alone.

We must all learn how to co-exist with the natural, wild world.

Give it a try; it will work.

Correspondence ID: 3311

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

I implore you to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

I also encourage the creation of a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 3315

Trying to control the elk by putting up a fence that damages and even kills them is a horrible approach. The best approach is to let the elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 3317

I support removing the fence and allow elk free reign in the park.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3327

Free the elk! You are in office to protect not hinder or kill these iconic animals.

Please, allow these elk to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 3328

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd:

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally and freely, thus avoiding natural disasters, as it is their right to do, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

For all animals and their right to their own lives, against human egoism, greed, and malice!

Correspondence ID: 3330

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As I am sure you are aware, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also strongly support the proposed collaboration between the Park Service and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, as well as the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your efforts to free our beloved elk and preserve the pristine wilderness they call home.

Correspondence ID: 3333

Please be on the right side of history and remove the fence which supports better elk management and biological diversity.

Correspondence ID: 3336

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction. I favor Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd, for the elk and to preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs and emergency interventions elk during droughts and reduced the elk's genetic viability.

I also support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in future management of Tomales Point, for example, using history and cultural resources, and prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Also, great idea to control invasive plants.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 3337

Please support free-roaming elk herds and adopt a corresponding management plane. All of us should be doing as much as we can now to protect and conserve the natural environment.

Correspondence ID: 3339

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

The latest Tomales Point Area Plan better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd; thank you for your attention to these details!.

I strongly support Alternative B. The tule elk need to roam a wider area, and will have incredibly positive impacts on the other flora and fauna of Tomales Point., Alternative B allows an unconfined elk herd and equally importantly, preserves the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3341

Please tear down the fence and allow the elks to roam freely!

Correspondence ID: 3342

stop inhumane treatment

Correspondence ID: 3344

These beautiful ELK need to roam free on the land with no fence in place!! They need to have water available and nobody should be cutting off their ability to roam free! Remove the fencing!!!

Correspondence ID: 3345

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Correspondence ID: 3348

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3349

I have never heard of anything so outrageous as a wildlife fence in a National Park. The idea is anathema to the sense of the Parks being “wilderness museums” as a Yellowstone Ranger once put it to me.

Of course take the fence down. Do it yesterday!

Correspondence ID: 3351

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3352

Please do the right thing. The scientific thing. Elk should not die if thirst for nonsensical reasons. Point Reyes is their home.

Correspondence ID: 3356

Leave the elk alone. Let them roam free..as they should!!

Correspondence ID: 3357

A free-roaming herd is the only way to maintain the health of the elk herd. We have learned that in the Southwest with wildlife corridors. I hope you will pursue this avenue to protect and support the health of the elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 3358

Freilaufende Elchherden und einen kooperativen Managementplan unterstütze ich gerne

Correspondence ID: 3359

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3360

What is the sense to make a park to protect and at the same time make it as a prison that causes animals horrible death.

I hope the good sense prevail and elk can live harmoniously and with dignity

Correspondence ID: 3361

The current management practice for Point Reyes' Tule elk is unprofessional and detrimental to the health of this recovering herd.

As a forestry professional, I fully support the proposed revisions expressed in the proposed Tomales Point Area Plan which will allow Tule elk to roam free and I also emphatically support the inclusion of the Indigenous population in any and all management decisions.

These changes are long overdue and I encourage the Point Reyes National Seashore management team to adopt the changes as quickly as possible.

Correspondence ID: 3363

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you, Anne Henny

Correspondence ID: 3364

Please remove the fence so the elk are able to locate food.

Correspondence ID: 3366

I support the stated views re the free movement of elk herds and other intelligent management of wildlife.

I DO NOT SUPPORT the corralling, aerial herding, and destruction of ANY wildlife in the USA as practiced by the murderous flying helicopter jockeys employed by the US Wildlife Service or the US Bureau of Land management. Their destruction of US wild horses, buffalo, elk, feral cattle, and wolves is reprehensible and blatantly illegal. These idiots are killing wildlife they have been hired to protect and should be prosecuted by US federal officials.

August Wiedemann

Correspondence ID: 3369

This has been going on far too long please do the right thing and remove fencing

Correspondence ID: 3370

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing the elk herd to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 3371

Tule elk have been imprisoned for too long and are dying from adequate water and food sources. They are dying for the purposes of ranchers who have more than enough land, money, and power, and it is time to change that. Elk are part of the landscape and have roles to play in nature. Cows, wonderful beings that they are, are ruining the soil and degrading the landscape. Release the elk and put nature back as it is intended to be as a matter of ethics and responsibility but also as a matter of principle.

Correspondence ID: 3372

I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point plan, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3374

Hi,

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you, Kerry

Correspondence ID: 3375

We have to protect the tule elk as a priority as also their habitats.

Correspondence ID: 3379

I support tearing down the fences in the Point Reyes National Seashore so the Tule Elks can roam free. This is crucial so they don't starve to death when there are periodic droughts and the elk cannot escape.

Correspondence ID: 3380

Letting the elk run free is the most humane solution.

Correspondence ID: 3381

Please allow these unique and majestic elk roam free and be part of our countries natural habitat like they were so long ago.

Take down the restrictive and destructive fencing please.

Correspondence ID: 3384

Thank you for proposing to tear down the fence that keeps the tule elk confined to one part of Point Reyes National Seashore. The fence was causing the elk to die of dehydration since it was more difficult for them to access water. .

Point Reyes should have a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. The Park Service should work with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. The management plan should emphasize using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. It should also address controlling invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you again for freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3387

To the National Park Service, ATTN: Superintendent.

Thank you so much for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. It is this alternative that will free the tule elk and allow them to roam naturally.

Sadly, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused great devastation with the large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought condition. It required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

believe it is the best plan to preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Most importantly, I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. Again, I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources. It is important to use prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3389

Elk are migratory animals. Movement is essential to their management.

Correspondence ID: 3392

Just do what's right for conservation!

Correspondence ID: 3393

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 3394

Please allow the wildlife we have to live as natural a life as possible, including the ability to move across at will what land they have available to them. Tear down the fence! Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 3395

Good day to you, Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I completely support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3400

Remove Tule Elk Fencing !

Correspondence ID: 3401

WHY are WE always KILLIN & ABUSING "INNOCENT" animals? Will it EVER STOP? SHAME ON US!!!

Correspondence ID: 3402

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3404

As a citizen concerned about the environment and the protection of wildlife, I would urge the National Park Service to act on its life-saving proposal to remove the fence confining the Tule elk to Tomales Point at the northern end of the Reyes Point National Seashore.

This confinement results in the deaths of Tule elk during periods of drought, due to their inability to access water. REMOVING THE FENCE containing the elk would eliminate this artificial confinement and thus would result in saving the animals' lives --- in line with the directive of the National Park Service and NEPA for the protection of natural resources such as the native Tule elk!

In addition, I support the National Park Service's commendable management plan for Tomales Point that would promote collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Ranchera, utilizing their ecological expertise and experience.

Correspondence ID: 3405

While I am an East coaster, my encounters with elk from trips out West stand out in my mind as special.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for listening and I look forward to your allowing the elk to thrive without this fence.

Correspondence ID: 3407

Please restore free range to the elk. As stressed as most species are, we do not need to allow process or bureaucracy or inertia to make matters worse. Mr. Superintendent, tear down this fence. Seriously.

Correspondence ID: 3408

Hello,

Regarding the Tomales Point Area fence that confines Tule Elk to the north end of the park, causing many of them to die during droughts: Please support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria.

Kind regards,

Jane Sheffield

Correspondence ID: 3410

The National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. I encourage you to take down these

needless fences and continue with your collaborative efforts with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria,

Correspondence ID: 3411

Thank-you for working with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point. This will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3412

I strongly support the NPS removing the fence that keeps the Tule Elk confined to a small section of the Point Reyes National Seashore and I support allowing the elk to roam free (Alternative B). Over the years, the NPS has unfairly confined the wild animals to plots of land that cannot sustain their population due to drought and climate change, yet the NPS has given free reign to cattle owners (ranchers) to do with the land as they please, leading to overgrazing and pollution from the cattle. To call this unfair would be an understatement. The Tule Elk are a part of the ecosystem and benefit it; they do not cause pollution or have any detrimental effects on the land. The Tule Elk cannot survive inside a fenced in area, as was seen by the drastic numbers of them who tragically died.

I hope the NPS will do what's right by the animals, land and everyone who cares about the Tule Elk and remove the fence permanently.

Thank you, Jamila Viandier

Correspondence ID: 3413

Good morning-

I support a free roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan in the Point Reyes National Seashore park.

Thank you, John M.

Correspondence ID: 3417

MAKE ROOM FOR ALL WILDLIFE, INCLUDING THESE ELK!

Correspondence ID: 3418

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Thanks for listening to me, many other individuals and the Center for Biological Diversity supporters.

We want the Park Service to tear down this lethal fence, and let elk roam freely in the park once again.

We also want the agency to propose a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered flora and fauna.

Thank you for considering my desired actions.

Human health depends on healthy land, soil , water & biodiversity

Correspondence ID: 3421

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3424

Please let the animals have the little bit of space they have to roam freely. Humans have taken up enough space

Correspondence ID: 3426

The Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore need to be able to roam freely across the whole landscape as they have for millennia. This is the difference between survival and extinction. The NPS needs to be a good steward of the natural resources entrusted to it by the American people. No species should have to fight for survival under the watch of NPS.

Correspondence ID: 3427

Thank you for preparing the Tomales Point Area Plan for protecting the elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 3428

The elk fence was a bad idea. It has kept them confined to a small area, instead of being able to roam freely, as they would normally do. It has reportedly caused deaths during periods of drought, with not enough water available for their needs.

Working with the local Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria community is only common sense, and respects their connection with the land and its wildlife, including endangered butterflies.

I urge you to do the right thing and take the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 3429

Take away the elk killing fence now!! Elk are part of our natural heritage, they belong to all of us. They need protection and care. To recognize only special interests is not only wrong but cruel!

Correspondence ID: 3431

Elk are an important part of the environment

Correspondence ID: 3432

Please tear down the elk-killing fence. These animals should be able to roam. Please approve a collaborative plan! Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3434

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3435

Good to see wildlife taking a priority consideration.

Correspondence ID: 3436

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. It is important for the health and safety of the elk that they are able to roam and forage freely and not face die-offs when the climate takes a dive.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3440

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance the habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 3442

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. The Elk deserve to move as naturally as possible without human intervention..

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Human intervention has caused so much damage to the natural world that National Park Service needs to do everything possible to remove human interaction from the wildlife in national parks.

Correspondence ID: 3443

Thank you for taking the fence down and allowing these elk to roam. Far too often decisions are made that are detrimental to wildlife and I truly appreciate the consideration the National Park Service is giving the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3445

Hi,

I want to remind you that nature knows best how to survive, that humans are the ones causing all problems in the world. To cause danger to animals, like fencing them in, that is to cause more danger to humanity in the long run. To maintain a natural fauna is the only way to provide a healthy environment.

Regards,

Sissi Sundberg

Correspondence ID: 3447

You need to removed this fence so these innocent elks can roam freely. It is cruel and inhumane and must be taken down ASAP PLEASE!

Correspondence ID: 3448

I support the effort to give elk a wider range.

Correspondence ID: 3450

Please project the last elks on your property and use the help of the original people of the America's to assist.

Correspondence ID: 3451

Please protect our American animals by allowing the elk to run free.

Correspondence ID: 3452

Please allow Tule elk to move freely and survive.

Correspondence ID: 3453

THIS IS AN ABOMINATION - LIKE THE MURDERING OF WILD HORSES, THE MURDERING OF WOLVES - AND THE OVERALL DESTRUCTION OF GOD'S EARTH AND CREATURES THAT THE BLM, THE PARK SERVICE AND ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS THAT CATER TO CORPORATE GREED AND GOVERNMENTAL CORRUPTION.

SHAME

SHAME

SHAME

SHAME ON YOU FOR ETERNITHY

Correspondence ID: 3454

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources

Correspondence ID: 3455

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 3456

As a long time volunteer for the USFS and someone who is always concerned about a better environment for wildlife , im asking that you use alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan and allow the elk to not be confined any more . There is NO reason to not do this

Correspondence ID: 3458

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3460

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Free our beloved Elk and allow them to live natural lives.

Correspondence ID: 3462

LEAVE THE ELK ALONE!!!!

Correspondence ID: 3463

Our constant brutal and unconscionable interference in the lives of wild animals is absolutely disgraceful and totally unprincipled, Nature should be respected and preserved, not abused and disrespected.

Correspondence ID: 3469

I used to live in Novato CA and visited Point Reyes on a regular basis, whenever I could. I realize that the historic dairy farms merit special treatment, but the park's native wildlife do too. After all, dairy herds are found nationwide but the Tule Elk are not.

So, thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3471

It is time for the elk to return to their natural state of free roaming. Their current confined status actually kills them. It is also past time for collaborating with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in the management of Point Reyes. I fully support Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 3474

ELK should be allowed to free access to any area they choose to be in nature should not be restricted

Correspondence ID: 3475

I support the removal of the fence and working with the Tribes nearby in order to manage Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3476

Nature and all her creatures must be protected, no one has the right to endanger their safety and life by putting barriers. This must stop.

Correspondence ID: 3477

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3479

Free roaming elk, it is their right!!!

Correspondence ID: 3480

May 31, 2024

Alternative B.

I'm a Point Reyes local and longtime volunteer in the park. I love this park by going out nearly every week and spending hours removing invasive plants from parkland. The impact of the ranches, both environmentally and socially, continues to horrify me. So many weeds, so much anti-park sentiment. I'd like the National Park Service to honor its pledge to put the resource first. To me, that means taking down the fences that pen wild animals as if this park were a zoo. This also means spending less energy and money in trying to pacify people who profit off public land. All that energy and money would be better spent on caring for the park.

Alternative B seems like the best option. My only concern is water. Will the elk be able to find enough to survive if you stop doing what you're doing to enhance seeps? Things get awfully dry out there, and the ecosystem seems compromised by lots of weeds and erosion.

Thank you!

C Bear McGuinness

Correspondence ID: 3481

I was just at Pt. Reyes for a visit and saw the beautiful elk up at Tomales Point. I love Pt. Reyes and visit anytime I'm in the area. There are many wonderful things about the park, but the elk are one of the best. As such, we should take care of them. They are important parts of the ecosystem, enrich the park in many ways, deserve to be there, and make it special.

As such, I strongly support Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined herd. The greatest value of Pt. Reyes is its wildness, and the elk are a big part of this. They shouldn't be confined or harmed, and the fence has caused die-offs during drought.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales

Point. This would be beneficial to all involved and respect their ties to the land. I also support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3482

You can make a positive difference!

Correspondence ID: 3483

I fully support the Park Service plan to remove the fence and allow the Tule Elk to roam freely and naturally. Wild animals should not be confined away from water sources. Thank you for doing the right thing!

Correspondence ID: 3484

Support the plan elaborated in cooperation with the local amerindians to remove the fence and allow elks free range grazing.

Correspondence ID: 3485

Just as humans, animals need their space. If you wish to expand the possible continuation of this species and others, then they must be free. HOWEVER, you need to protect them from HUMANS, as poaching, illegal game kill, WAST of 'so called medicines using animal parts, particularly RARE ones", even Legislative Orders, are and will continue to be an issue. These and other animals future existence in freedom, for the benefit of Humans, also increases the 'employment' of HUMANITY, which the USA is in need of and is touting to be a front leader in the world.

They and all other 'creatures', if they perish, so do we.

Then have a Soul, Be That Leader!

Correspondence ID: 3486

You MUST take care of the rare Tule Elk and protect them from harm.

Correspondence ID: 3488

Fences are unnatural man-made monstrosities.

Correspondence ID: 3489

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Please allow elks to roam freely!

Correspondence ID: 3492

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live.

But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Consider ethics above greed and abnormality in the XXI century!

Cristina E. Zois, Greek Ambassador's wife

Correspondence ID: 3493

please let these wild animals roam where they can thrive.

Correspondence ID: 3495

Comments related to Elk and other natural habitats.

I appreciate the new policies being considered regarding the fenced in Elk herd. Only humans should be fenced in - to protect the environment that flora and fauna have called home for eons. I truly hope that this fence is taken down but also would applaud MUCH more education done locally and nationally regarding the wonder of Elk and all the other animals that we share our land with. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3496

It only makes sense to allow the elk to have a larger roaming range. All the habitat will benefit from the balance that will restore.

Correspondence ID: 3497

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Good morning,

I am concerned about the "Elk Fence." I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The fence has caused large die-offs and great suffering for the elk. This is horrifying.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. I appreciate your efforts to support the natural harmonies of nature.

Nancy Stark

Correspondence ID: 3498

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Good morning,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your time, Anna Byrne

Correspondence ID: 3499

Preserve our ever endangered environment and the majestic elk that live there.

Correspondence ID: 3501

Up to the extent it is possible, elk free ranging is a biological necessity. The animal is an entitled North-American meat staple. If the buffalo have been brought back from extinction; for the same reason, the elk should be preserved.

Correspondence ID: 3502

I support removing dangerous, restrictive fencing from Tomales Point. Please consider the welfare of this unique elk species-Point Reyes Tule Elk-and do everything possible to ensure that they can thrive.

Sincerely,

Aemie Sigler

Correspondence ID: 3507

I strongly support a free roaming herd and a collaborative management plan for the elks. You are moving in the right direction. Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 3510

Preservation, enhancement, and expansion of wildlife and their habitat has never been more important.

Correspondence ID: 3511

I think it is totally wrong to have wildlife fenced in a National Park..

Livestock should not have priority over the wildlife, mainly the Tule elk herd, in the National Park or any park for that matter.

Betty Potter

Correspondence ID: 3512

I strongly support Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan, which would remove the elk fence and allow elk to freely roam throughout the area. Free movement would allow the elk herd to express their natural roaming instincts and would also allow them to better respond to environmental conditions, including drought. Allowing the elk to roam freely would also help avoid the inbreeding that results from confinement and would therefore better support genetic diversity and the elk's long-term survival.

I also support the plan's inclusion of native voices through the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. This mutually-beneficial approach would allow the Park Service to leverage the vast knowledge that the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria have about how to best steward the land and would also respect tribal history.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3514

Please free the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 3515

Currently a resident of North Carolina, I am a retired NPS park ranger and California traveler. I thank you for preparing a plan that provides better protection for the Tomales Point resources. I strongly support Alternative B: removal of the elk fence, allowing the tule elk to roam free and maintain the wilderness character of the park.

I also support collaborating with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, as proposed, to make Tribal views and traditional knowledge a part of park management. In addition, I support the proposal to control invasive plants in order to protect natural and cultural resources within the park.

Thank you!

Kathryn Tilford

Correspondence ID: 3517

YOU MUST SAVE THE ELK! THIS WAS THEIR HOME LONG BEFORE HUMAN BEINGS ARRIVED HERE!

Correspondence ID: 3518

Please remove fences and let the Elks roam freely.

Thanks!

Irada Carmi

Correspondence ID: 3519

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the

Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

These elk need protection. Please

Correspondence ID: 3520

WE NEED TO SAVE THE ELKS

Correspondence ID: 3521

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration and for freeing the tule elk.

Sincerely, Elaine L Mark

Correspondence ID: 3526

There are ways to do things that may take a little longer but protect wild areas and we know better so this should be done.

Thank you, Kelsey

Correspondence ID: 3528

I believe the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 3530

Dear NPS,

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Sincerely, Brett Nelson

Correspondence ID: 3531

Take down the fence & let the tulle elk roam the park unencombered

Correspondence ID: 3532

Of course, fences should be removed from wilderness areas as much as possible. I have read the Tomales Point Area Environmental Plan and totally agree that the fence should be removed.

Correspondence ID: 3533

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 3534

I am writing because I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As I am sure you already know, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

In addition, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you ,

Renee Snyder, Ph.D.

Correspondence ID: 3536

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 3541

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk

Correspondence ID: 3542

do this

Correspondence ID: 3545

No more cattle on public lands. Allow the elk to move freely and thrive. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3547

Please protect Tule Elk by selecting Alternative B, the NPS preferred option. Please remove structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness to allow Tule elk to graze rather than cattle. Stop using motorized removal and herbicides.

Correspondence ID: 3548

I've been following this nonsense for years and this has gone on way too long. Quit bowing to the powerful ranching industry and take the fence down. Do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 3549

Thank you for working on a plan to better manage the elk herd in their confined space at the park. I strongly support Alternative B, which will allow them as much freedom to roam as possible. The electric fence does not allow the elk to change location, as needed, dependent on weather and other changeable conditions. It is best to give wild animals as much freedom of range as possible. Please work in partnership with the Graton Rancheria Tribes to incorporate their native wisdom into all aspects of the management of Tomales Point. They have ecological, historical, and cultural knowledge that will benefit all regarding the flora and fauna of this natural space. The management plan should include prescribed burns that will enhance and enrich the area.

Correspondence ID: 3551

Greetings, I am requesting the bureau take action to remove the Elk fence restricting animal migration from Point Reyes. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3552

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Thank you for protecting our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3554

wild critters should have the right to be able to roam the wilderness freely

Correspondence ID: 3562

Free them!

Correspondence ID: 3564

Please Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 3565

free the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 3566

I'm writing to voice my support for freeing these rare elk so they can roam naturally in their native habitat. NPS' mission is to preserve and protect species within its bounds, as well as not hinder normal migration of said species.

Correspondence ID: 3568

free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 3569

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3572

These wild animals need to be able to roam as much as possible. The fact that native Americans are part of the plan makes this plan so much better. Please take down that fence.

Correspondence ID: 3573

National parks belong to all of us, and we must preserve and protect them for the future i

Correspondence ID: 3575

Please protect the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3576

I support alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option.

In addition, I urge consideration for:

Elimination of cattle grazing in Point Reyes and the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Minimization or elimination of herbicide use in the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Expand the EA to include discussion of how water tanks, troughs, fence, etc... will be removed (preferably without use of motorized vehicles).

Correspondence ID: 3577

FREE THE TULE ELK !!!!

Correspondence ID: 3578

Here is a draft comment you can use to advocate for the Tule elk and the Philip Burton Wilderness as per the National Park Service's Environmental Assessment for the Tomales Point Area Plan:

- - -

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the National Park Service's (NPS) preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore. The removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed during the recent drought is crucial for the restoration and natural roaming of the Tule elk within the Philip Burton Wilderness. However, I believe several adjustments to Alternative B are necessary to ensure compliance with the Wilderness Act and to protect the wilderness character of the area.

****Key Points:****

1. ****Support for Alternative B:****

- I strongly support Alternative B as it promotes the removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence outside the Wilderness. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they threaten the integrity of the Wilderness and the survival of the rare Tule elk.

2. ****Non-Motorized Removal of Water Structures:****

- The removal of unlawfully built water structures in the Wilderness should be carried out using non-motorized means. These structures are small and can be removed without motor vehicles, ensuring minimal impact on the Wilderness.

3. ****Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA):****

- A comprehensive MRA is essential for the removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The Environmental Assessment (EA) is incomplete without an analysis detailing the methods for removing these installations. The inclusion of the MRA will ensure the process adheres to the Wilderness Act.

4. ****Elimination of Cattle Grazing:****

- Cattle grazing should be phased out in Point Reyes and the Wilderness as originally intended when the seashore was established. Grazing by cattle is incompatible with Wilderness values and poses a threat to the ecosystem.

5. ****No Use of Herbicides:****

- The use of herbicides in the Wilderness should be prohibited. Removing cattle and the fence will promote a better distribution of Tule elk and help control invasive plants naturally.

6. ****Natural Fire Regimes:****

- Natural fires should be allowed to shape the wilderness landscape rather than relying on manager-ignited fires, which can favor non-native invasive species. This approach will maintain the natural ecological processes of the Wilderness.

7. ****Removal of the PG&E Power Line:****

- The PG&E power line should be removed from the Wilderness to preserve its undeveloped character. The NPS should explicitly state in Alternative B that the removal of the power line is included in the preferred action.

In conclusion, while Alternative B is a positive step towards restoring the natural conditions of the Philip Burton Wilderness, these additional measures are necessary to fully protect and enhance the wilderness character of Tomales Point. I urge the NPS to consider these adjustments to ensure the long-term preservation of this unique and valuable ecosystem and the Tule elk that inhabit it.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely, Meg Baker

Correspondence ID: 3580

Please, you must help the elcs!!!!

Correspondence ID: 3581

Tule Elk deserve to stay put and not be killed or unnecessarily moved. Should be underground passageways for them to cross roads safely.

Correspondence ID: 3583

free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 3585

We must protect innocent wildlife. We have no right to use and abuse them!

Correspondence ID: 3586

Please choose Alternative B to remove structures in the Wilderness and the fencing.

Alternatives A & C degrade the wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removing the structures must be done with non motorized means.

Minimal Requirement Analysis is needed for the removal of tanks, exclosures, fencing and troughs. The EA to date is inadequate without a discussion of how such removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Grazing by cattle must be disallowed in Point Reyes, in alignment with the original agreement when the area was first established. Additionally herbicides must not be used. Removing the fencing and the cattle

would allow the Tule elk to roam more freely and as such would eliminate the need for herbicides as their movements will mitigate against the expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

For the love of god, remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 3587

REMOVE THE POWER LINE AND PROTECT THE ELK AND OTHER WILDLIFE.

Correspondence ID: 3588

We MUST focus on the future of our planet and all of it's inhabitants before it is too late.

Correspondence ID: 3589

God blessed us with the elk, please take care of them.

Correspondence ID: 3590

FREE THEM!

Correspondence ID: 3591

Everything must be done to protect our wild areas and the natural ecosystems that exist there. In cases where humans have altered things, we must return everything to its natural state. This will support the wildlife there and encourage recovery of endangered species. My understanding is Alternative B is best with appropriate revisions. Please, support and put Alternative B in action. Thank you, Catherine Pomerleau

Correspondence ID: 3594

I support Alternative B for free ranging Tule elk at Pt Reyes National Seashore and Wilderness area. Remove all cattle and fences restricting the elk.

Thank you, Meredith Taylor

Correspondence ID: 3595

Do the right thing the right way

Correspondence ID: 3596

Fences and walls prevent wildlife from finding food, breeding, and escaping from predators.

Correspondence ID: 3597

I strongly support protecting these elk.

Correspondence ID: 3598

Please free the rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point. Thank you. – Jim Eigo

Correspondence ID: 3599

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you so much for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. These elk have been struggling unnecessarily for far too long. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, SEEK WATER, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has UNNECESSARILY AND CRUELLY caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Civilians risked prosecution and other penalties attempting to deliver water to these destitute elk. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I 100% support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. For the good of the Elk, as well as other fauna and natural flora.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3602

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Some other changes to Alternative B could be the removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed. Eliminate grazing by cattle. Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 3603

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 3604

Hello NPS,

In my opinion, the best option is Alternative B.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be included:

-Eliminate grazing by cattle.

-Remove the PG&E power line.

-Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

Correspondence ID: 3605

Please remove boundary wall for tule elk .

Please stop using toxic herbicides, any pesticides .

Correspondence ID: 3610

HEY HEY!!

HO HO!!

LET OUR WILDLIFE ROAM!!

Correspondence ID: 3611

Urgency

Correspondence ID: 3614

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Marjorie Wing

Correspondence ID: 3615

Always side with animals and nature

Correspondence ID: 3618

Free the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 3619

Removing the Elk Fence at Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness is the best option to save this area for Elk survival. Cattle have no business grazing there. Be a solution to this problem and not the problem to the solution.

Correspondence ID: 3620

Fences are not natural. The elk don't understand this and we are impeding on their natural territory. We need to preserve them and their freedom so that they can continue to survive. Thank you so much.

-Danielle White

Correspondence ID: 3621

Share our planet with all Mother Earth.

Correspondence ID: 3624

Respectfully ask that the fence that confines the Tule elk within the Tomales Point northern area at Point Reyes National seashore Park be taken down. This will prevent a high die count when experiencing drought.

The Ecosystem within the park will be enriched by elk roaming the entire area.

Very much looking forward to visiting the park once the elk are free to roam.

Love your beautiful state and would very much appreciate your consideration in regards to the proposal mentioned above,

Kindly,

Barbie Marquet

Correspondence ID: 3625

I want to stand for nature and against the continuing mass extinction.

Correspondence ID: 3626

Wildlife has the right to roam where they want. It is also critically important for their livelihood. People have built homes on their land but they should be allowed to roam freely. I remember during a wildfire in California the elk where trying to get away and needed water and the fences where blocking them. This is cruel and should not be allowed.

Correspondence ID: 3627

Let's give wildlife a break and go with option B for the sake of the Tule elk, Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 3628

I support a free roaming elk herd. Fencing confines the elk which is a threat to them and other species, especially in drought. Please do what is best for the wildlife at Tomales Point-no fencing.

Correspondence ID: 3629

Let the elk go where they need to be as the seasons and conditions change.

Correspondence ID: 3630

It's time to allow these animals the habitat they once had

Correspondence ID: 3632

Best Wishes !

Correspondence ID: 3633

Hello,

I believe Alternative B is the best option which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. I would make changes to

Alternative B. (1) Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Cattle destroy the environment not to mention the horrible pain and suffering cows experience leading and including their killing (2) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. (3) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. (4) Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. They are poisonous to wildlife and the planet. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 3635

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3636

These animals deserve to be protected.

Correspondence ID: 3638

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 3639

n/a

Correspondence ID: 3640

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3643

Free the Tule elk by removing the fence please!

Correspondence ID: 3644

take down the fence and give them back their native land

Correspondence ID: 3646

Regarding: Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore

I share my thoughts that the proposed Tomales Point Area Plan will protect both the natural as well as the cultural resources of Tomales Point. The proposed new management strategy will be beneficial for the park's currently confined elk herd, therefore I support Alternative B to remove the elk fence to allow the elk herd to roam. This alternative will allow elk to roam naturally and preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will be beneficial, by incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into management decisions about Tomales Point. The plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies are important features. The proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources are important, also.

I appreciate your consideration of my supportive comments.

Correspondence ID: 3647

Our wildlife and the places they live and roam need to be kept safe and secure for them. But, our messed up presidential administration is busy looking into whores and liars and making shit up. Send Biden to the areas these animals are and maybe they will teach him a damn lesson.

Correspondence ID: 3648

Do not limit the herd's ability to range freely.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 3649

Thank you for preparing the Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect our natural and cultural resources while considering a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I am excited to express my strong support for Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined

elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, letting them roam naturally and preserving the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The current elk fence has led to significant issues, including large die-offs during droughts, emergency interventions to provide water, and reduced genetic viability by isolating this herd from others in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that allows elk to roam freely and behave naturally within our beautiful national park.

I also wholeheartedly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point is crucial. Highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, are commendable elements of the plan. Additionally, the efforts to control invasive plants and better protect our natural and cultural resources are much appreciated.

Thank you for taking steps to free our beloved elk and for considering these important aspects in the management plan.

Correspondence ID: 3653

We must protect nature!!

Correspondence ID: 3656

Born and raised in CA. Travel there frequently. Love Point Reyes! Why can't the Tomales Point conservation effort include the elk? Free the elk. We hope CA has more compassion than letting them starve to death. So cruel for the elk! Help them live and thrive. Please, we ask you to remove the barrier fence.

Correspondence ID: 3658

It is time for people to protect nature and wildlife. We have only scratched the surface with understanding the tremendous benefits that people and the world derive from our natural environment and the beings and creatures that populate it. For all of our sakes, it is time to be better world citizens now.

Correspondence ID: 3659

Save the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 3661

Focus on keeping it natural for wild animals. Cattle ruin the land.

Correspondence ID: 3664

The purpose of wilderness areas is to preserve the natural character of the landscape and the floral and fauna which live in it. To allow human structures and enterprise activities within it is to defeat its purpose and make it harder for the animals and plants to survive. Therefore, option B should be chosen.

Correspondence ID: 3666

Please implement Alternative B; this area must be fully protected.

Correspondence ID: 3668

Dear National Park Service People,

The Point Reyes National Seashores is one of the few remaining elk herds in California. I would be a shame not to do everything possible to protect the elk.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Sincerely, Charles Hammerstad

Correspondence ID: 3669

Keep them safe!

Correspondence ID: 3670

I feel the best option the one preferred by NPS - Alternative B. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, please consider these other changes to Alternative B.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3677

With today's climate challenges, we must save all of our creatures. The health of our ecosystem depends upon not letting animals become endangered.

Correspondence ID: 3681

Please don't inadvertently cause harm to these magnificent animals. They need protection not confinement. Please don't keep them from getting water during droughts.

Correspondence ID: 3682

Please NPS free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness!!

Correspondence ID: 3683

Why can't you just let these rare non-humans live the life that was meant for them and not domed to live a life designed by man.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3684

Free the Tule elk

Correspondence ID: 3685

For these animals, if we could just do them the favor of not taking their homeland. Humans wouldn't be able to survive either if someone took their home from them.

Correspondence ID: 3687

Seems like a travesty to keep these magnificent animals penned up. Please let them do what they're born to do. Roam free!

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 3689

Please allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries by removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness area.

Correspondence ID: 3691

whales are almost gone, orcas almost gone, it's a growing list. lets help out species that we can. help the tule elk get what they need please.

Correspondence ID: 3692

Please remove the fence to help this rare, threatened species continue to exist. We have lost too many and need to do everything we can to preserve these tule elk. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3693

Take down the fence,

This is not a zoo! Even zoos recognize the danger of fences. These elk are a a unique subspecies of *Cervus canadensis* and deserve to thrive without human interference of fences. They face enough challenges of climate change and predators. NPS has a responsibility to promote the species indigenous to the lands they manage for the people of this country now and future citizens.

Thank you for thinking seven generations in the future.

Correspondence ID: 3695

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Limit the use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 3696

We must protect nature!!

Correspondence ID: 3697

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability. By keeping this populous herd separate from the other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Thank you.

Sincerely, Dennis Landi

Correspondence ID: 3701

Do the right thing

Correspondence ID: 3702

The Tule Elk need a larger range. I support removing the fence separating them from the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 3703

Please free the elk!!

Correspondence ID: 3704

Can we PLEASE LEAVE THIS FOR OUR ANIMALS that live there,made homes,there,,once done,,,cannot be revived,,,THANKYOU!

Correspondence ID: 3707

please help save the elk!

Correspondence ID: 3708

The elk were there first. We are guests and should act accordingly. Alternative B would minimize our interference with their lives. Alternatives A or C would endanger them. We should quietly remove all our structures and cattle and let the elk alone.

Correspondence ID: 3709

Please remove the elk fence at Tomales Point and take the other necessary actions to ensure the protections of the rare Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 3710

Try doing the right thing for the Elk and any other animals, it's our duty to care and look out for them. This world is not just for us to live in but for animals too. There is so much cruelty done to animals all around the world and its wrong and must be stopped ! It's only us humans who can !

Correspondence ID: 3711

Put it back the way nature intended.

Correspondence ID: 3712

Thank you for the opportunity to add input to the decision-making process. I concur that Alternative B is the best option. A few details could be tweaked, however. 1) Get the cattle out! The original agreement excluded cattle, and that was a good idea. Tule elk take priority. 2) No herbicides! Let the Tule elk take care of plant management. Or manually remove problematic non-native species. 3) Specify via a

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) how the various tanks, troughs, fences, etc will be removed by non-motorized means. they need to be removed. 4) Use fire judiciously and specifically so that it does not favor invasive non-native species. 5) Get that PG&E line OUT! Please be explicit that it will be removed.

Alternatives A and C would degrade the environment and be unhelpful to the elk. Alternative B is on track with a few adjustments.

Correspondence ID: 3713

RE: Tule elk

Good morning.

My name is Dawn Albanese & I'm writing in regards to removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

he best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3715

FREE THE TULE ELK NOW, DAMNIT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ENOUGH SAID!!!!

Correspondence ID: 3716

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This

alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam freely and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 3717

My wife and I have stayed in the proximity of Pt Reyes. The elk herd is magnificent. I think eliminating the fences would help the herd. Reed Oliver

Correspondence ID: 3719

I am submitting this to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness

All in all, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park

Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 3720

I am here to support removing the fences to allow the elks to roam free with certain protective and consistent welfare check measures. Thanks

Correspondence ID: 3722

Save the Tule elk. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3724

Hello,

I support the removal of the elk fence and dairy cattle from Point Reyes National Seashore. Cows are not compatible with the mission of the park service. They degrade the land and water. They are not needed for fuel control or land management. Parks did the right thing with the oyster farms, it is well past time to retire the cattle grazing in the park too.

Sincerely, Mark Langner

Correspondence ID: 3725

Please allow these elk to thrive.

Correspondence ID: 3726

Thank you for your work on the Tomales Point Environmental Assessment. I strong support freeing the Tule elk and restoring and retaining the wilderness character of the area.

I'm writing to express my strong support for Alternative B, but revised as follows:

1. eliminate grazing by cattle in Point Reyes or the Wilderness.
2. eliminate the use of herbicides on invasive plants in the Wilderness
3. remove the PG&E power line.
4. permit natural fires - instead of manager-ignited fires - to shape the landscape
5. remove structures and fencing, tanks, troughs and so forth but only after performing a Minimum Requirements Analysis to guide the removal process.
6. avoid the use of motor vehicles in the restoration process.

Again, your efforts to are appreciated

Correspondence ID: 3727

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered, such as: removal of water structures unlawfully built, eliminating grazing by cattle, not using herbicides, allowing natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions, and removing the PG&E power line.

Correspondence ID: 3728

In my opinion: The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

- 1.) Removal of small water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means and can be performed easily.
- 2.) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- 3.) Eliminate grazing by cattle. Seriously - cattle have no business in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established and removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk.
- 4.) Natural fires should burn naturally and shape the wilderness landscape - let's not give non-native invasive plants a chance with manager-ignited fires.

Lastly -

- 5.) Please remove and state -specifically- in new policy that the PG&E power line will be removed from the Wilderness.

Wilderness = Wilderness. Before it's too late...

Thank you!!!

Correspondence ID: 3729

- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 3731

Please remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 3732

I would love to see this country do the right thing for once and help these animals. I'M SICK AND TIRED OF THE GOVERNMENT KILLING OF ANIMALS!

Correspondence ID: 3733

We need to protect all species, but particularly those who are endemic and threatened. It has come to my attention that the Tule Elk may be at risk. Based on information that I have received, I am making the following points.

Of the options available, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Poison is poison. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate the expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Respectfully,

Jeanette Shutay

Correspondence ID: 3734

It is well known that elk need room to roam freely and must not be confined.

Correspondence ID: 3735

Hello!

Let's keep wilderness wild! We've already demonstrated our ability to destroy ecosystems. Let's keep this one intact!

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Geoffrey Saign

Correspondence ID: 3736

Leave wild Elk to be free

Correspondence ID: 3738

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3739

Please do what is right for the elk.

Money isn't everything. Let them live free!

Correspondence ID: 3740

Please do the right thing for the Elk and their environment. Give them the space and the natural environment they deserve. Extinction is forever!

Correspondence ID: 3742

I want to advocate for Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the

Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. The point is to keep Wilderness wild!

Some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. Motor vehicles are antithetical to the idea of wilderness, pack in and pack out with your feet!

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 3743

Pt. Reyes is one of our favorite places on earth; one of the reasons is because we look forward to seeing the tule elk free in the area. Please leave them be.

Correspondence ID: 3744

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3746

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 3747

Free the Elk

FREE THE ELK

Take down the fence!

End the leases for the cattle operations!

Let the elk roam free!

Remove the cows!

Free the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 3749

We need to protect our wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 3750

Alternative B is the best, but it is critical to eliminate all cattle grazing.

Correspondence ID: 3751

please protect the tule elk. they are so eautiful. no more cattle farms. free the tule elk

Correspondence ID: 3752

Please take down the fence and let the elk roam naturally. Thanks

Correspondence ID: 3753

Letting the Tule Elk roam free is a very good plan for this special species. I would like to suggest that:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Cattle grazing be eliminated.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3754

Protect biodiversity. Protect nature and protect humanity.

Correspondence ID: 3755

Please allow them to be the in their naturally free roaming Ways leave Water for them in these challenging dry times ...

We are all on this Earth together .

Thank you for your Caring

Marlene Fischer

Correspondence ID: 3756

Please

Correspondence ID: 3757

Remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the wilderness and across Tomales Point. Adjust Alternative B to ensure that this area is dedicated to wilderness and wildlife. Remove the power line. Protect the precious elk!

Correspondence ID: 3759

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 3761

Good day. I would like to submit a comment concerning the management of the Tomales Point Area and the Tule elk. I was watched over the years as ineffective strategies have hurt the natural environment and animals around this area of California. The idea that there are park lands that limit wildlife movement just blows my mind as seeing wildlife is one of my favorite parts or visits parks and public lands.

I have read several articles about the alternative Plan B. I am glad that the park service is considering it as I have concerns about the other plans and their impact on the native elf. However, I saw suggested improvements that I tend to agree with and would like to put my support behind.

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. There is no need to do more damage to these wilderness areas.

- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B

-Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. The fact that this is even happening in a park like Point Reyes just blows my mind. The point of our parks is to protect their natural beauty. There is plenty of public lands that are open for cattle grazing. A national park should not be one of them.

-Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. I understand that control burns are needed in some cases. However, I know the policy in most parks is to let fires naturally burn while protecting structures. This should be the same policy in Point Reyes. Allowing the elk to move freely will help limit over growth of vegetation.

- Remove the PG&E power line if possible. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. I understand that there may be a need to run lines in this area. However, given the fact that power lines have been the cause of several recent California fires, the idea of these lines being in the park is unsettling. If they must stay, I would hope the NPS has certain standards of maintenance and upkeep to protect the park from issues that these lines may cause.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts as well as considering Plan B. I love Point Reyes and would love to see it returned to the natural environment it once was. Have a good day.

Alyson

Correspondence ID: 3763

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 3766

Free elk!

Correspondence ID: 3768

Alternative B is the only feasible solution!!

Correspondence ID: 3770

Letting these majestic animals roam FREELY is crucial to the sustainability and survival of these species and also the biodiversity in the area. Nature knows best when nature is not controlled by man. Let them roam free please.

Correspondence ID: 3772

I support free roaming elk. TEAR DOWN THE FENCE!! It endangers them!!

Correspondence ID: 3773

sometimes, a fence like this may be a good idea if a fight between a citizen (after she gets pulled over) may get out of hand. Consider this: most drivers have a tendency to become very agitated if confronted after having to much alcohol to drink.

It's very common for weapons to be drawn between both parties involved; whether it's a gun, Taser,,, or even a knife. Along with swearing. In many situations, the incident can turn into a "level-4".

When that happens, that's usually the highest/most severe/serious.

Correspondence ID: 3774

Leave the elk alone

Correspondence ID: 3775

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

Correspondence ID: 3776

I urge you to:

1. Remove the fence and allow tule elk to roam freely
2. Remove the PGE power lines
3. If the water structures are removed, do it without motorized vehicles
4. NO cattle grazing in Point Reyes or ANY public land
5. NO herbicide use in wilderness areas

Correspondence ID: 3777

The best option which has been offered is Option B. The unlawful barriers and water structures need to be removed without the use of motorized vehicles. Moreover, cattle should not be grazing on our public lands. they destroy the land. We need the most natural conservation including lack of pesticides and herbicides and allowing natural fires to restore the area to its natural, most healthy state.

Correspondence ID: 3778

Animals can't see for themselves

Correspondence ID: 3779

Please let these elk roam free again.

Correspondence ID: 3781

For years - there has been an outcry about the treatment of the Tule Elk in this Wilderness Area.

The NPS is finally listening & looking at the results of fencing wild animals from their habitat in order for private livestock interests to increase their profits.

These Wild animals deserve better. The NPS choice of Alternative B is of course the right choice-finally.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removing the unlawfully built water structures needs to be done without the use of motor vehicles and MRA (minimum requirements analysis) should be required in order to do the removal properly and without disturbing the wildlife.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the ORIGINAL AGREEMENT when the seashore was established.

These livestock producers (dairy or beef) leases should have been ended years ago as per that agreement!

This was intended to be a National Park/Seashore. NOT a pasture for livestock.

Correspondence ID: 3782

Please consider my comments.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3784

All animals deserve to be free of threats and being killed by ignorant people. Leave the elk alone! Leave all the animals alone! Do your jobs and provide wildlife the protection and dignity they deserve. Remember, they were here before us.

Correspondence ID: 3786

Wildlife has it hard enough with all the environmental degradation we've done all over the continent take the fences down thank you

Correspondence ID: 3787

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Protecting wilderness areas is paramount! WE CANNOT SURVIVE ON THIS PLANET WITHOUT HEALTHY AND PROTECTED LAND, AIR, WATER, AND WILDLIFE!

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3788

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3791

Please remove the structures that inhibit these elk!

Correspondence ID: 3795

Please let the elk roam freely. They are God's creatures too

Correspondence ID: 3799

Thanks for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3801

We need to preserve our lands. We cannot keep destroying our planet. We need to save for our future..

Correspondence ID: 3803

Dear NPS:

I write in support of removing the fencing-in of Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. Your Alternative B is the way to go. Point Reyes is my home-away-from-home and every wild creature who lives there needs our protection. The ranching is not good for our park, but until that is removed, we must allow the Tule Elk to live freely. It is not the public's responsibility (meaning NPS that we support with our taxes) to help or protect ranchers from wildlife. They shouldn't even be there, so it's up to them to treat the land with respect and protect THEIR animals from predators and disease without harming or

confining wildlife. I have seen so much junk piled up around these ranches, in the middle of our seashore, it's not ok for them to trash the park and try to restrict the elk.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3804

Please choose option B:

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 3807

I support the free roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. Please follow it and protect natural and cultural resources. Please free the elk

Correspondence ID: 3808

Biodiversity is essential to the health of our planet. It would be nice if you could act on that instead of your current and damaging shot-sightedness re: the endangered elk, top predator wolves, etc.

Correspondence ID: 3809

leave our wildlife alone. We are losing our wildlife faster than ever, thanks to you okaying hunting. Once gone and never more to be seen will be on you.

Correspondence ID: 3812

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3813

Free the Tule elk!

Correspondence ID: 3815

Leadership in America needs to speak up.

Correspondence ID: 3818

Go with Alt B and make it a true wilderness

Correspondence ID: 3820

i agree with wilderness watch and the NPS.....alt B.....no motors

Correspondence ID: 3821

RELEASE THEM FROM PRISON, FREE THEM AND LET THEM LIVE. BREAK DOWN THAT WALL

Correspondence ID: 3822

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 3823

Please remove the fences that are restricting the movement of the Tule Elk herds on Tomales Point. Nature and the animal species that we co-habit the earth with have as many rights as we do to live freely

and thrive on the earth. Fencing the elk in and restricting their range is detrimental to them and should be stopped.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sari Steuber

Correspondence ID: 3825

Save them all!

Correspondence ID: 3827

The fate of one of our native species is unequivocally at stake. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. For example, removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. Also, eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action. Thank you for doing the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 3828

Let these animals live. Horrific evil.

Correspondence ID: 3833

Thank you for making Alternative B the NPS preferred option.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the best choice.

Alternatives A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Some changes to Alternative B should be considered.

1. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness needs to be done by non-motorized means consistent with The Wilderness Act. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
2. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
3. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as specified in the original agreement when the seashore was established.

4 Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness Area. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

5. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

6. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. It should be removed from the Wilderness. Please state explicitly in Alternative B and the preferred action that the PG&E power line will be removed.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 3835

Dear National Park Service,

Please free the Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time,

Maria

Correspondence ID: 3836

Dear NPS officials:

I appreciate the progress that has occurred during this planning process. Please consider my following comments:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Limit use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Please explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Many thanks for this positive work and for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 3837

Tera down that fence

Correspondence ID: 3840

FREE THE RARE ELK

Correspondence ID: 3843

please protect wildlife and landscapes

Correspondence ID: 3844

Please stop

Correspondence ID: 3846

I love the elk

Correspondence ID: 3848

Free elk. Now.

Correspondence ID: 3849

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the

Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3850

protect rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness!

Correspondence ID: 3851

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3853

Leave it alone.

Correspondence ID: 3854

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3857

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 3859

The Tule Elk must be free of their enclosure. The fence must be removed NOW!

Correspondence ID: 3860

Free the elks

Correspondence ID: 3861

Please let the elk roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 3863

Please protect the Point Reyes Tule elk herd and their immediate environment by expanding their range in the Philip Burton Wilderness and allowing the elk and other wildlife rewild more of their ancestral range. If water projects need to be removed from their space, if cattle grazing needs to be eliminated, power lines moved - and pesticide use cancelled, that is all to the good. The scientific evidence is growing that expanding wilderness areas and biodiversity has major climate benefits.

Let's make sure the Tomales Point Area Plan meets all the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act, to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 3864

Please allow free access to the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3865

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan proposing to let elk roam freely in the park once again.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 3866

Free the Tule Elk population!

Correspondence ID: 3868

I support Plan A.

Correspondence ID: 3870

Remove the Elk fencing on Tomales Point. Free the Tule Elk so that they may access all areas of habitat, ensuring their survival.

Correspondence ID: 3871

Please keep wildlife wild! We intrude on their environment, not the other way around.

Correspondence ID: 3876

I DO NOT understand why the fence cannot be permanently removed so these BEAUTIFUL CREATURES can roam as Nature Intended !!!!

Is it the Park's Policy to Abuse these animals ???!

By NOT allowing these beautiful elks to roam freely with food and water always available is nothing but a FORM OF ANIMAL CRUELTY !!!

Correspondence ID: 3877

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3878

I am writing to express my support for Alternative B, the National Park Service's (NPS) preferred option, regarding the management of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside the Wilderness. I firmly believe that the removal of these structures is the best course of action. Alternatives A and C, which degrade the Wilderness and endanger the rare Tule elk, should be opposed.

However, I strongly request that the following modifications to Alternative B be considered:

Non-Motorized Removal of Water Structures: The removal of unlawfully built water structures in the Wilderness must be executed by non-motorized means. These structures are small and can be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA): It is essential to conduct an MRA for the removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The Environmental Assessment (EA) is incomplete without a detailed discussion on the removal methods for these items. The NPS must include the MRA as part of the analysis for Alternative B.

Eliminate Grazing by Cattle: Cattle grazing should be prohibited in Point Reyes and the Wilderness, as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Prohibit Herbicide Use: The use of herbicides in the Wilderness should be banned. Removing cattle and the fence will allow better distribution of Tule elk and mitigate the spread of invasive plants.

Allow Natural Fires: Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the Wilderness landscape, rather than using manager-ignited fires which create artificial conditions and can favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E Power Line: The PG&E power line is an installation that infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. It should be removed under Alternative B and included explicitly in the preferred action by the Park Service.

I urge the NPS to incorporate these changes into Alternative B to ensure the protection and preservation of the Wilderness and its unique ecosystem.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 3881

Please remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 3882

Have you ever been restrained or put in Jail??

I have and having your freedom restricted is more debilitating than anything

I have been subject to...

This is exactly what you are doing when you are restricting the Elks...

We Humans are ALWAYS trying to CHANGE/IMPROVE our surroundings

and invariably we SCREW IT UP...

Leave the Elks and their homestead alone, its a beautiful area

and DOES NOT need improvements!!

Correspondence ID: 3883

Wildlife need to be wild for the purposes of maintaining a varied gene pool. They need to prosper and survive. They are not nuisances; humans are.

Correspondence ID: 3884

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the correct way!

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 3885

Tule Elk need to roam freely without barriers.

ALL LIVES MATTER

Correspondence ID: 3886

Remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 3887

Save the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 3888

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California—is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3891

I believe that Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option, is the best. Take away structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness would be the right option. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Stop the grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. It doesn't make sense as this is "Wilderness".

Please, no herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants!

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. They are finding this out the hard way.

The PG&E power line should not be there. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 3892

Take down the fence

Correspondence ID: 3893

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3894

Please Free the Tule Elk!

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3895

I strongly urge you to pick Alternative B, which removes the elk fence and frees the elk herd on Tomales Point, letting them roam naturally.

This fence has caused lots of elk to die when there's not enough water and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I think the management should highlight Tribal history and cultural resources and incorporate prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thanks for freeing the elk and doing all you can to preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 3897

Please free the rare Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 3902

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape, as nature intended.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness! Removing cattle and the fences would allow for a distribution of Tule elk and would control/manage expansion of invasive plants.

In the end, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option.

Correspondence ID: 3903

Remove the fence, the elk belong there too. Gina Obrien.

Correspondence ID: 3905

I support alternative B to protect the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 3910

Hello.

I am writing to let you know that I totally support a free roaming elk herd and the tearing down of the fence the confines the animals in a smaller area and causes their death during drought periods.

I also strongly support a collaborative management plan which would include protection for endangered butterfly and improved habitat for elks.

It can be done! Please work on it.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 3912

Plan B would remove the power line and for that reason is preferable in the interest of enhancing the characteristics of the wilderness area. We want it wild.

Correspondence ID: 3915

I would like to advocate for Plan B in the Point Reyes area. California especially needs to preserve what wilderness areas it still has for its citizens.

Correspondence ID: 3917

Free the tule elk! Remove the fencing that imprisons the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3918

Please free the Tule Elk!

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Thank you for your consideration of these points.

Correspondence ID: 3919

Please follow plan B to allow Tule elk to roam Tomales Point area with addition of water and other items to protect overall environment.

Correspondence ID: 3920

Make the right choice and allow the elk to roam as they should.

Correspondence ID: 3921

Please free the Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. We have visited this area often since the 1970's and love the natural wilderness environment.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. Please include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Please explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for preserving and taking care of this beautiful area.

Correspondence ID: 3923

Animals don't understand fences and man-made structures, we need to accommodate to them! Do it for the future generations who may not get to experience everything we've seen...who knows how many species will be extinct by then, and how much wilderness that deserved to be protected was built over and exploited by humans. We need to take care of the nature around us.

Correspondence ID: 3925

FREE THE TULE ELK!!!!

Correspondence ID: 3928

Option B is my preferred alternative, with the exclusion of cattle.

Fencing needs to be removed entirely or modified to allow elk to freely range.

I favor invasive weed control using all the tools in an IPM approach. Herbicides should be safe and effective. Post-emergent herbicides with root uptake should generally be avoided to prevent harm to desirable vegetation.

Correspondence ID: 3929

Free Tule Elk!

Correspondence ID: 3930

Please speak up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness by Wednesday, June 5. Comments must be submitted on the NPS site: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

Use your own words, but consider the following talking points:

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3933

Please do more to protect animals and their habitats.

Correspondence ID: 3935

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 3936

The animals need to be able to roam

Correspondence ID: 3937

Help protect these endangered creatures. We need more diversity not less.

Correspondence ID: 3938

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 3939

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 3941

Do the right thing!

Correspondence ID: 3942

In support of alternate B, I would just like it to not permit cattle grazing. Thank you.w

Correspondence ID: 3943

Thank you for doing the right thing in removing the fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness! The best option is Alternative B as long as the following conditions are followed:

The water structures should be removed by non-motorized means.

The NPS must include the MRA as part of the analysis of Alternative B. The removal of tanks, troughs, structures and the fence must be done carefully as to not disturb the land and elk.

Cattle should not be allowed in the Wilderness per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line.

Thank you for your time and please continue to work to restore the Tule Elk and the land to its natural habitat.

Carolyn Stenseth

Correspondence ID: 3944

I support the removal of the fencing and the electric power line that hinder the elk from ranging freely over the landscape.

Correspondence ID: 3945

Please let Point Reyes Tule Elk roam free! They have a right to, just like us. Thank you!

Domenica and family from Swtzerland

Correspondence ID: 3947

Please free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness. and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 3948

Confining wild animals to an enclosure is setting a dangerous precedent for the future of our wild land and creatures. Nature is not meant to be operated like a zoo with such man-made enclosures. A future in which nature is treated this way is a future in which what we have left of the wild is will be lost-- partitioned and stripped into lots that serve no purpose other than to feed the gluttonous appetites of men with dollar signs where their eyes should be.

Thanks.

Correspondence ID: 3950

NPS, please free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Please remove all manmade structures, fences, power lines, and let nature be wild.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California is at stake. There are only a few of these wonderful animals left on earth. It's our duty to protect them.

Steve S.

San Jose

Correspondence ID: 3952

We spent many weekends hiking and walking the beaches in Point Reyes National Park. Never, ever, did we feel like it was OUR park, rather than the native animals. The elk should roam freely and strive for survival; the park is theirs, fences or no fences. Where's the common sense in building "People" fences and kill off the natives?

Correspondence ID: 3956

Elk should not be fenced in by anything that would keep them from roaming free as they have for thousands of years.

Correspondence ID: 3957

Save the elk!!

Correspondence ID: 3959

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 3960

Free the elk

Correspondence ID: 3961

Thank you for allowing public comment on an important matter. Please allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries but the plan needs adjustments:

- 1) Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- 2) Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- 3) Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- 4) Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

- 5) The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- 6) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- 7) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Thank You

Sincerely, Kim Sterrett, RN

Correspondence ID: 3964

As a San Francisco native, I spent a great deal of time at Point Reyes, so I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Philip Burton Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed, as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some changes to Alternative B must be considered:

--Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without using motor vehicles.

--An MRA is needed to remove water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the removal of these elements would take place. Please include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

--Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should no longer be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

--Do NOT use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against the expansion of invasive plants.

--Allow natural fires to burn and shape the Wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Frequent use of manager-ignited fire tends to favor non-native invasive plants.

--Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed. Please ensure that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B.

Thank you for your consideration. My family, friends, colleagues, and I look forward to your next action.

Correspondence ID: 3966

Please free the Tule Elk!

Correspondence ID: 3967

For SO many reasons, which I support and are enumerated by the CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, please:

“Free the Elk.”

Thank you.

--A native Californian

Correspondence ID: 3968

Wild is better!

Correspondence ID: 3970

nothing worse than poor planning. please make preservation of habitats and wildlife movement a priority. we can change our ways. they are struggling to find adequate habitats.

please DO BETTER. think like the animals who were here first.

Correspondence ID: 3971

I encourage the implementation of Alternative B, removal of water structures without using motored vehicles, not allowing cattle to graze and following any ecologically friendly suggestions for this area.

Correspondence ID: 3973

thank you for protecting the Tulle elk habitats and surrounding environment!

Correspondence ID: 3974

Please remove the fences and free these elk.

They have earned, and they deserve, freedom.

Correspondence ID: 3975

Preserving our natural resources is paramount to our nation's future. Please: option B with an MRA, no cattle or herbicides, remove unlawful water structures and the PG&E power line, and allow natural fires. We must allow our key natural spaces to be unencumbered by human interference.

Correspondence ID: 3976

no more cattlemen profits at the expense of wildlife

Correspondence ID: 3977

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

So often human beings propose and implement a plan that time shows is actually detrimental. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Also, a plan that resolves the inadequacies of the original fence idea.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Respectfully,

Bruce Pellegrini

Correspondence ID: 3978

I speak out against elk killing fence.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3980

Please don't fence in these beautiful animal. Let them live their lives to the fullest before we over hunt and or completely destroy our n

natural environment and it's

Correspondence ID: 3981

Save and protect the elks!!! They deserve to live and roam around!!!

Correspondence ID: 3984

I speak out against elk killing fence.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 3986

Free these elk now! What a horrible and inhumane situation this is. Please do the right thing and afford them access to food and water immediately.

Correspondence ID: 3993

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for considering my position.

Correspondence ID: 3994

It's an obvious choice. If no fence is necessary to protect the survival of this rare species of elk, then the fence should go. Even if it is not convenient for some entities.

Correspondence ID: 3995

All native animals deserve to be free to roam their birthright land.

Please remove all irrelevant fencing to allow the balance of nature.

Correspondence ID: 3998

Free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Please explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 4001

please use option B as i understand its the best way to fee The are a Tule Elk.

anyway is best if the above animals are frred from being fenced behind the National Sea shore where they have used the crossing path for centuries,

Correspondence ID: 4002

Dear Friends at NPS:

Although I no longer live in Sonoma County, I lived in the Bay Area for many years and spent so much time exploring NPS parklands, including Point Reyes. The Tule elk situation has troubled me, as it has so many others, for a long time, and I am grateful and pleased to see that you are moving forward with an updated plan to protect the herd.

I hope to see further progress on the issue, particularly a collaboration with Graton Rancheria, the historical stewards of this land and those with the most vested cultural interest in long-term preservation of this irreplaceable ecosystem.

Warmly, Sarah

Correspondence ID: 4004

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred and best option, still needs the following adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character:

a) Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

b) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

c) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

d) Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

e) No herbicides should be used in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

f) Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

g) Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4005

thank you

Correspondence ID: 4009

To Whom It May Concern:

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan for Tomales Point Area

Correspondence ID: 4011

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

How we treat all living things is a reflection of the society. I want to believe we are civilized and do not harm animals carelessly without thinking through what is best not just for humans but all living creatures involved. Please remove the fence so these living, feeling creatures can reach water and live a more natural life and not die a a painful way through lack of water or food.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4012

My heart hopes SO much that the RIGHT thing is done so that ALL living can live their life. 🙏🙏. What if YOU were any OTHER living, how would YOU want to be treated and live your life? 🙏🙏

Correspondence ID: 4013

I support option b.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4014

I am encouraged that the NPS is considering removing the elk fence in the Philip Burton Wilderness. As a resident of Marin County, I strongly advocate this. Tule elk have long been in the Point Reyes area and should not be constrained, especially to an area where access to water is so limited that they have been dying of thirst and hunger. If these elk had been domesticated animals and the owner had treated them thusly, the Humane Society would have been called in long since.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

REMOVAL OF WATER STRUCTURES unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

ELIMINATE GRAZING BY CATTLE. Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

NO HERBICIDES in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

REMOVE THE PG&E POWER LINE. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

--Elizabeth Baker

Correspondence ID: 4015

Please free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore!!

* The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

*

* Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

*

* Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

*

* Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

*

* Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

*

* Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

*

* Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park

Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Carol Hoke

Correspondence ID: 4016

I have been visiting Point Reyes National Seashore for over 30 years, and the reason I visit is to see wildlife and experience wilderness. I'm writing in support of Alternative B which would remove the fence confining the tule elk. This will avoid elk dying of starvation and thirst, and will lead to healthier elk populations at PRNS. I also support working with Native American partners to use traditional ecological knowledge into managing the Seashore.

I am also in support of phasing out all cattle ranching in the Seashore and returning the entirety of the Seashore to wildlife and the public. My taxes should not be used to support private ranching on publicly-owned land.

Correspondence ID: 4018

Please remove the elk fence at Point Reyes National seashore.

Correspondence ID: 4020

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice to maintain the character of the Wilderness.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Hopefully, some other changes to Alternative B could be considered. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4021

Please protect our animals and our land.

Correspondence ID: 4023

Dear Sirs,

I strongly support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Ewa Czyzewska

Correspondence ID: 4025

The elk were there before people were. Leave them in peace to roam their territory.

Correspondence ID: 4026

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4027

Free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 4029

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4032

I visit CA often, including Point Reyes. And I live amidst free ranging elk in Colorado. With regard to the Tomales Point EA, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. The large die offs have to be prevented.

Joan Sample

Correspondence ID: 4034

Please restore Tomales Point to its wilderness best, and improve the lot of the few remaining Tule elk!

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

While these changes seem difficult, they will help save a dying, and iconic, species.

Please do the right thing!


Correspondence ID: 4036

Free the Tule elk in the Phillip Burton wilderness at point Reyes national seashore.

Correspondence ID: 4037

Wild animals in their home wilderness should not be confined.

Correspondence ID: 4038

Remove killer fence. All animals deserve a happy and peaceful lives. No more fences, nets, or traps of any kinds for whatever reason is being put out there... People please STOP! Laws.. please DEMAND 

Correspondence ID: 4041

Please remove the elk fence.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 4042

Take the fence down & let the elk run free. Stop trying to confine them.

Correspondence ID: 4043

save the elk! do the right thing!

Correspondence ID: 4046

This is not only extremely cruel, but it's unnatural for these animals to be in forced confinement.

Correspondence ID: 4048

Let them roam..... do not confine them! Do the right thing for these animals!

Correspondence ID: 4049

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4050

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4051

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment:

Please consider Alternative B as the best choice. Please remove the Elk fence. Support diversity in nature. Remove non-natural barriers and man-made structures without the use of machinery and with the least amount of destruction and noise in the natural settings. Remove cattle from the area and all related structures and fencing.

C'mon folks, make the tough choices that support the Earth, environment, and all native flora and fauna (cattle ranchers can find another spot their herds, and, if not, veggie burgers are better for you, anyway).

Correspondence ID: 4053

This problem has been going on for a long time. It has been well studied. While time drags on, the elk needlessly suffer. They deserve our care and compassion. They deserve to live normal lives as God intended for them.

Correspondence ID: 4054

I urge you to please allow these beautiful creatures to roam free as they have been in the past many decades. Pt Reyes is one of my favorite areas to visit in nature and part of that is because of the purity of it's wild lands. Fences don't fit in that equation. Let the animals have their freedom in this wilderness area. They and I will thank you for it!

Sincerely,

Shondeya Betari

Correspondence ID: 4056

I support letting elk roam free. Fencing an endangered species in, and then letting them die in times of drought, fires, etc. is not very smart management. These are wildlife, and they should be allowed to roam free in the wild. They are not a danger to anyone, and a little supervision and some management, would be a much better way to ensure their survival, than a huge fence.

Correspondence ID: 4062

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. the analysis of Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 4063

Let the elk roam in their natural habitat. Their loss would deprive apex predators like wolves of their natural prey. Balance is appropriate to the natural world. Humans do better with other humans as their neighbors, rather than taking control of wild spaces, where they do not belong.

Correspondence ID: 4064

Please remove the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 4066

As a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

Correspondence ID: 4068

We need to do everything possible to protect and preserve habitat and those that live there. Our natural world is vital to our lives. Thank you. Pam

Correspondence ID: 4069

I'm writing regarding the wellbeing of Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness generally.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, but please consider these adjustments:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done by non-motorized means.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

ELIMINATE grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

If possible, allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Please confirm that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 4070

Free the elk and let them roam where their instincts lead them. Nature always knows best!

Correspondence ID: 4071

We need to do a better job protecting our wildlife and our world---plain and simple.

Correspondence ID: 4073

I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for freeing the tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 4074

NPS, please free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Please remove all manmade structures, fences, power lines, and let nature be wild.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California is at stake. There are only a few of these wonderful animals left on earth. It's our duty to protect them.

Steve S.

San Jose

Correspondence ID: 4076

These animals should be allowed to naturally roam their habitat and not be confined behind fences.

Correspondence ID: 4079

Best Option: Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B to be considered, e.g., - Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. Bad idea. Cattle shouldn't be allowed in Point Reyes or Wilderness.

NO HERBICIDES in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. The Park Service must explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4080

Thank you for allowing the public to participate in the management of Tomales Point. Please consider my comments when rendering a decision at the end of the EA process.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B should be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removing of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate the spread of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Again thank you for allowing the public to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

Correspondence ID: 4081

It is very important for the provisions of the Wilderness ACT to be respected by all branches of government! We owe this to our children and future generations and the countless creatures with whom we share this beautiful planet. The profit motive has driven the destruction of large parts of the planet and it must now be allowed to begin to heal and return to balance. Cattle production has resulted in damage in the Phillip Burton Wilderness and all over the world.

When the Burton Wilderness was established it was understood that cattle grazing would be terminated, in accordance with Wilderness Act principles. Nor do motorized vehicles, herbicides, or fencing belong in Wilderness.

I strongly urge adoption of Alternative B and the removal of structures—fences, water tanks, troughs—by non-motorized means, as well as the PG&E power line, according to Minimum Requirements Analysis.

Correspondence ID: 4082

Please free the tule elk, using alternative b. I have seen the cruelty the fence has wrought!!!

Correspondence ID: 4083

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused elk to die during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes needs a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 4087

It's time these animals had freedom of motion.

Correspondence ID: 4090

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

--Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The

NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

--Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

--Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

--Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

--Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4092

I have walked many miles over the years at Point Reyes National Seashore, rain, sun, Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. When I think of some of the most magical places on the planet that I've been lucky enough to visit I always include Pt. Reyes on the top of my list. Spotting the Tule Elk in their natural setting lifts my spirits. Ah but the cattle ranches... islands of degradation and no trespassing in a sea of beauty. I understand why the ranches were initially allowed to continue as part of the agreement to form the park but that time has long passed. It is time they were removed, the fences, the pesticides, the erosion, the off limits property, the water tanks, the cattle. I also know federal and state land agencies have a tight rope to walk regarding competing interests whether it be recreational users, wildlife or long established farms and ranches. At this juncture in the Pt Reyes saga the scales have

finally tipped in favor of the elk due in large part to the public's love of them and of the land. Please honor this moment in time by removing the ranches and returning the land to its original inhabitants, the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4093

This stretch of California coast has an opportunity for ecological restoration that the Tule Elk can help provide. This would be good for the elk and good for California.

Correspondence ID: 4095

Free the Tule elk!

Correspondence ID: 4098

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

Thank you for your attention,

Regards,

Lia Rodriguez.

Correspondence ID: 4099

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4100

Allowing these elk to move around to different areas is a no brainer. To remain healthy they need to be able to roam. Please do the right thing for these animals to keep them healthy.

Correspondence ID: 4103

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

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I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

The fence is incredibly harmful. Please let these elk roam free.

Thank you, James Knott

Correspondence ID: 4104

I have been fortunate to have visited California numerous times and I believe that actions need to be taken to help insure the survival of Tule elk, a rare endemic species found there.

These elk should be allowed to roam in as much of their traditional range as possible and that means removal of the "elk fence" that currently exists. Additionally numerous water structures that were built illegally must be removed. There are other issues related to this proposal but I favor Alternate Plan B which is the option the National Park Service would like to see implemented.

Correspondence ID: 4105

Arise to the moment!

Correspondence ID: 4109

REMOVE THE INVASIVE CATTLE! Release the Tule Elk to be free! Follow strict wildlife guidelines to protect and ensure Tule Elk thrive and survive!

Correspondence ID: 4111

Free the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4113

Point Reyes Tule elk deserve to be free

These intelligent social animals are native to California but Point Reyes National Seashore is now the only national park where they live. It's a travesty that the NPS has maintained a fence that artificially confines them to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

I was DELIGHTED to learn that the NPS is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again. If this happens, it will not only improve habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, but also better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

I'm writing to ask you to support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. So much depends upon this healing decision!

Correspondence ID: 4114

Leave these animals have their freedom..

Correspondence ID: 4115

I support the Point Reyes Tule Elk collaborative management plan and a free-roaming elk herd. Thank you for approving it. Jerry Swanson

Correspondence ID: 4117

Liberate the elk at Philip Burton Wilderness!

Please use Alternative B, with improvements to make it even more environmentally friendly: no heavy equipment, no pesticides, no cattle grazing!

Correspondence ID: 4118

As a supporter of WildCare and a person who cares about wildlife in California, I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

This plan would right a wrong begun in 1978 with the annexation of the Tomales Point elk herd, and the construction of the fence that holds them captive. The Tule Elk on Tomales Point cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This needs to change.

WildCare has advocated strongly for supplemental water and forage to be provided to the elk herd since 2015, but removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule Elk died in the "Tule Elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020. It is unconscionable to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. WildCare's efforts,

and the work of many other wildlife advocates over the years, have resulted in NPS periodically providing supplemental water and minerals for the elk, but the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Sincerely,

Sarah Atherton

Correspondence ID: 4119

I am commenting on the Tomales point area assessment plan

I would like to note that I am in favor of Plan B which is supported by the NPS

Please eliminate cattle grazing in the Pt Reyes wilderness area as per the original agreement when seashore was first directed

Please do another EA on the removal of tankages and water systems. And please don't use herbicides when the elk can take care of invasive species and we can have a fully functioning ecosystem in place and working properly

Please Remove the PGE power lines and I hope the Tule Elk are finally freed and respected as the indigenous wildlife to the area and they take their rightful place in an area of pristine beauty that is entrusted for them and humans. Having a livestock product grazing on the land is an erroneous use of these lands

Free the Tule Elk thereby restoring them to their role as ecosystem engineers

Thank you

Rebecca Vitale Mandich

Correspondence ID: 4121

Please remove the fences so the Tule Elk can run free again as in the past.

Correspondence ID: 4125

The Tule elk deserve every possible protection! Please assure their health and safety.

Correspondence ID: 4128

Protect these elk

Correspondence ID: 4132

I know I don't live there, but on this tiny planet, we all are involved in what's left of nature and wild things. I have been made aware of the situation of the Tule Elk and their plight in competition with grazing domestic animals. Fences going up and the Tule elk dying to satisfied man's greed and need, as usual. I am happy that the powers that be, have reconsidered their situation and come up with a Plan B, that takes the fences down.

I hope that you will implement Plan B and stop the cruelty that has taken place. The health and viability of the species is at stake here. Unlike mankind that number in the billions and spread like a plague, these are few in comparison.

Correspondence ID: 4134

Pictures don't lie. I've seen the dead elk within their prison. They cannot eat, drink, or breed in a way that will properly sustain them. Please allow them to roam freely as nature intended. To do otherwise is heinously cruel.

Correspondence ID: 4136

Free the Tule elk at Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 4137

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

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Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Send your comments now.

your comments now.

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Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Send your comments now.

Correspondence ID: 4139

Wildlife doesn't belong behind fences, let the natural ecosystems work.

Correspondence ID: 4141

The elk should be able to roam and the fence should be taken down. No cattle should be allowed to graze on this land! If there's one thing that would degrade this land, it's the use of said land by cattle. However, I favor controlled burns across the area, in small sections at a time. In the end, controlled burns would protect the elk so that in the years to come, one massive fire would not destroy the whole area. Why are power lines allowed here in the first place? They should be removed. And yes, water troughs (I assume they are there for the cattle and not the elk) should be removed. These should be broken up and, if need be, removed by helicopter but not by roads. Please help protect this unique land. It is part of our National Heritage! Thank you.

Jerry Hughes

Correspondence ID: 4142

THESE ARE SENTIENT CREATURES. THEY FEEL PAIN AND FEAR. PLEASE STOP THIS PRACTICE.

Correspondence ID: 4144

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS should include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants

Allow naturally ignited fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4147

The elk are not domestic animals that need to be fenced in. Get that fencing out of the park !!

Correspondence ID: 4149

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4151

PLEASE take down the fences confining the Tule elk. This is rare, native wildlife that should be PROTECTED not restricted. They need the space to forage and find water. It is outrageous that livestock take priority over wildlife on National Park Service land. With so much wild land being lost to development, please protect the little that we still have. Protect the land, protect the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4152

Environmental issues important to me

Correspondence ID: 4154

Adopt Alternative B. It is the only way to save the tule elk. Prioritizing the cattle industry destroys the environment. Thank you.

Carol Hepsley

Correspondence ID: 4155

Please remove all of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought.

These animals should be allowed to run free

Correspondence ID: 4156

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4157

I have been visiting Point Reyes for decades, since I was a young child. I have watched the number of elk dwindling, especially in recent years. It is wrong to keep them contained in areas where resources are so limited; they suffer and perish because there isn't enough water; they are confined to an area that cannot sustain them, so they die. The herds are diminishing for this reason. I urge you to do the right thing; to immediately take down the lethal fence, so the elk may roam freely in the park once again, as they are meant to.

Correspondence ID: 4160

Free the Rile elks!

Correspondence ID: 4161

I wish to comment on the plan for the tule elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, Tomales Point. Again, the fact that a 'Wilderness' has cattle grazing and the rare, native tule elk are fenced is beyond comprehension! Please, get rid of the fence. Get rid of the PG&E power lines.

I support Alternative B, with the addition of these points:

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

It seems that Wilderness doesn't command the respect for nature and natural resources as originally intended.

Please change that! Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4163

Please free the rare Tule elk by removing the Tomales elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 4164

Biodiversity is critical to the earth.

Correspondence ID: 4165

Elk need to be set free to roam on their natural habitat.

Correspondence ID: 4167

Remove all non native species to restore the ecosystem to precolonial conditions. This was supposed to

happen decades ago. Stressors due to climate change will require sustainable protections in place as soon as possible.

Correspondence ID: 4169

- Alternative B, the NPS preferred option, is the best choice. The PG&E power line, fence and other structures should be removed in an eco-friendly manner.
- Alternatives A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger the rare Tule elk, hence are bad choices.

Correspondence ID: 4171

Fence on Tomales Point needs to be removed to allow rare Tule elk to roam. Why do we continue to put restrictions and barriers on our lands and waterways?

Correspondence ID: 4173

Thank you for taking a serious look at a new management plan for Pt. Reyes Tule elk. I've had the opportunity to visit Pt. Reyes a number of time to see these magnificent animals.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for listening.

Correspondence ID: 4174

FREE TULE ELK

Correspondence ID: 4175

Save our wildlife please.

Correspondence ID: 4177

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. Removal of the water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. Remove the PG&E power lines; MRA is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence; eliminate grazing by cattle; no herbicides; no manager-ignited fires.

Thank you for your consideration in such matters that require wisdom and compassion.

Correspondence ID: 4178

Alternative B: Preferred Option

Focus: Enhancing wilderness character with specific emphasis on improving the visitor experience in wilderness and providing for additional access¹.

Key Actions:

Removal of Structures: This alternative prioritizes the removal of structures within the Wilderness and just outside its boundaries. These structures could include water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fences. Importantly, the removal process should be conducted using non-motorized means to minimize environmental impact.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA): The MRA is essential for assessing the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The Environmental Assessment (EA) should thoroughly discuss how these removals will take place.

Cattle Grazing Elimination: Alternative B advocates for eliminating cattle grazing in Point Reyes and the Wilderness. This aligns with the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Herbicide-Free Approach: The alternative recommends not using herbicides in the Wilderness. By removing cattle and the fence, the distribution of Tule elk can improve, and invasive plant expansion can be mitigated.

Natural Fire Management: Instead of relying on manager-ignited fires, this alternative encourages allowing natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape. Frequent use of controlled fires tends to favor non-native invasive plants.

PG&E Power Line Removal: The PG&E power line, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, should be removed. Advocacy for explicit inclusion of this action in Alternative B is crucial.

Alternative B seems to align well with our values, emphasizing conservation, visitor experience, and responsible management.

Correspondence ID: 4179

Of course you should be doing such an obvious assistance to an important specie!

Correspondence ID: 4181

Please let the Elk roam free take down the fence

Thank You

Correspondence ID: 4182

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4183

Please implement the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

Correspondence ID: 4184

All wildlife animals should be free in their own habitats without men interference. Only when wildlife animals need help, then humans can help. Otherwise they should be free to live their own lives without human interference.

Correspondence ID: 4185

The Tule Elk are beautiful animals that belong here and should be wild, free and protected with access to

water. This is land that also should remain wild, free and protected from special interests and greed. Stand up for nature and the Tule Elk, enough damage has already been done

Correspondence ID: 4187

Please help this beautiful Animals

Correspondence ID: 4188

time to prove humans have empathy

Correspondence ID: 4189

These are special animals and should not have to die due to a fence and no water. Remove the fence please!

Correspondence ID: 4191

Give the elk the free roam they deserve. They have been cooped up too long.

Correspondence ID: 4196

Regarding Tomales Point, please allow roaming for the elk with a cessation of the lethal fence line.

Thank you, Kar Hill

Correspondence ID: 4198

I am writing in support of the plan to ensure the ongoing existence and thriving of the Tule Elk and to urge you to adopt the best of the options: Alternative B (which is also the NPS preferred option). By this option the structures in the wilderness will be removed and the fence as well just outside the wilderness. The other two alternatives (A and C) would endanger the Tule Elk and also degrade the Wilderness. There are also additional changes I would like to urge you to adopt in adopting Alternative B. These are the following: Please remove the water structures that were illegally built in the Wilderness by non-motorized methods. This means that there needs to be a discussion about how to remove the water tanks, troughs, exclosures and the fence in order to meet the Minimum Requirements Analysis as part of the Alternative B plan. Further, even as the original agreement stipulated, cattle grazing must not be permitted in Point Reyes or the Wilderness

With the elimination of cattle grazing and removal of the fence, the Tule Elk would be doing the job of controlling invasive plants, and this would make it possible as well as in keeping with Wilderness principles to eliminate the use of herbicide. I also ask that you permit natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape, instead of using manager-ignited fires, which are counter-productive as they encourage the growth of non-native invasive plants. Last of all I urge you to remove the PG & E power line, which has no place in Wilderness. Please urge the Park Service to explicitly commit to removing the PG & E power line under the Alternative B plan and its preferred action. Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Correspondence ID: 4199

Save the elk and do not install elk-killing fences. Remove any elk-killing fences.

Correspondence ID: 4201

Please ensure that the National Park Service does what Americans believe in - Conservation of our remaining Lands, Flora -Fauna and the remaining Animals that inhabit our shrinking Natural Areas. The natural lands and animals there are treasures that cannot be recreated. You must do every thing in your

power to shield this treasure for future generations . Please remove all man made structures and stop those who want to deny our descendants from seeing our native animals in their natural environment. Every child needs to know that we did everything in our power to preserve nature and the lands that support the native animals . That we thought of them ,our human legacy and safeguarded the natural wonders for them to experience.!

Correspondence ID: 4202

I strongly support Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your time!

Correspondence ID: 4203

Dear NPS,

Regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment with regard to the Tule elk population, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Some other changes to Alternative B should be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed manually and carried out by pack animals.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence in Alternative B. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and their grazing will mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Avoid too-frequent use of manager-ignited prescribed fire, which has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation that infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thanks for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 4206

Please take action to free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4207

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- A minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA in the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate cattle grazing. Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore, as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against the expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation that infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4209

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4210

please help

Correspondence ID: 4211

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4212

Let them go. Please.

Correspondence ID: 4214

Wildlife was born free and they shall remain free... You will ensure they live as such.

Correspondence ID: 4215

Help the elk!

Correspondence ID: 4216

am writing to say that I strongly support the plan to remove the elk fence at Point Reyes National Seashore. Allowing the elk to roam freely will help prevent die-offs from drought and make the area into the natural wilderness it was meant to be.

I also support the collaboration with the Federated Indians Graton Rancieria. This will help to improve the habitat for the elk and help to control invasive plants as well as highlighting tribal views and traditions.

Thank you for taking steps to improve this park and to free the elk.

I

Correspondence ID: 4217

We are not the only species on earth. We need to recognize the millions of species that make life on earth possible for us to live good lives.

Correspondence ID: 4218

The Elk should have priority.

Correspondence ID: 4219

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I am writing in support of removal of the elk fence and allowing the tule elk to roam naturally. Because of our periodic droughts in this area, tule elk have often been trapped within the fencing, where there is

not enough for them to eat. I strongly urge a plan that protects these majestic creatures and allows them to roam freely within the Point Reyes National Seashore.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with local Native Americans to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point, in order to enhance habitat for tule elk, deer and endangered butterflies.

Thank you for freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4220

We must protect wildlife. Let's free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4221

All creatures need to be free

Correspondence ID: 4222

It is important to save these elk. Too often man is responsible for the disappearance of a species, either not caring or not aware of what is happening. We must put a stop to this and the elk are an opportunity to do the right thing. We must save these beautiful animals.

Correspondence ID: 4224

Free the Tulle elk.

Correspondence ID: 4225

THESE ANIMALS ARE THE VICTIMS OF TORTURE BY YHE NPS.

Correspondence ID: 4227

Please let the Tule Elk run free as they should have been all along! Please use non mechanical means to correct the issues that need to be dealt with! And keep the cattle, pesticides, and other harmful factors away from them! I'm not sure why our free animals can't be treated right but it would be great in this instance to see steps in the right direction for our wildlife!!

Correspondence ID: 4228

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered as follows.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4229

Do what's right for the environment.

Correspondence ID: 4230

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Board of Directors and 600 members of the Kettle Range Conservation Group (KRCG). Formed in 1976, Kettle Rangers have been a rural grassroots voice for ancient forest, wild fish, wildlife and wilderness. We submit comments regarding Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore managed by the National Park Service (NPS) and protecting rare Tule elk within the Philip Burton Wilderness Area (PBW).

KRCG supports NPS' preferred Alternative B with additions. We do not support Alternatives A and C because each would continue to degrade wilderness characteristics and harm endangered Tule elk.

In addition, we ask these provisions be included in a modified Alternative B: 1) cattle grazing be discontinued in Point Reyes and PBW as per the original agreement when the Seashore was established; 2) remove PG&E power line structure is not in keeping with the undeveloped character of the PBW, and 3) water structures unlawfully built within PBW be removed by manual, non-motorized means that comply with Wilderness Act guidelines, minimal tools - Minimum Requirements Analysis.

We encourage allowing natural wildfire to shape this beautiful landscape rather than current management prescribed fire.

Correspondence ID: 4233

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Please help restore a holistic Point Reyes environment .

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4234

it is time to PROTECT our public lands and tell the billionaires and gunz nutz to fuck off. STAND UP TO THEM AND TELL THEM NO

Dr. Brunton

Correspondence ID: 4237

Thank you for cosidering Plan B for the management of the Tule Elk however I would also like you to add the following:

Remove all cattle in the wilderness area. Cattle do not belong in our wildernesses, they ae destructive to the environment.

Prohibit the use or chemical weed killers. The removal of cattle and the free roaming of the elk should help manage invasive grasses. encouraging supportive groups to aid in the removal of invasive plants is another way to rid the area of invasive plants.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4238

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles

Correspondence ID: 4239

We are all on this planet for a reason and interrelated. YOU need to use your authority to protect all species. WE can do this with thoughtfulness. PLEASE look at the full picture and do all you can do to keep all species protected.

Correspondence ID: 4242

N/a

Correspondence ID: 4244

We support removing the fences

so the elk can do their thing. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4247

FREE THE ELK!!!

Correspondence ID: 4248

Please help the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4249

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 4250

I am writing to offer limited support of Alternative B, the preferred alternative. It recognizes the values of an untrammeled Wilderness. When I last visited Pt Reyes, I was surprised to see cattle grazing in the Wilderness and the rare elk confined by that fence.

Cattle must be removed as originally promised as well as the infrastructure there that supports the cattle, especially the fence that unnaturally confines the elk. Without the cattle, none of the structures will be needed. The original agreements that allowed cattle in the Wilderness were never in compliance with the Wilderness Act. There has been ample time for the rancher to make other plans. One person's desires should not prevail over serving the entire public.

The powerline must also be removed from the Wilderness. No prescribed burning in the Wilderness, let natural fires burn to restore the natural condition of the Wilderness.

All this infrastructure removal can be easily done with non-motorized equipment, in compliance with the Wilderness Act.

Correspondence ID: 4253

Take care of the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4255

I hardly support a free-roaming elk herd and a collaborative management that includes enhanced habitat for Monarch butterflies and native California plants which will benefit a multitude of insects and birds.

Correspondence ID: 4256

Please allow the Elk to roam freely and remove the fencing

Thank you for helping to protect our Elk and our Wildlife

Sincerely,

Joyce

Correspondence ID: 4257

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4258

Please let the elk that live at the point be free. With the fence down, those creatures can travel to find other places in the point Reyes area to inhabit. It is the right thing to do.

Correspondence ID: 4261

Please let the Elk herd roam free. Leave them alone.

Thank you

Mary

Correspondence ID: 4262

I fully support Alternative B. In addition I recommend eliminating cattle grazing, herbicides, and the existing power line from the area in order to support the wilderness character. Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Dave Heffernan

Correspondence ID: 4263

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4264

Please take down the fence and allow the Elk to roam. We have just brought them back from extinction and we need to do everything possible from that happening again.

Correspondence ID: 4265

National Park Service

1 Bear Valley Rd.

Pt. Reyes

I support alternative B

Margaret C. Ridge

Correspondence ID: 4266

The NPS preferred Alternative B includes the removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 4267

Please stop this from happening!!!

Correspondence ID: 4268

Please remove the elk fence!

Correspondence ID: 4272

Please be responsible to read, consider, and approve this project.

Correspondence ID: 4274

Hello,

First, I want to say that I grew up backpacking in Point Reyes, it was one of my favorite hikes. My family took my sister and I and countless high school students, to backpack from the forest to the ocean. It is such a spectacular place. I have since brought my own children there to enjoy it's unique beauty. Which is why I would like to comment on the future of this amazing place.

It appears that the best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is best for the wildlife. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, please consider other changes to Alternative B.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Please don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Herbicides have already

been shown to harm insects and eventually plants adapt so that they are no longer useful and are just poisoning the soil and groundwater.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to seeing these improvements that will help the Elk and all wildlife at Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 4276

Please help the elk by removing the fence at the Tomales Point area.

Correspondence ID: 4278

Respect animals !!

Correspondence ID: 4279

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Please make it a priority to protect this unique herd.

Correspondence ID: 4280

Tear down the lethal fencing and allow the Tule elk to roam freely in the Park again!! Stop the cruelty!

Correspondence ID: 4281

PROTECT ALL WILDLIFE PLEASE!!!

Correspondence ID: 4282

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Also, please do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Finally, I urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4283

Wilderness must not be compromised!

Correspondence ID: 4286

Option B please. Point Reyes is a national treasure, just like the Cape Cod National Seashore, and let's give the elk a boost as well.

Correspondence ID: 4288

Please pass Alternative B so that my grandchildren and others can continue to enjoy the Thule Elk that are the true natives to Pt Reyes!

Correspondence ID: 4289

Re: the Tule Elk population in the Point Reyes National Seashore

Here's the short, short version: artificial restrictions in their range fly in the face of sound ecological management.

It follows that any fencing within the National seashore that restricts the Elk population's range should be removed.

Correspondence ID: 4292

Our daughter and son in law live a few minutes from Tovalas Bay and we have visited them many times. One of their favorite things is to take us and others as often as we can to see the elk there. Sometimes they graze alongside domestic animals, most times not, but there is no reason whatsoever to have fences or other obstacles in their woodlands. It makes no scientific or other management sense in those areas.

Correspondence ID: 4295

I support free-roaming elk. Please do the right thing for these animals and let them roam free. Thank You

Correspondence ID: 4297

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. Grazing by cattle must end as well as the ending of herbicide use.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Correspondence ID: 4298

Please, free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4299

I am very concerned about the destiny of endangered, rare Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. I think, the removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

and it is necessary to eliminate the grazing of cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

This region is a gift of Mother nature. Everything has to be just as it is, so to speak. For example a wise decision should be to allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

There is also important to remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you in advance

Correspondence ID: 4300

These rare deer should be saved. There should be no plans to destroy them or their habitat. We should have many parks available for wildlife such as the elk to flourish. The government shouldn't let developers get ahold of parks or wildlands.

Correspondence ID: 4301

Keep the elk free-roaming. thank you Gary Lichtenberg

Correspondence ID: 4303

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park

Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4305

No animal should be confined. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4306

Protect elk!

Correspondence ID: 4307

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

.

Correspondence ID: 4309

As a born and raised California resident, I support the removal of any fencing that does not allow for the free roaming of the Point Reyes Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 4311

These creatures are a gift of the beauty of nature and should be preserved now and for future generations.

Correspondence ID: 4312

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. I HAVE EXPERIENCED WATCHING THE ELK WHEN VISITING POINT REYES. I ALSO SAW THE THOUSANDS OF DAIRY CATTLE GRAZING. THE ELK DESERVE TO BE FREE ROAMING. STOP INCREASING THE DAIRY HERDS. FREE THE ELK.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4315

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but the plan still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of this plan.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under this plan and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4316

I recommend the following:

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4317

Save the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 4318

You tried to kill them off in the central valley of California in the 40s and 50s and...by keeping them fenced and limited in a dusty pen. Why are you determined to obliterate them? Maybe you should obliterate the monied factions that want to keep them in the threatened class and purge the bought-and-paid-for administrators of the department.

Serve the people and the welfare of man for once!

Correspondence ID: 4319

I urge the NPS to finally do the right thing and adopt alternate Plan B to take down the fencing that has protected the polluting ranches for decades at the cost of lives of the free-ranging Tule elk. All lobbyist money aside, the NPS knows that the cattle ranchers have long over-stayed, causing decades of damage with their poor stewardship. It is long overdue.

Correspondence ID: 4320

They're wild animals and they need to roam free & migrate without any roadblocks!!

Correspondence ID: 4322

I support alternative B, but all structures, including power lines must be removed to preserve the wilderness. In addition, cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness in accordance with the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4325

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Take down the fence and let these rare elk roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 4326

Please take down the fences and free the Elk.

Thank You

Correspondence ID: 4327

Please help the elk!!!

Correspondence ID: 4329

Free the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 4330

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4331

I am writing in support of Option B for the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore, including the following changes and/or additions to the currently proposed Option B:

- 1) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

2) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

3) Eliminate grazing by cattle.

4) Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

5) Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time and considerations.

Correspondence ID: 4332

Please tear down that dumb fence. Elk need to roam

Correspondence ID: 4333

Support free-roaming. It's the humane thing to do

Correspondence ID: 4334

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I have been enjoying these elk at Point Reyes for two decades. It is sad to see the decline of conditions of their health and the park during this time.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Sincerely

Marcia Sivek

Correspondence ID: 4335

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4338

The best option is Alternative B, Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered

Correspondence ID: 4339

Free them

Correspondence ID: 4340

Make wise decisions for the future.

Correspondence ID: 4341

I agree with the Plan B, the NPS preferred option. Since it is laid out to conform to Wilderness standards, it seems the most helpful/least harmful solution for the elk and for the area.

Correspondence ID: 4343

Alternative B

Natural fires

No cattle grazing

No herbicides!!!!!!!!!!

Remove power line. PG&E doesn't seem to know how to maintain its' systems anymore. Last thing you need is another massive fire.

Correspondence ID: 4344

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4345

Sixty-five years ago, I first witnessed the Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. I have never forgotten the wonderful experience which remains vivid with me to this day sparking a lifelong interest. I continue to find pleasure with the outdoors and the treasure of learning about Nature coming from my early childhood memories which I passed on to my daughter and grandchildren. These free wandering elk herds were a one in a lifetime memory for me. To lose this experience for our future generations would be criminal.

Correspondence ID: 4346

Please save them

Correspondence ID: 4348

Protect this rare elk!

Correspondence ID: 4349

Tomales Point must be protected.

Correspondence ID: 4350

Please stop!!

Correspondence ID: 4351

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4352

Free the Elk! They were here long before we were and have priority over man made plans.

Correspondence ID: 4357

I'm a Animal lover!!!

Correspondence ID: 4358

Please speak up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness by Wednesday, June 5. Comments must be submitted on the NPS site: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

Use your own words, but consider the following talking points:

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4360

I am writing to urge you to free Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

I support Alternative B, and I urge you to do so as well. This places fencing just outside the Wilderness area, unlike Alternatives A and C which endanger the Tule elk and degrade the wilderness. Still, Alternative could be improved with some other changes as follows:

Unlawfully-built structures in the Wilderness must be removed by non-motorized means as they are small.

To remove tanks, troughs, exclosures and fencing, a Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed as part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Cattle grazing should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness at all, per the original agreement made when the seashore was established.

Elimination and prohibition on use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Once cattle and fencing are removed, Tule elk will be better distributed and this will keep invasive plants at bay organically; further, allowing natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape instead of manager-ignited fires will help to prevent growth of non-native invasive plants.

The PG&E power line must be removed. It is another structure/installation, infringing on the natural state of the Wilderness. Please urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4361

Free the Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 4362

We cannot lose lands, animals, wildernesses and any thing else that helps our world to combat all the dangers that face us due to climate change. Our polar bears are in a dire situation; with NO ice caps and enough snow, they will be extinct in our lifetime!! And, THAT'S just the tip of our problems!!!

Correspondence ID: 4363

Please consider freeing the Tule elk.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Thank you.

Adrienne and Kent Cox

Correspondence ID: 4366

Thank you for all your support this far for the tule elk. There is still much to be done:

-Provide a timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for the removal of the elk fence.

Identify any sites where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

-Where possible identify future activities for volunteers, and/or new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species (for example, invasive plant identification and control training and/or volunteer days).

-In the appropriate areas, provide additional wayside signage and environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point.

-Ensure the Final Environmental Assessment captures NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc., in the planning area to minimize immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife.

Thank you for your kind consideration for these wild animals. They have every right to be there, free of wire and fence

Correspondence ID: 4367

I have been following this case since the elk were first being deprived of water at the behest of ranchers, and want to thank you for preparing and implementing a Tomales Point Area Plan that actually protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management plan for the confined elk herd. I enthusiastically support plan B. These Point Reyes Tule Elk were almost hunted to extinction, and they

only live in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Plan B will allow the elk to roam naturally and best preserve the Tomales Point wilderness character of the area. The Tomales Point elk fence caused huge, periodic elk die offs, which is inexcusable. These trapped animals should not die during drought because of a fence in a natural area where they are protected. I also support the Park's Service proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to weave tribal views and traditions about native ecology into the management plan for Tomales Point. Native peoples have a much better track record than non-native peoples at caring for the land.

Correspondence ID: 4368

As a biologist, I feel that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminating cattle grazing is a vital part of bringing the wilderness back to a healthy ecological state. Removing the above ground PG & E line is also important, in keeping with the wilderness nature of PRNS, and removes yet another possible source of wildfires in the PRNA.

Correspondence ID: 4370

Stop the killing fences... just stop.

Correspondence ID: 4371

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Your Tomales Point Area Plan better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4372

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore.

I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 4376

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4377

The ecological balance must be maintained. The web of life is crucial to our own survival.

Correspondence ID: 4380

Protect elk!

Correspondence ID: 4381

To the Park Service,

Wildlife do not recognize man made borders. Barriers to migration impede wildlife's ability to breed and feed. Sound management of wildlife requires regional plans.

I support the Park Service plan for a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

“The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.”

I also support the Park Service's proposed “collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.” Finally, I support the proposals “to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.”

So Thank you for “preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support

Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. “

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

“In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create, but by what we refuse to destroy.” - John Sawhill, President and CEO, The Nature Conservancy, 1999-2000

Correspondence ID: 4386

The best option for preserving the Tule Elk and the Wilderness they inhabit is option B, with some adjustments. Options A and C will damage or degrade the Wilderness. Removal of the water tanks and all associated equipment, as well as the fencing around the Wilderness is the best option for both the land and the elk that inhabit it. However, some provisions to option B are necessary:

- 1) removal of the water tanks and associated equipment/structures should be done without the use of heavy, motorized equipment. It should be done in the least invasive way possible to minimize further harm to the Wilderness.
- 2) prohibit the use of herbicides in the Wilderness
- 3) prohibit cattle grazing. The Wilderness is not to be used for agriculture.
- 4) remove the PG&E power-lines from the Wilderness.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 4389

Thank you for the new Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence. This Alternative is far better for the elk, and for the natural resources in all of the Point Reyes area. Freeing the now-confined tule elk will help save them from periodic die-offs during droughts and avoid the need for emergency water intervention at such times. It also will foster genetic viability of the elk.

I especially support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. It is so important to include Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge in future management plans, and to highlight Tribal history and cultural resources.

I also support using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies, as well as the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect both natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk and for improving the overall management of this special area.

Correspondence ID: 4391

Accept Alternative B. A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Some changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4392

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4393

Hello,

I have been outraged for years that native Tule elk are penned and limited so that non-native cattle can graze and roam on public owned wilderness.

Of the proposals before you, I support Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

- Please remove structures using non-motorized methods.

- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

- No herbicide use.

Our wilderness areas should be wild and support native wildlife.

Thank you!!!!

Correspondence ID: 4394

Please free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton

Wilderness. These poor elk will starve if they can't get past the fence to graze. They are voiceless, vulnerable creatures created by God who deserve our mercy.

Correspondence ID: 4396

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 4397

Please take actions to provide good habitat for elk. They matter as individuals and as an important part of the ecosystem. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4398

Please do the humane thing and eliminate the fence that endangers the elk on Point Reyes.

Thank you, Jean Blackburn

Correspondence ID: 4399

Please remove the fence and let the elk roam free. Select alternative B.

Thank you, James Woods

Correspondence ID: 4400

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4403

I believe the best option is Alternative B, which is the National Park Service (NPS) preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

--Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

--Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

--Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

--Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

--Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

==Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed,

Please ensure that the work to free native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America, be done the wilderness way!

Correspondence ID: 4404

FREE!

Correspondence ID: 4406

Please take down that cruel fence and do everything you can to protect those beautiful rule elk!

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 4407

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I have been reading reports about this unfortunate situation for years and I think this analysis by The Center for Biological Diversity needs to be considered.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4408

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the effort put into crafting the Tomales Point Area Plan. It's crucial to me that this plan prioritizes the protection of our natural and cultural treasures while also reconsidering how we manage the elk population in the park. Alternative B will serve that priority best, by allowing the elk to roam freely. This change would not only grant the tule elk their rightful freedom but also help maintain the wild essence of Tomales Point, spanning across its vast 2,900-acre territory.

The presence of the elk fence at Tomales Point has resulted in distressing consequences, particularly evident during drought periods when we've witnessed significant die-offs among the elk population. Emergency measures have been necessary to provide water to stranded animals, and the fence has also led to the genetic isolation of the elk herd, which isn't beneficial for their long-term health. It's imperative that Point Reyes be managed in a way that enables elk to live naturally and move freely within the park boundaries.

Additionally, I am in full support of the proposed collaboration between the Park Service and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Their involvement will ensure that Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge are integrated into the future management of Tomales Point, enriching our understanding and stewardship of this precious land. I commend the plan's efforts to highlight Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as its strategies to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies through controlled burns. I also endorse initiatives aimed at controlling invasive plant species and enhancing the overall protection of our natural and cultural heritage.

Thank you for taking steps to release our beloved elk from confinement.

Correspondence ID: 4409

Do the right thing!!

Correspondence ID: 4410

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4411

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Collaboration with all things human and non-human are going to make it possible for us to survive in this time of worldwide ecological disruption. Regarding this, I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

I was also very encouraged to hear that you are including working with the Graton Rancheria Federation to include their time tested protocols for land and natural resource management.

Thank you, Mercy Sidbury

Correspondence ID: 4412

Please leave the rule elk alone & unmolested in their natural habitat.

Correspondence ID: 4414

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4415

Please do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4416

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4417

Please let the Elk roam free. They need protection, and the earth with it's various animals are so important to the health of the planet.

Correspondence ID: 4421

I strongly support the choice of Alternative B. This strategy will allow Tule Elk the environmental conditions they need to survive by removing the exterior fence and the extraneous structures within the

Wilderness itself. Alternatives A and C must not be considered since they endanger the Tule Elk and degrade their environment.

However, some additional changes in support of Alternative B should be considered.

- Small, easily removable water structures that were unlawfully placed in the Wilderness should be removed by non-motorized methods.

- Cattle grazing must be eliminated. When the seashore was first established, the original agreement did not permit cattle within Point Reyes or the Wilderness. This policy needs to be enforced.

- The use of herbicides is not necessary. Removal of the fence will allow for the natural control of invasive plants since Tule Elk grazing will mitigate uncontrolled growth of those plants.

- The PG&E power line needs to be removed. It infringes on the character of the Wilderness and detracts from the natural beauty and safety of the area.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4422

Take the fence down so Tule elk can forage and live!

Cows can be fenced in as they should be on their owners own private property, not allowed to roam over public land now and forever. Move cows to their owners land, wild animals need their spaces back, free from cow's destruction. Wild animals were there first. Please help the Tule elk by removing the fence.

Return them to their home, with freedom to LIVE.

Correspondence ID: 4423

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4424

Spare nothing to protect the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 4425

The Tule elk need to be free already. It's despicable these animals are not allowed to roam in wild and die of starvation and thirst. How can this keep happening in the state of California?

Correspondence ID: 4427

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4430

Please allow the Tule Elk to roam freely in the Point Reyes National Park. Tear down the elk-killing fence!!

Thank You

Sincerely, Jan McCreary

Correspondence ID: 4432

We must do everything we can to protect the environment.

Correspondence ID: 4433

Dear NPS and tule elk.

I still remember when I saw my first Tule Elk; truly majestic and very shy. The name and that they are native californians means so much to me. I know you are doing your best to preserve the natural environment and I thank you for all your efforts to keep our planet safe for future generations..

I support Alternative B. It seems like it is the best option for the natural environment and the health of all the flora and fauna, not just the Tule Elk. I don't know the effect of cattle on the environment, probably it is not good, but it seems like cattle don't belong in a national park and might interfere with any kind of migration of animals that live around the area. also, I do worry about the Elk during drought years. Will there be adequate water if the water troughs are removed? Maybe water collection sites can be installed instead of the troughs which breed mosquitos.

Thank you for your time reading my comments. I admit, I am uninformed about all the needs of preserving our parks. However, I am glad that you are willing to listen to concerned californians about matters that concern the california wildlife habitats. (I work with administrators who don't always listen and have other agendas-so sad)

Sincerely

Pinar Alscher

Correspondence ID: 4434

Justice for human beings that have no respect for wildlife and commit horrid acts of pain on them for enjoyment. It is time we exemplify sentencing with longer incarceration, mandatory wildlife education, revocation of hunting and drivers licensing until completion of wildlife examination.

Correspondence ID: 4435

I strongly support the view and assessment of the Center for Biological Diversity for elk at Tomales Point Area.

Correspondence ID: 4437

To Whom it May concern,

I am writing to support and ask for removal of the fence which currently restricts the movement of tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The removal is important for maintaining a healthy and diverse gene pool of the elk in Point Reyes Natl. Seashore and a healthy ecosystem in the park.

Thank you!

Christoph Schorl

Correspondence ID: 4438

I never heard of Phillip Burton Wilderness or Tule elk before this! I'm glad NPS favors the Alternative B option, as I do! I'm also in favor of getting rid of cattle grazing permits and the PG&E powerline in the wilderness area.

Thanks.

Correspondence ID: 4440

I'm glad you have prepared a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

The elk fencing has been disastrous for the elk. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

The Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is a good idea. Creating partners in management makes residents feel welcome and appreciated. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources. I'm not a fan of using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, but if done as a pilot study, I would accept this.

I very much support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4442

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Thank you for your time,

Andrea DePaola

Correspondence ID: 4447

Please allow the Tule elk to roam free.

Correspondence ID: 4449

I visit Point Reyes and the Tomales Point area as I have family in the area. Let's get the management guidance right and protect this rare wilderness area and its wild occupants.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. Please consider and incorporate these changes to Alternative B:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your work on this important wilderness area.

Correspondence ID: 4452

I am writing to express my support for Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk and should not be implemented. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4454

Free the elk. Let them take their natural place in this national park.

Correspondence ID: 4456

Alternative B is a good start, but it needs to be tuned up to describe how the renovations would be conducted.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B

Correspondence ID: 4458

Спасение животных- это фундамент будущего человечества

Correspondence ID: 4459

I used to live there. The Pt Reyes Elk Sanctuary is one of my favorite places on earth. Please keep the elk and cougars free and safe. We do not need more cows. Thanks you! Be wise. And kind.

Correspondence ID: 4463

i would like to say that the land ,the forests and the grass and the flowers must be protecting ..
don't harm the land..the earth and the wildl;ife

Correspondence ID: 4464

The elk must be free to roam and have access to food and water. Their current situation is inhumane!

Correspondence ID: 4465

NPS preferred Alternative B includes removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought. The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

Correspondence ID: 4466

These are my comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

I favor Plan B, with some alterations.

The Tule Elk fence and the water structures installed during the recent drought should be removed, but without using motorized vehicles. There should be a Minimum Requirements Analysis for the removal of these things. The Environmental Assessment is incomplete without stating how they are to be removed.

The PG&E power line should be removed. It is not a structure that is part of the Wilderness character of the area. The Environmental Assessment should state explicitly that the power line will be removed.

Grazing by cattle should not be allowed. This is part of the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Herbicides should not be used in the area. There should be fewer invasive plants once the fence and cattle are removed and the elk can roam naturally.

Allow natural fire to burn rather than manager-started fires, which allow for more invasive plants.

Otherwise, Option B is my preference for managing Tomales Point Area.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Tina Rhea MS Wildlife Ecology

Correspondence ID: 4467

Please keep wildlife free!!

Correspondence ID: 4468

Please do the right thing.

Thank you

robin morgan

Correspondence ID: 4469

PLEASE RESTORE THIS AREA TO ITS ORIGINAL STATE. ALSO, PLEASE DO NOT DO NOT DO MORE DAMAGE UNDER THE GUISE OF 'RESTORATION'.

CATTLE SHOULD BE TOTALLY OUT OF THE EQUATION. THEY DO MORE DAMAGE THAN ANYTHING ELSE THAT GRAZES. RANCHERS DO NOT PAY SUFFICIENTLY TO COMPENSATE FOR THE DEVASTATION.

THANKS,

SUZANNE GASPAR

Correspondence ID: 4470

Please choose Alternative B, and remove the structures and the fence in the Wilderness. But consider changing Alternative B in the following ways: Remove water structures by non-motorized means.

Minimum Requirements Analysis is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

The elimination of grazing by cattle is essential to the health of Point Reyes and the Wilderness. This was the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Stop the use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

And, finally, please remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Please urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4472

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined and vulnerable elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing the elk herd to be unconfined, which is to say, free. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Any fragmentation of the population was always bound to result in reduced genetic diversity. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4473

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4476

Remove the Elk fence NOW!

Correspondence ID: 4478

Dear NPS Committee,

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time,

Best,

Claudia H

Correspondence ID: 4479

Let the elk live naturally without fences

Correspondence ID: 4480

Apparently, the "elk-killing fence" prevents the animals from accessing water? If there's 2,900-acres in Tomales Point, give them some room to roam! This fence reduced the elk's genetic viability, too, by keeping this population separate from other elk in the park,,,

I hear also that there's a management plan proposal collaborating with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, to enhance habitat for the elk, control invasive plants, protect native cultural resources, and provide for (seriously!!!) endangered butterflies. Despite neighbors down here (Malibu) planting swaths of milkweed, I barely see bees and butterflies. We need this!

Correspondence ID: 4481

Please consider my comments because America, and the World, has no more time to waste to reverse course to avert the most arrogant, ignorant, greed-based, and religion delusional human-caused ecological and environmental disaster since that which decimated the dinosaurs. I ask that you act using the following considerations:

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

^a Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

- Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Also, the removal of all private politically-corrupt allowed cattle and their associated fencing would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate the expansion of invasive plants. This is call 'restoration' not 'obliteration' of the healthy ecosystems within which all flora and fauna naturally adapt once humans remove themselves from the region.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4486

I strongly support Alternative B, with the following changes:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4488

I support free roaming elk.

Correspondence ID: 4490

This is a wilderness area, and the imposition of fences and structures is anathema to that.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option -- you're on the right track by the removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

There must be non-motorized ways to remove the structures; these need to be considered and adopted. Some structures can be easily removed; others such as the power line will need more careful consideration. But that power line doesn't belong in the wilderness area.

Cattle do not belong in this wilderness either. You need to return to the original agreement that banned grazing by domestic animals.

Using herbicides is another non-starter for a wilderness area. Let's instead let the Tule Elk and other native species manage the plant life. It's better for the environment; we don't need to add deadly chemicals to our already chemically overloaded world.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter.

Correspondence ID: 4491

Free the Tule Elk, it is the right and good action.

Correspondence ID: 4492

Remove the fence and cattle. The National Park Service recommends Plan B.

I have enjoyed watching the elk from my Kayak over the years. They belong in the Park and need access to water.

Correspondence ID: 4493

Please do the right thing by the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 4496

By their nature and of necessity to preserve health and vitality wild herds need space to roam for food, water and to maintain their genetic diversity. Clearly elk need to roam free and although it requires more planning on your part for sound management it is clearly the right path to follow.

Correspondence ID: 4497

Please remove the fencing in the Tule Elk habitat. Allow the Elk freedom to roam in the park areas. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4501

I strongly support Alternative B: the removal of the fence and illegal water structures to allow the Tule

elk trapped at Tomales Point to freely access water and forage. And the removal process must be of non-motorized means to minimize disturbances to wildlife.

In addition, Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4504

I, like many others, are horrified at the treatment of the Tule Elk, a rare species. That these animals are dying is nothing short of outrageous. Cattle should NOT be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore.

I also submit the following points:

- Alternative B is the best option. The fence and structures should be removed.
- The removal of the water structures (unlawfully built) should be done by motorized means.
- The NPS must include the Minimum Requirements Analysis as part of Alternative B.
- Herbicides should not be used. Removing cattle and the fence will allow the distribution of Tule Elk and therefore mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn instead of manager-ignited fire which favors non-native invasive plants.
- The Park Service should explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.
- Here's another point. I know that often it is money and power vs the people and that money and power usually win out. However, sometimes the voice of the people grows too loud to be ignored, especially when it is speaking out for the defenseless. Remove the fence, the Tule Elk have suffered enough.

Correspondence ID: 4505

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance the habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Sincerely,

Nicholas McKinney

Correspondence ID: 4506

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 4507

Thank you for crafting a comprehensive Tomales Point Area Plan aimed at safeguarding our precious natural and cultural heritage while exploring innovative management strategies for the park's elk population. I wholeheartedly endorse Alternative B, which advocates for the removal of the elk fence and the establishment of an unconfined elk herd. This approach will grant the tule elk the freedom to roam naturally, thereby preserving the pristine wilderness essence of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The presence of the Tomales Point elk fence has unfortunately resulted in significant elk casualties during drought periods, necessitating emergency measures to provide water and disrupting the genetic diversity of the herd by isolating them from their counterparts in the park. It is imperative that Point Reyes National Seashore adopts a management plan that allows elk to thrive in their natural habitat without constraints.

Furthermore, I am in full support of the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to integrate Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological wisdom into the future management strategies for Tomales Point. Emphasizing Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as employing controlled burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, are vital components of the management plan that deserve backing. Additionally, efforts to combat invasive species and enhance the protection of natural and cultural assets are commendable and warrant support.

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for advocating for the liberation of our cherished elk, marking a significant step towards harmonizing the coexistence of wildlife and humanity within the park.

Correspondence ID: 4509

Hello,

My wife and I have really enjoyed visiting Point Reyes in the past-- but we didn't understand why there were cattle grazing there. Here's your chance to rectify that problem.

We support Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. We oppose alternatives A and C as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Here are two changes to Alternative B that we hope you can include:

- 1) Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- 2) Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Thanks much,

Eric Smith & Carol Marion

Correspondence ID: 4511

all wild animals must be free to roam as they were born to do

Correspondence ID: 4512

Let elcs free!

Correspondence ID: 4515

let the elk roam free remove the fence and power lines an continue for them thank you Robin Brown

Correspondence ID: 4516

Please help the elk . Do not harm them

Correspondence ID: 4518

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the

tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 4520

Dear NPS,

I support and urge you to adopt Alternative B, with changes as detailed below.

Removal of structures in the wilderness, and the fence just outside the wilderness, is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be rejected as they would degrade wilderness character and harm Tule elk.

Changes to Alternative B should be incorporated into your final decision:

Removal of water control structures that have been unlawfully constructed in the wilderness should be accomplished using NON-motorized methods. The structures are relatively small and could be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analyses (MRAs) are needed for removal of the fence, tanks, troughs and enclosures. Your staff's EA is inadequate without an honest and detailed analysis of how structures will be removed. The NPS must include the MRA(s) as an integral part of the analysis of Alternative B.

You should eliminate ALL cattle grazing from Point Reyes. Domestic livestock create numerous harmful impacts and should be removed (per the original agreement when the seashore was established).

Chemical herbicides should not be used in wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would reduce the introduction and spread of invasive plants.

The PG&E power line is a structure/installation that infringes on the undeveloped character of the wilderness, and should be removed from the wilderness. Please make clear in your decision that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and your preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4522

These wild animals deserve to have access to appropriate land, not to be fenced away from it. Tule Elk are worth supporting.

Correspondence ID: 4523

Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4524

Greetings!

I am writing to ask that you consider taking the right action in saving the lives of the Tule elk and about the importance of Phillip Burton Wilderness. Removing structures in the wilderness and the fence just outside of it is the right choice. Alternatives A and C shouldn't be passed. They should be opposed! Taking those two terrible Alternatives will degrade the Wilderness and endanger the rare Tule elk.

Water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness? Come on! You're better than that! Gotta remove them (it's pretty easy, really) without the use of motor vehicles.

MRA (Minimum Requirements Analysis) is VITAL for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence! The EA is inadequate without discussion of how the removal of said objects would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B!

Eliminate grazing by cattle! It shouldn't even be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established!

And don't use herbicides in the Wilderness! Removing the cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants!

Instead, allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Finally, the BIG one! PLEASE hear me out on this: Remove the PG&E power line!! The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be REMOVED from the Wilderness. (You know how BAD it is just to have ANY sort of power line up??). Please urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action!

Thank you, - Anthony.

Correspondence ID: 4526

In regard to the Phillip Burton Wilderness and the Tule Elk population - The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than relying on the current use of manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Please explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 4528

Protection is needed for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

I feel that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Herbicides must not be used in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

PG&E power line must be removed. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding this matter.

Correspondence ID: 4533

Although I now live in Florida, I lived in California for 21 years and was privileged to get to visit Pt. Reyes and see these magnificent elk. I fully support the removal of the fence and allowing the elk to roam free. Thank you for reconsidering this issue and preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Sincerely,

C. Sweet

Correspondence ID: 4536

Please allow these magnificent creatures to roam freely as they choose. do not chose for them. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4539

My wife and I visited Point Reyes National Seashore and I was astounded that the Tule Elk are kept in an enclosed, fenced in area and that cattle grazing is still allowed... in fact the cattle grazing appears to be the reason that the elk are fenced in. Of the options you are considering, I feel Option Alternative B is the best plan with several additions as mentioned below. Alternatives A & C are not good options as they endanger the elk and degrade the wilderness. Items to be considered is: Removal of the structures such as fencing, tanks and water troughs, etc. to allow the elk to roam and graze in a wilderness environment as they should. Furthermore, cattle grazing should be eliminated as per the agreement when the national seashore was established .I also feel that the PG&E power line should be removed as it has no place in a wilderness area.

Correspondence ID: 4543

Please take all the appropriate, if lengthy, precautions for the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4546

It is urgent to protect there rareTule Elk, when we have a rare specie we must protect and defend them, our biodiversity demands it. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Remember that animals have a soul and deserve our protection instead of persecution. They must roam freely as they always did, we are not talking about putting them in a circus which would be horrible, they are wild animals and must remain so in their natural environment. Stop abusing them, protect them the right way.

Correspondence ID: 4547

Tear down the fence. Let elk roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 4549

FYI: my comment totally agrees with the recommendations of Wilderness Watch in that all policies should work towards restoring the natural environment to Point Reyes & parts.

That includes removing fences to restrain Tule Elk, removal of added structures & mobile traffic, banning inhumane tethering of young calves & commercial ranches that have no place in a natural setting.

The place to start the process appears to be Alternative B.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4551

First of all, the drought should definitely be over before releasing the elk. Also, if the elk are just going to be immediately be shot by hunters after being released; then they shouldn't be released.

Correspondence ID: 4552

he preferred choice is Alternative B, endorsed by the NPS. Removal of Wilderness structures and the adjacent fence is crucial. Alternatives A and C should be opposed due to their negative impact on the Wilderness and endangered Tule elk. However, refinements to Alternative B are warranted.

Water structures in the Wilderness must be removed non-motorizedly due to their small size. A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is necessary for tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence removal, which is inadequately addressed in the EA. MRA inclusion in the Alternative B analysis is essential.

Cattle grazing in Point Reyes and the Wilderness should cease, aligning with the original agreement. Herbicides should not be used in the Wilderness; removing cattle and the fence would support Tule elk distribution and curb invasive plants.

Natural fires should be allowed to shape the Wilderness, avoiding artificial conditions from manager-ignited fires that promote non-native invasive plants.

The PG&E power line, disrupting the Wilderness's undeveloped character, must be removed. The NPS should explicitly commit to its removal under Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 4553

let the tule elk roam

Correspondence ID: 4555

I strongly recommend the fence surrounding the Tule Elk be removed.

The elk should be allowed to move about freely.

The Point Reyes National Seashore is a national park, and rules should not be influenced by the presence of the cattle farms which were allowed by contract to remain for certain periods of time.

Correspondence ID: 4557

Free the elk

Correspondence ID: 4559

Let the elks roam free, please, without fences. Point Reyes is the most beautiful place I have seen!

Correspondence ID: 4562

Please select plan B and remove all water retention structures

Correspondence ID: 4565

To whom it may concern,

As a lifelong California resident who is concerned about the long term fate of our state's tule elk, it appears that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

In addition, removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Also, minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

It is important to eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Tule Elk belong in Point Reyes and the Wilderness; cattle, which are not indigenous but are invasive and foul waterways with waste and trample vegetation, do not!

Please don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4566

Regarding the Tule Elk in Pt Reyes.

The best option is Alternative B. However, other options should be considered as well: removal of water structures should be done by non-motorized means and the NPS should include the MRA as a part of analysis of Alternative B.

Please also ELIMINATE CATTLE GRAZING and HERBICIDES in the wilderness, and REMOVE THE PGE power line.

Thank you, Kate

Correspondence ID: 4568

I agree with the release strategy

Correspondence ID: 4572

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 4573

I believe that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option which would removal structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. For instance:

1. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness can be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles which would be preferable.

2. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness. This would honor the original agreement when the seashore was established.
3. A method to eliminate use herbicides in the Wilderness. By removing cattle and the fence allowing for better distribution of the Tule elk, would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants and make herbicides unnecessary.
4. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
5. Remove the PG&E power line as it is an installation which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. I hope the Park Service will explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4574

Please free these elk. They should not be imprisoned to not being able to roam for water and etc.

Correspondence ID: 4577

I believe the best choice is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. I am against alternatives A and C since they damage the Wilderness and hurt rare Tule elk. I also think there need to be some additions to Alternative B to improve it by including the following:

- All water structures which were illegally constructed in the Wilderness must be removed without motorized vehicles. Since these structures are small this can be easily done by non motorized vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.
- Grazing cattle should not be permitted in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4578

Save our wildlife , Stop the greed....

Correspondence ID: 4579

Please let the elk roam naturally.

Correspondence ID: 4581

Hello,

I support tearing down the lethal, confining fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again, as well as the management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely, Brittany Gravely

Correspondence ID: 4582

As someone who comes to the Bay area often to visit relatives, In fact I am here now. I tend to visit Point Reyes about once a year and fully support the idea of the proposed Alternative B. Eliminating cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore seems like a no brainer because of the harmful impacts these large grazers have. This was supposed to be in effect when the Seashore was established. There are other things that should be done to make the wilderness designation valid. Stopping herbicides along with the cattle will help stop invasive species and allowing natural fires to burn would also help the ecosystem. I understand there is a power line which is antithetical to the Idea of wilderness, and is a threat to un-natural fires caused by downed lines. PG&E should remove this line.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 4583

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4584

I believe that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

I hope you will take these points into consideration as you deliberate. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4585

FREE TULE ELK NOW !

Correspondence ID: 4587

THank you for yuor efforts to save the elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. I support the proposal to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again, as well as the proposed management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 4589

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not b

e allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4590

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for creating a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and takes a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and keeping the elk herd unconfined. This alternative plan will allow them to roam, and better preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. The Point Reyes tule elk herd deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the majestic elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 4593

The National Park Service-

I am writing to you to ask that you free rare Tule elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act.

These adjustments include removing the water structures by non-motorized means; Minimum Requirements Analysis is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence; eliminate grazing by cattle; don't use herbicides in the Wilderness; remove the PG&E power line.

Thank you for considering my opinions.

Sincerely,

Laurie Dominy

Correspondence ID: 4595

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for creating a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and takes a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and keeping the elk herd unconfined. This alternative plan will allow them to roam, and better preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. The Point Reyes tule elk herd deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the majestic Point Reyes Tule Elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 4596

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state it be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. hat the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4597

May 31, 2024

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
Department of the Interior Region 10

Subject: Tomales Point Area Plan EA Comments by Wilderness Watch

To Whom It May Concern,

Wilderness Watch thanks the National Park Service for its proposed Alternative B in the Environmental Assessment, which would move stewardship of the Tomales Point area of the Phillip Burton Wilderness closer to compliance with the Wilderness Act.

We believe, however, that Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of Wilderness Act as it relates to ensuring that any future actions will improve and not degrade wilderness character and meet other restrictions. See Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act (“an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammled by man” ... “an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which [] generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable”); see also Section 4(c) (“there shall be ... no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, ... and no structure or installation within any such area.”)

Clearly, Alternatives A & C do not comply with Sections 2(c) and 4(c) of the Wilderness Act, which was acknowledged by Park Service staff during its May 22, 2024, public informational session. Among others, these inconsistencies include:

- The elk fence, which unnaturally restricts the Tomales Point elk herd to the Wilderness, not allowing the elk to naturally find sources of water and forage beyond the fence in years of drought;
- The elk fence even makes an incursion into the Wilderness as a structure or installation at its western extent, which infringes on its undeveloped character;
- The continued maintenance of wildlife enclosures within the Wilderness, which are structures or installations that infringe on its undeveloped character;
- The presence of water tanks, troughs, and mineral licks, the maintenance of which trammels the Wilderness by providing artificial and unnatural support to the elk, violates the law's prohibition on motor vehicles, and infringes on the undeveloped character of the area;
- Alt. C would also violate the Wilderness Act with its proposed improvement of water sources for elk, which would adversely affect the untrammled, natural, and undeveloped characteristics of Wilderness, as acknowledged by Dave Press at the recent public information session.

We applaud the Park Service for eliminating all of these listed concerns in Alternative B, except that the EA does not clearly address several other concerns that relate to Wilderness. We suggest the following adjustments:

1. Remove the PG&E Power Line - It is unclear whether the proposed action includes the removal of the PG&E power line from the Wilderness. While the document hints at removal under Alternative A, it does not explicitly state that the power line will be removed under Alternative B or C. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. We urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.
2. Change Prescribed Burning to Wildland Fire Use - The use of prescribed burning in the Wilderness violates the untrammled and natural characteristics under Section 2(c) because it would implement managers' "desired conditions" rather than allowing the Wilderness and its community of life to be "affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable"

Interestingly, at the public information session, NPS staff made this exact point with regard to the development of water resources under Alternative C. That reasoning applies similarly to the use of prescribed burning:

"This relates to Park Service policy and our mission around protecting natural resources and natural processes. So it would be contrary to Park Service policy to essentially manipulate the systems out there to provide better access to water for wildlife."

Dave Press (Transcription from May 22, 2024, Oral Presentation)

While the reason provided in the EA for prescribed burning initially includes the "potential implementation of small research burns associated with efforts to restore native species richness and density and community response by plant species of special concern, as well as response of host plant for Myrtle's silverspot butterfly," the reasoning also suggest that "prescribed burning may be expanded to increase habitat and forage for tule elk." EA, p. 10.

This reasoning directly contradicts the statement made by Dave Press; and similar to building out water resources prescribed burning would be contrary to Park Service policy and its mission around protecting natural resources and processes, and contrary to its policy to not manipulate the systems to provide better access to water for wildlife.

Not only would prescribed burning be inconsistent with Park Service policies, it would also violate the Wilderness Act under Section 2(c).

Just as other Park Service units are wrestling with their desire to manipulate vegetation in Wilderness in pursuit of “desired conditions” rather than “natural conditions,” Point Reyes National Seashore should temper its plan and avoid trammeling and pursuing desired solutions that are man-made and therefore literally “unnatural.”

Much of the problem stems from incorrectly perceived tensions between the terms “natural” and “untrammeled” in the Wilderness Act. Such an interpretation allows agencies to view “natural” as a set of conditions existing at some fixed point in time, and when there is a deviation from those conditions, the agencies feel compelled to actively manipulate conditions (trammel them) to “restore” whatever prior conditions the agency has deemed “natural” for the area. This is likely a product of a long-ingrained agency history of modifying public lands to achieve “desired conditions,” an idea laden with value bias even in the best of times. Measuring natural conditions with a tiny yardstick necessarily shifts the focus to human preference. Throw climate change and all of its uncertainties into the mix, and the increasing urge to actively maintain static conditions becomes all the more problematic.

Further illustrating the problem, oftentimes agency managers don't agree on the past time-point for demonstrating what is “natural” for the area. As an example, the Forest Service, in conjunction with the National Park Service, is eradicating an “exotic mountain goat population” on the Olympic Peninsula due to “adverse impacts on the natural quality of designated wilderness.” Mountain goats were introduced in the 1920s—well before wilderness designations in the 1980s—but the Park Service and Forest Service do not consider them part of natural wilderness conditions.

In another example, the Park Service relocated wolves to an island in Michigan because “[p]redation on the island has been minimal over the last five years due to the decreasing number of wolves on the island,” and the Park Service “has observed changes in the ecosystem as a result of increased herbivory from the growing moose population.” Wolves did not exist on the island until the 1950s and many of them were choosing to leave the island when ice bridges formed to the mainland. Nonetheless, the Park Service worried that the increased herbivory could accelerate vegetative changes already occurring as a result of climate change and reasoned that “introducing wolves immediately would re-establish a top-down, predator influenced system, thus decreasing herbivory and allowing forest succession to return to a historic trajectory.” The Park Service noted that under the no-action alternative, “the island ecosystem functions would continue to change, from the past predator influenced ecosystem, to an ecosystem primarily influenced by physical conditions and vegetation community structure[.]” It also admitted that “[t]here is debate among scientists as to which is most viable or preferable” and admits “[w]hether this is beneficial or adverse for the system depends on whether there is a preference for an ecosystem more influenced by predation or an ecosystem more influenced by bottom-up controls.” (emphasis added).

These issues are illustrative of agency tendency to manage for “desired conditions” and the tendency to conflate “desired conditions” with “natural conditions.”

The Wilderness Act sought to remove agency bias and influence from the equation. Put another way:

“In contrast to other public land management statutes, which typically authorize agencies to consider and weigh diverse values through exercise of their scientific and policy expertise, the Wilderness Act required certain areas to be managed predominantly for one use: wilderness preservation.... Unlike all other land-management statutes, the Wilderness Act's basic purpose was not to delegate authority to expert agencies, but rather, to exclude certain lands from the application of the agencies' specialized expertise, to restrain agency flexibility, and to protect (with limited, narrow exceptions) certain lands from the impact of the sort of policy choices land managers typically make.”

Sean Kammer, *Coming to Terms with Wilderness: The Wilderness Act and the Problem of Wildlife Restoration*, 43 ENVTL. L. 83, 100-101 (2013).

That Wildernesses have been affected by intentional human manipulation in the past (e.g. vegetative manipulation, development, fire suppression, etc.) or are affected by unintentional human influence now and will continue to be in the future (e.g. climate change) does not change how they are to be administered once designated as Wilderness. The drafters of the Wilderness Act understood:

“[I]t would be impractical and unwise to require that lands be completely untrammelled prior to being designated, but [the drafters] fully expected wilderness areas, once designated, to be untrammelled into the future.”

Id. at 106-107.

The statute, when read as a coherent whole, supports this position. The canons of statutory construction dictate that the term “natural conditions” be read in harmony with the term “untrammelled.” See *United States v. Powell*, 6 F.3d 611, 614 (9th Cir. 1993) (“It is a basic rule of statutory construction that one provision should not be interpreted in a way which is internally contradictory or that renders other provisions of the same statute inconsistent or meaningless”); see also *Wilderness Society v. U.S. Fish Wildlife*, 353 F.3d 1051, 1060 (9th Cir. 2003) (“a fundamental canon that the words of a statute must be read in their context and with a view to their place in the overall statutory scheme”); *Kmart Corp. v. Cartier, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 281, 291 (1988) (“In ascertaining the plain meaning of [a] statute, the court must look to the particular statutory language at issue, as well as the language and design of the statute as a whole.”); *United States v. Lewis*, 67 F.3d 225, 228-29 (9th Cir. 1995) (“Particular phrases must be construed in light of the overall purpose and structure of the whole statutory scheme.”). In other words, a statute should be construed “as a symmetrical and coherent regulatory scheme,” *Gustafson v. Alloyd Co.*, 513 U.S. 561, 569 (1995), and a “harmonious whole,” *Fed. Trade Comm'n v. Mandel Brothers, Inc.*, 359 U.S. 385, 389 (1959).

The Wilderness Act, read as an internally consistent document as required by law, does not pit the terms “untrammelled” and “natural” against one another. “A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape,” is statutorily defined as “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain” and an area “retaining its primeval character and influence, ... which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions....” 16 U.S.C. § 1131(c). Thus, what is natural for the area necessarily flows from what is untrammelled. Indeed, this is the common meaning of the term “natural.” See *Black's Law Dictionary* 1026 (6th ed. 1990) (natural means wild, formed by nature, and not artificially made or

cultivated); see also Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language (1960) (defining "natural" as 1) "Of, from, or by, birth; natural-born;" 5) "In accordance with, or determined by, nature;" and 9) "Not artificial"). It is the result of a process, not a static end point. Otherwise, the default position will always be to trammel Wilderness to comport with a land manager's notion of what is natural, even though various complicated factors—many of which we do not fully understand and cannot control—are always necessarily at play in shifting natural conditions.

Here, the Park Service is conflating "desired conditions" with "natural conditions" in this case and creating a false conflict to justify prescribed burning in Wilderness. Ultimately, "whatever 'wilderness character' means, it cannot be something that depends upon the active manipulations of humans." Sean Kammer, *Coming to Terms with Wilderness: The Wilderness Act and the Problem of Wildlife Restoration*, 43 ENVTL. L. 83, 86 (2013). Restraint and humility are important values underpinning the Wilderness Act, and "[l]and managers should exercise this same humility in dealing with wilderness areas, lest they lead us down a path to where there are no longer any places that are truly 'wild,' no places beyond the control of human institutions and cultural imperatives." *Id.*

The Keeping it Wild 2 protocol acknowledges the importance of protecting wilderness character as a process rather than an outcome:

"Lucas (1973, p. 151) stated, 'If ecological processes operate essentially uncontrolled within the Wilderness frame of reference, the results, whatever they might be, are desirable by definition. The object is not to stop change, nor to recreate conditions as of some arbitrary historical date, nor to strive for favorable change in big game populations or in scenic vistas. The object is to let nature 'roll the dice' and accept the results with interest and scientific curiosity.' "

Landres et al., *Keeping It Wild 2: An Updated Interagency Strategy to Monitor Trends in Wilderness Character Across the National Wilderness Preservation System*, 33 (2015).

The Park Service has the following direction (Lake Clark as the example) regarding wildlife:

"The park resists wildlife manipulation, and wildlife habitat in the wilderness varies naturally based on complex interactions between recent physical (e.g., precipitation, temperature) and biological (e.g., insect outbreaks, plant disease) factors. Wildlife is free to move through the landscape and populations such as caribou that currently range outside the park are free to return and populate the area as before."

Keeping it Wild in the National Park Service: A User Guide to Integrating Wilderness Character into Park Planning, Management, and Monitoring. Page 164; see also NPS's *Wilderness Stewardship Plan Handbook: Planning to Preserve Wilderness Character*, which states on page 90 (appendix 4.1):

"Relationship to wilderness character—Wildlife is addressed by several indicators under the natural quality, for example, the indicator "Plant and animal species and communities" and some aspects of wildlife habitat may fit under the "Physical resources" and "Biophysical processes" indicators. Many wildlife management actions are also relevant to the untrammelled quality under the indicators "Actions authorized by the federal land manager that manipulate the biophysical environment" and "Actions not authorized by the federal land manager that manipulate the biophysical environment." "

Instead of continuing down the ill-advised road of manipulating the Wilderness to achieve "desired" rather than "natural" conditions, we suggest that the Park Service adjust its proposed burning proposal

to rely more specifically on natural fire to maintain and restore ecosystems, and implement a wildfire use policy based on natural ignitions in the Phillip Burton Wilderness for ecological restoration.

3. Prohibit the Use of Herbicides in Wilderness - For the same reasons, the use of herbicides to manipulate vegetation, including invasive species, should be prohibited as a violation of Wilderness character. Manual removal of invasive species should use the minimal tool, which should be limited by hand or manual tools, but not motorized equipment such as trimmers or chainsaws.

4. Spell Out the Specifics of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), their Effectiveness, and their Potential Use to Mitigate Significant Effects - The use of TEK is mentioned in the EA as it relates to prescribed burning, but it is not defined or explained, and the EA does not describe how its use is justified, other than the Park Service's coordination with the enhancement of tribal resources and values under the agreement with the tribe. Can the Park Service provide the public with specific details about what TEK means and what it entails, and specifically as the Coast Miwok would apply or would have applied their knowledge? Without a detailed list or specificity of how TEK would be applied to assist the prescribed burning, the environmental analysis is incomplete and application of TEK would be arbitrary and capricious.

During the public information session, Park Service staff stated that a Park Service website describes TEK as “the ongoing accumulation of knowledge, practice, and belief about relationships between living beings in a specific ecosystem that is acquired by indigenous people over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment, handed down through generations, and used for life-sustaining ways.” See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/description.htm>. Staff explained:

“With regard to the Tomales Bay Area Plan, you know as we talked about, the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria [FIGR] have participated in this planning effort under our general agreement and also through a cooperating agency agreement. And their input on the plan has also been informed by their traditional knowledge of the lands and resources that are know within the seashore. So TEK will also play a role as the programmatic elements of this plan are implemented. So, for example, if prescribed fire is put on the landscape at Tomales Point, as envisioned under the preferred alternative, the Tribe may shape the burn plan, just by way of an example, in terms of areas that should or should not be burned, or at what intensity, frequency, and so on, based on their traditional knowledge and relationship with the affected resources. So that's just one example that I think just illustrates how this could play out in that specific example.”

Paul Engel (?) (Transcription from May 22, 2024, Oral Presentation).

As stated, this was only one example, and the Park Service has a duty to disclose the use of TEK and any other examples in its environmental analysis. While in no way do we mean to discourage or belittle its use, in essence the use of TEK is similar to the use of best management practices (BMPs) or mitigation measures, for which the Park Service has a duty to disclose their effectiveness as well as their means to reduce significant effects, as in this case, to resources of value to the park and tribe, and to ensure the protection of Wilderness character. See *Nat'l Parks Conserv. Ass'n v. Babbitt*, 241 F.3d 722, 734 (9th Cir. 2001) (“[A] perfunctory description or a mere listing of mitigation measures, without supporting analytical data, is insufficient to support a FONSI.”). When an agency offers mitigation measures to lower a project's impacts below significance, it must include an assessment of whether those measures can be effective. *Neighbors of Cuddy Mtn. v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 137 F.3d 1372, 1381 (9th Cir. 1998); *S. Fork Band*

Council of W. Shoshone v. U.S. Dep't of Interior, 588 F.3d 718, 727 (9th Cir. 2009) (agency must provide “sufficient detail to ensure that environmental consequences have been fairly evaluated”).

While the use of TEK may be appropriate in other areas of the Park, in Wilderness it must also be consistent with protecting the wilderness characteristics under Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. Generally speaking, the use of TEK to support prescribed burning does not negate the fact that the Park Service's proposal for burning amounts to trammeling, in this case for the purpose of vegetation manipulation based on a manager's or a plan's stated desired conditions for resource values other than protecting Wilderness character.

Along those lines, the use of FIGR's general agreement with the Park Service must also be consistent with preserving Wilderness character under Section 2(c), including the protection of untrammled, natural, and undeveloped Wilderness characteristics, and it must also be consistent with Section 4(c)'s prohibitions on the use of motorized vehicles, equipment, and mechanical methods.

5. Mixed Results from Prescribed Burning and Invasive Species Require Further Analysis - It should be noted that Dave Press' other statements at the public information session, that the Park Service has had mixed results from prescribed burning due to timing difficulties, air quality concerns, and an inability to provide a consistent application, should be red flags of additional environmental concern. Most concerning is the fact that burned areas have been invaded by non-target invasive species, which could result in a significant effect on both valued resources and Wilderness character. This suggests that the Park Service's use of prescribed burning could have significant environmental effects, which have not been disclosed in the EA. Moreover, there are no mitigation measures or BMPs suggested in the EA that address the issue and would make the Park Service's FONSI in support of its use of prescribed burning arbitrary and capricious.

OTHER ISSUES AND FACTUAL CORRECTIONS NEEDED

6. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) for Removal of Tanks, Troughs, Exclosures, and the Fence is Needed - The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. Please include an MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. Should the NPS choose at the outset to forego the use of motor vehicles or other prohibited uses in removing these structures, and Wilderness Watch encourages it to do just that, then there is no need to prepare an MRA or any other sort of minimum requirement analysis.

7. Provide Sufficient Detail about Ranching Impacts - Although the Park Service has stated correctly in the public information session that the removal of the elk fence would have little, if any, effect on adjacent ranching operations based on its implementation of elk management of the Limantour and Drakes herds, the Park Service should elaborate and provide a more robust analysis regarding impacts on adjacent ranching, even if the analysis shows that the effects would be insignificant. That way the issue is put to rest and does not become a legal concern due to the Park Service's insufficient response under NEPA.

8. Correct Factual Error Regarding Coast Miwok v. FIGR - The EA at p. 2 should be corrected to state that Point Reyes is the ancestral home of the Coast Miwok, and not FIGR. We suggest the following instead, to recognize both: “The lands in the Seashore, including those within the planning area, are the ancestral territory of the Coast Miwok, now represented by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR or

Tribe),” This is consistent with both the FIGR agreement and the park's foundational document reflecting this ancestral heritage:

“the Tribe, representing Coast Miwok” (FIGR agreement, p. 1)

“More than 120 archeological sites representing Coast Miwok history and culture have been identified within the park and have yielded some of the most significant information on American Indian history in the San Francisco Bay region.” (2020a, p. 4)

9. Correct Language to “Stewardship” from “Management” of Wilderness - On EA p. 3 under goals and objectives, we request that the Park Service change “wilderness management” to “wilderness stewardship” in accordance with the more appropriate usage suggested in the Park Service's Wilderness Policy Manual DO #41.

On behalf of Wilderness Watch,

René Voss

Member, Board of Directors

Correspondence ID: 4600

Remove the fence.

Thank You

Correspondence ID: 4601

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, and allow them to roam naturally. Please consider and implement Alternative B.

Best,

Peggy

Correspondence ID: 4604

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

he best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4605

I'm writing about the Tomales Point Area Plan. Please choose Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. I support this plan because it will allow the elk to roam freely and naturally, and I believe that it will be the best way to preserve the wilderness in the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The elk fence kills elk. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. I support the management plan's proposals to highlight Tribal history and cultural resources and use prescribed fire and research burns to better enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for considering my message. I love visiting this part of the country, and deeply hope that the elk and wilderness can thrive.

Correspondence ID: 4606

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4608

STOP KILLING THE TULE DEER!!! This is SO INSANE! LET THEM LIVE!!

Correspondence ID: 4610

Please free the tule elk. Let's keep our wilderness free.

Correspondence ID: 4612

BREAK DOWN THIS FENCE AND LET THE ELK LIVE!

Correspondence ID: 4613

Take care of the threatened elk.

Correspondence ID: 4614

National Parks need to be protected.

Correspondence ID: 4615

I SUPPORT YOUR PLAN TO TAKE DOWN THIS FENCE!!! Let the Elk roam freely so they can have access to natural resources like water, which they need.

Correspondence ID: 4618

Free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should not be chosen as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4619

Oh, give me land, lots of land under starry skies above

Don't fence me in

Let me ride through the wide open country that I love

Don't fence me in
Let me be by myself in the evenin' breeze
And listen to the murmur of the cottonwood trees
Send me off forever, but I ask you please
Don't fence me in
Just turn me loose
Let me straddle my old saddle
Underneath the Western skies
Let me wander over yonder
Till I see the mountains rise
I want to ride to the ridge where the West commences
And gaze at the moon till I lose my senses
And I can't look at hovels and I can't stand fences
Don't fence me in
Oh, give me land, lots of land under starry skies above
Don't fence me in
Let me ride through the wide country that I love
Don't fence me in

Correspondence ID: 4620

I am writing in support of Option B as the preferred option for the Tomales Point Area Plan environmental analysis.

I am in agreement with methods proposed for:

- the Tule Elk herds (wandering free)
- water management (storage tank removal, even if the use of some motorized vehicles is necessary)
- invasive plant control (using IPM - and yes, even herbicides as method of last resort!)
- camping (limiting the number of camping beaches and requiring a permit)
- the PG&E power line (it would be nice if it were to go, but not at the expense of disturbing the wilderness)

Thank you for preparing such a thorough report, and I wish you success with the implementation of Option B.

Margaret MacNiven

Correspondence ID: 4622

I wholeheartedly support a free-roaming tule elk herd and a collaborative management plan.

Therefore, I'm in favor of the Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals. Also the fence reduces the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

Point Reyes needs and deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4623

Ifd we humans would simply let nature act as it should, we'd have fewer problems, generally. Tear down that fence!

Correspondence ID: 4624

It is critical that the Tule Elk and other creatures at Pt Reyes Park are allowed to roam freely. They are part of the ecological habitat and their restricted rights for so many years has been unimaginably cruel and horrific - often no water, no food - just for the sake of farmers who have plenty of options elsewhere than to infringe on a park.

Correspondence ID: 4625

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4626

Please remove the fences restraining our tule elk and let them have free range so sorely needed. Too many have suffered and died while waiting for this overdue ruling, Thank you, Barbara

Correspondence ID: 4627

I'm choosing Alternative B, the NPS preferred option. The removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the correct choice.

But please add: the proces should be done by non-motorized means.

The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Please end grazing by cattle.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4629

For far too long the Tomales Point elk fence has caused periodic starvation and death among the Point Reyes Tule Elk. Thank heaven that the Park Service is finally accepting input in order to take action to correct this shameful situation.

With this is mind, I strongly support Alternative B, which would remove the fence and allow the elk to roam freely. Additionally, I also support the proposed Park Service collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. The exclusion of Native Americans from decision making processes has only meant a disaster for our native flora and fauna.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Rosczyk

Correspondence ID: 4633

Please take care of parks and the animals in them.

Correspondence ID: 4636

Free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness!!!

Correspondence ID: 4637

Free Rare Tule Elk

Please choose Alternative B, with some changes:

Water structures should be removed without the use of mechanized vehicles.

Please involve the MRA as a part of the overview of Alternative B.

Stop cattle from grazing.

Pesticides should not be used in the Wilderness.

Eliminate the PG&E power line.

Let naturally occurring fires burn.

Thank you, Susan Civitelli

Correspondence ID: 4638

It takes a man to support nature, not destroy it-MAN UP!!!

Correspondence ID: 4639

We need balance to save all life on earth. Animals should be able to roam free. Period.

Correspondence ID: 4640

By confining animals to a space, they can become inbred, thus making them weaker. I hope you will consider letting them choose where to live.

Correspondence ID: 4642

Let these beautiful animals roam around. It's what they were born to do.

Correspondence ID: 4644

Tired of animals seen in captivity

Correspondence ID: 4645

Please remove the fence in Burton Wilderness Area and allow the magnificent Tule Elk to roam free! Fences and water structures are not supposed to happen on Wilderness lands, please use human power, not noisy mechanical means to remove anything not as naturally found. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4648

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 4651

You guys FAIL at nearly every turn to protect our wildlife! After becoming a police officer, I had the intention of joining the Fish and Wildlife Service law enforcement division, but I am glad I didn't. Between them and you I have never seen so much hypocritical actions that ultimately endanger, injure, and kill the very animals you are supposed to protect, nurture, and invest in. The same applies to the way you treat the land. You allow dangerous companies to destroy areas that are public lands. You have no right to use the land as your personal project because some idiot sweet talked you. You guys and the violence you allow on living creatures is criminal. You have become a disgusting, nearly useless, and destructive branch of the government. Unfortunately, the good from the employees that really care and accomplish wonderful things, is buried and lost under the torture and pain you allow to be inflicted. There is a constant loss of our environment because of your policies and your pathetic lack of compassion, and the absolute inability to see a rich, diverse future in our wild lands and the wildlife that lives in it. NO FENCE!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 4653

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4656

This will help the amazing elk!

Correspondence ID: 4657

Reyes National Seashore:

No cattle grazing

NO herbicides/pesticides

Remove P G & E tower

Correspondence ID: 4658

Wildlife in that area should be given consideration & allowed to live there in peace.

Correspondence ID: 4659

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4660

Remove the Elk Fence NOW!!!

Correspondence ID: 4662

Protect the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4663

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4665

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Free the elk!

Correspondence ID: 4666

LEAVE THE WILDERNESS, FLORA AND FAUNA BE!!

Correspondence ID: 4668

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4669

Confining these herds during drought conditions is inhumane!!

Correspondence ID: 4670

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4671

I support a free roaming elk herd & a collaborative management plan. The fence should be removed so the elk herds can roam freely & have access to water. It's so important to conserve these creatures, to reintroduce plant species etc to preserve the area & the environment & the native people.

Correspondence ID: 4673

In my opinion, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4676

to assure the importance of ecology and beauty of the nature of the US.

Correspondence ID: 4677

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule wapiti. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule wapiti and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

FYI: "Elk" is the English-language word for the animal whose scientific name is *Alces alces*, used in Europe. We in North America call this animal "moose" from an Algonkian-family-language word. In all the Germanic language whose people know *Alces alces*, there are obvious cognate words for "elk." I don't know why any anglophone here called *Cervus canadensis* an "elk." They're big, but don't look much like moose. To "decolonize" the terminology and prevent confusion, I use the Shawnee name "wapiti" for *Cervus canadensis*. You should too, or learn the local native-language names, which are many.

Correspondence ID: 4678

LEAVE THE WILDERNESS, FLORA AND FAUNA BE!!

Correspondence ID: 4679

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, the inherent beauty of the Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 4680

REMOVE THE FENCE AND LET THE ELK ROAM FREE. STOP ACTIVELY TRYING TO KILL ELK IN THEIR OWN HOME

Correspondence ID: 4684

Wildlife and environment supporting our wildlife is quickly disappearing. We need to have the NPS take an wildlife and habitat stand to see they survive. I am urging you to Remove structures in the Phillip Burton Wilderness and restore the environment built illegally. Further, elimination of domestic animals such as cattle should no longer be permitted in wilderness and lands controlled by the NPS. This will expand the range of the Tule deer and preserve their species and future enjoyment by our citizens. Lastly, to preserve the wilderness, power lines need to be removed; in essence, Plan B is a better alternative for the NPS to take and I urge they do.

Correspondence ID: 4685

The best option is option B. The removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside. Options A and C should be opposed as they endanger the rare Elk and degrade the Wilderness.

And please never use herbicides in the Wilderness, they harm all sorts of animals up the food chain.

By removing grazing cattle and the fence it would allow for the elk to mitigate the invasive plants as nature intended.

Also, allowing fires naturally to burn to shape the landscape, will also allow the natural plants to thrive rather than the invasive ones.

The PG and E power line needs to be removed as well as it infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness.

Again Alternative B is the preferred action.

Thank you :)

Correspondence ID: 4687

I have been requesting the Tule Elk be allowed to access the Point Reyes area that is currently fenced off. I am glad that the National Park service is considering Plan B. I also understand that cattle must not be allowed to degrade this area nor should pesticides and electrical equipment be allowed where the elk will be.

Please be part of the solution to save a native species that is barely surviving. We humans seem to blindly exterminate plants and animals as fast as we can so we can for temporary financial gain. The earth is experiencing the consequences.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 4690

My understanding is that the land was purchased back from ranchers and now the elk should have "free range" and better yet, restored habitat.

Correspondence ID: 4691

Let the Elk live unbothered.

Correspondence ID: 4693

Elk heads deserve open spaces

Correspondence ID: 4695

Alternative B is best , and removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the correct choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line nfringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4697

Please do your utmost to support the elk and use Alternative B with changes. Please remove structures and fencing in the Wilderness. Elk and other creatures should be allowed to roam freely. Please remove these without the use of motorized vehicles. Please further analyze how to remove tanks, troughs, enclosures and fencing. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. And absolutely eliminate all grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4698

NPS, free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

THANK YOU

Correspondence ID: 4700

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

Correspondence ID: 4701

Prefer Alternative B. Please protect tule elk and other animals. thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4707

Wild animals are not meant to be confined - the only way they can fend for themselves in times of stress is to migrate to find resources, namely food and water.

Allowing these beautiful creatures to die of hunger and thirst is abuse of the worst kind, and would be so easily remedied by instead letting them roam free, as nature intended.

Don't forget the mandate of the parks to preserve nature for future generations!

Correspondence ID: 4712

The NPS preferred option, Alternative B is also the best option..

The removal of water structures which were unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means and must the Minimum Requirements Analysis as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

The grazing by cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Also, herbicides should not be used in the Wilderness.

Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

The PG&E power line should be removed.as it infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness.. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4713

this elk herd is part of the ecosystem which is necessary for humans to exist.....aren't government agencies formed to protect wildlife and assist in sustaining ecosystems.....????? the fact that tax payers and citizens as well as organizations need to come together and file lawsuits on behalf of wildlife clearly shows they are not doing their jobs.....the system needs to be revamped and allowed to do all things necessary to save our precious wildlife....

Correspondence ID: 4714

This situation with the Tule Elks has been going on for years now. Let's settle it now so they have a chance to survive. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4715

I beg you to PLEASE let the Tule Elk roam free. The fence is causing them to die of thirst! This is not right and must be corrected.

Thank you for considering my request on behalf of the animals who cannot speak for themselves.

Correspondence ID: 4716

The environment throughout the US and PR is critically important to all of our citizens. We are in a “use it or lose it” situation before it becomes too late to act

Wild spaces need to be protected in most all States to preserve plants, trees, etc which release oxygen into our environments and even property owned privately or publicly with trees and shrubs can help make a difference.

Correspondence ID: 4717

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 4718

Please protect the rare Tule elk!

Correspondence ID: 4719

Alternative B is best as it is least disruptive.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4720

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

Correspondence ID: 4721

do what is right

Correspondence ID: 4722

I'm asking you to consider the best management options for the Tule elk, which in my understanding means the removal of the confining fence. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4725

Please take down the fence and allow the Tule Elk to roam throughout the park. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4727

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you

Janet mcclain

Correspondence ID: 4728

Be Responsible!

Correspondence ID: 4731

This is a no brainer. You're the NPS. Do the right humane thing for the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 4733

Free Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 4738

Please, free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4740

I am writing to you on behalf of the National Park Service, an organization I admire and want to support on important issues brought to my attention. Please protect this land and group of animals. Sharon Camhi, Sonoma County resident

Correspondence ID: 4742

I am concerned about the well-being and future of Tule elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Currently several plans are under consideration. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. Motors cannot be allowed in Wilderness areas. The structures that should be removed are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Please consider eliminating grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Herbicides do not belong in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

It has been suggested to allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Also, PG&E power line should be removed because it is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. Therefore urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

I hope you will carefully consider these actions which would protect Tule elk from human threats and allow them to thrive. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4746

please remove the fencing and forbid cattle and strictly enforce same

Correspondence ID: 4747

alternative B is the choice with integrity.

Let wilderness areas be WILD.

Correspondence ID: 4748

Hello,

I hope this note finds you well. I'm writing as a person concerned about animal welfare to tell the Park Service that I support a free-roaming elk herd and a collaborative management plan.

Sincerely,

Danial Asadolahi

Correspondence ID: 4750

Anything we can do to help wildlife flourish is mandatory in my book. The beautiful elk need our help now.

Correspondence ID: 4751

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4752

Please continue your work, following option B. Likewise, restoring the area to its former wilderness composition would be excellent—getting rid of phone , power, and water lines . Thank you!!

Correspondence ID: 4753

I support free range Tule elk herds.

Correspondence ID: 4757

I have seen the Tule Elk at Point Reyes Park. They are beautiful creatures and deserve to be free.

Correspondence ID: 4759

To NPS,

Thank you for agreeing to remove the fence so the Tule Elk may roam and not die!

Now, here are some items I believe need to be addressed.

Firstly, -The best option is Alternative B, which is you, the NPS prefer. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness, which is the right choice. Alternatives A and C

should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

-Please Remove the water structures which were unlawfully built in the Wilderness, by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. Do it quietly.

You must eliminate grazing by cattle. Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Also don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

-Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

And finally, remove the PG&E power line.

Thank you for reading. We must give the Tule Elk every chance of survival.

Valerie Leonard

Correspondence ID: 4760

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4761

All wildlife needs to be free and live a normal life.

Correspondence ID: 4767

The fate of native TULE ELK, the smallest and Rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are Endemic to California— is at stake. The fact that they have roamed in the Philip Burton Wilderness for centuries, makes the decision of fencing and allowing cows to take over their living spaces is absolutely WRONG!

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should NOT be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4768

I'm writing about the proposed wilderness plan for the Tule Elk and Philip Burton Wilderness. I'm urging you to adopt option B, also favored by the NPS.

In addition a Minimum Requirements Analysis should be prepared for the removal of various pieces of equipment, including tanks, fencing, and troughs.

Cattle must not be allowed to graze in the area, and the PGandE powerline must be removed per plan B.
Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4769

Free the Reyes Tille Elk! Remove the elk-killing fence! Morales and ethics demand it

Correspondence ID: 4770

The Tule Elk need to be Free and un harmed!!

Correspondence ID: 4772

Explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4773

Allow the elk of this region fence free environment. They were almost extinct at one time and deserve to live without boundaries.

Correspondence ID: 4774

Tule Elk should be PROTECTED

Correspondence ID: 4776

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

Point Reyes is one of my favorite places to restore my soul and find the peace within away from the buzz of urban life.

I am glad to know that finally planning is taking place to protect and enhance the lives of our special Tule Elk population in Point Reyes park.

Of the three Alternatives of which I am aware, I find Alternative B, with added points, to be the preferred way to move forward. It is very important for careful actions when restoring the Wilderness area in order to preserve its condition and character.

I urge you to add stipulation to Alternative B to remove any use of herbicides or pesticides in this plan.

In addition, new environmental understanding of the benefits of naturally occurring fire require the plan to remove use of manager-initiated fire activities.

The Tule Elk in Point Reyes are a treasure and deserve every care and effort to support and nurture their health and abundance for the future of their and the area's health.

I encourage you to avail yourselves of the counsel of Wilderness Watch in your research and deliberations.

Melissa Mandel

Correspondence ID: 4777

Make sure they live free and safe.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 4778

Unfence and let the Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore go free, we need to let nature go back to the way it was to keep our land revitalizing back to its original wilderness to prevent fires and flooding among many things. The destruction of our environment by allowing cows to graze, installing water disruption including water tanks, troughs, buildings placed and electrical lines need to be removed to protect this environmental area.

Correspondence ID: 4781

The concept of wilderness area does not include fences, water tanks, electrification and other manmade interventions.

The Tule elk need room to roam, feed and breed free from competition of cattle.

Joint input will be required to return the Tule's range to a true wonder was area.

Correspondence ID: 4782

Please protect this wildland and the elk there.

Correspondence ID: 4783

Wildlife should not be needlessly restricted.

Correspondence ID: 4785

Just a note to let you know that I fully support the suggested plan dealing with the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. I have had the previous opporntiy to observe tule elk on my property on the south coast of Big Sur and would love to see the animals return to their natural habitat in the future.Thaks, James Kimball

Correspondence ID: 4786

Alternative B, please, which I understand is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice to maintain the Wilderness' integrity; the alternative options should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

B, as the best choice, however, would still benefit from a few tweaks; for instance:

The removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be completed using non-motorized means.

The Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) should be included for the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

Cattle grazing should be eliminated.

Herbicides should be eliminated.

Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

The PG&E power line should be removed.

Thank you for all you can do promote and protect the true Wilderness nature of this region.

Correspondence ID: 4787

Regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore: I advocate Alternative B, which includes removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought. Please also meet the requirements of the Wilderness Act, to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 4790

One of my most magical moments in a National Park for me was hearing a native Tule elk at nightfall at Pt. Reyes. Now I know that it is time to use Plan B suitably shepherded to give these special animals to continue to live as wild as possible in our more and more urban world. Making changes such as removing the barrier fence and tanks and other human constructions in a non motorized way is the road to a proper recognition of this precious legacy we still have. This is that chance.

Correspondence ID: 4791

Alternative B, please, which I understand is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice to maintain the Wilderness' integrity; the alternative options should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

B, as the best choice, however, would still benefit from a few tweaks; for instance:

The removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be completed using non-motorized means.

The Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) should be included for the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

Cattle grazing should be eliminated.

Herbicides should be eliminated.

Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

The PG&E power line should be removed.

Thank you for all you can do promote and protect the true Wilderness nature of this region.

Correspondence ID: 4794

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 4795

The time is now....do the right thing, take down the fences.

Correspondence ID: 4796

Please do all you can to save and protect the elk.

Correspondence ID: 4797

Free the Tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for Tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4798

Save earth

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4803

I am a supporter that the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

Correspondence ID: 4805

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4806

Hi my comments are few and simple. Remove the fence and remove the cows forever, immediately.

When you have time and funding take out the water system and see if you can't do something about the transmission lines. Can you bury them? Thank you, bob

Correspondence ID: 4808

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4809

Help the Elk

Correspondence ID: 4810

Save the Tule Elk

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the wilderness and allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. The frequent use of manager-ignited fire tends to favor non-native invasive plants.

Please consider these things before making your decision.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4812

Tule Elk should have their homes restored to them. Tear down fencing that keeps them from water sources, remove all unlawfully built structures. Generally, restore the park to look like the wilderness. Eliminate all cattle grazing, parks are not places for cattle to graze! An original agreement when the Seashore was originated was for Elk not cattle. The Tule elk are a very rare species and should be respected and protected. Point Reyes is their home and should remain so.

Correspondence ID: 4813

Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 4815

I trust the Center for Biological Diversity. They must be listened to and followed.

Correspondence ID: 4816

I am commenting in support of Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

It is also important to eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. This will only degrade the integrity of the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. And please remove it in a manner that does not degrade the wilderness or endanger the Tule elk.

Thank You

Correspondence ID: 4817

Please protect these wonderful animals!

Correspondence ID: 4819

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4820

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Please approve Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park

Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4821

As a regular visitor to the Point Reyes and Tomales Point area, I implore you to protect the precious and rare wildlife of that area. In my opinion--

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4823

Please protect the elk. As along time CA residents, we often visited Pt Reyes. Please let hem free to roam for our children and yours to admire.

Correspondence ID: 4824

Fencing in the Tule is a crime against nature. They need to roam as they were able to before fences came along. The fences seem to be for the sake of the cattle which do not belong on National Park Land, especially if they interfere with the animals natural to these habitats.

Correspondence ID: 4826

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

Correspondence ID: 4831

I support Alternative B. Tule elk deserve to roam free and wilderness should be preserved. This would be best achieved by non-motorized removal of the fence, water troughs and other human-made structures and banning cattle grazing. Managed-ignited fire and herbicides should also not be used; natural fire and tule elk grazing give native plants better chances.

Correspondence ID: 4833

In the restoration of the Philip Burton Wilderness, please keep the true spirit of the wilderness at the fore front. Infrastructure, such as water tanks and the fencing that has been responsible for so much horrific suffering, should be dismantled and removed without the use of motorized vehicles. There must be no more grazing of cattle. Through no fault of their own, they are degrading the environment and polluting the water. Ideally, I would like to see them go to sanctuaries. After that, the restoration should be organic, allowing native plants to reestablish without interventions such as pesticides. Thank-you for finally treating this precious wild space with the dignity and respect it deserves!

Correspondence ID: 4836

Please remove the fence that prevents the Tule elk from roaming freely.

I applaud your plan to involve the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in the management of the Tomales Point area.

Thank you for reconsidering the past, inappropriate management decisions.

Correspondence ID: 4837

As a supporter of Wilderness Watch, I ask that you consider the following regarding Tomales Point Area Environmental Assessment:

1. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and

the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they

degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be

considered.

2. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The

structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

3. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence.

The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal

would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

4. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per

the original agreement when the seashore was established.

5. Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of

Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

6. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create

artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive

plants.

7. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped

character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly

state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your consideration,

Correspondence ID: 4838

As someone who cares deeply about the well-being of all creatures who share our Earth, I implore you to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Correspondence ID: 4840

The removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. The use of motorized vehicles in the area causes stress and destroys the trees and plants in the reserve.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. Again, the use of large machinery in this area causes excessive stress on the animals and the plants and trees.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. They graze too close to the ground and destroy native plants.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Herbicides also kill pollinating insects.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Please remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action. There is also the danger of fires should the lines fall. The prevention of fires has not been as effective as they should be because of inadequate repair and surveys.

Correspondence ID: 4841

Do not confine elk. They will overgraze, and destroy the ecosystem of the park.

Correspondence ID: 4842

I have written numerous times over the years in support of the magnificent, thrilling Point Reyes Tule Elk.

I saw them in their habitat twenty five or thirty years ago and will never forgot their majesty and the feeling of joy and wonder that they brought out in me. Learning of the fence broke my heart and I've been speaking out against it ever since. Tear down that fence! Let them roam free and, by all means collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. This would be such a wonderful ending to years of terribly misguided and wrong headed actions and behavior on the part of the National Park Service. I'm am thrilled with the proposed plan. Once again, tear down that fence. Thank you, Pippa Pearthree

Correspondence ID: 4844

Dear NPS,

Your plan to remove fencing and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one. The best option is Alternative B, which removes structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered as follows:

~Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

~Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

~Eliminate grazing by cattle.

~Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

~Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

~Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4845

The time has arrived that all humans must realize we should treat all of the animals on this earth with the dignity and respect to which we ourselves desire.

Correspondence ID: 4847

Hello,

As a wilderness advocate, my purpose for writing is to speak up for Tule elk, and to provide public comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Mostly importantly, the NPS should free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Several options are being considered:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4848

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 4850

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 4851

Free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4853

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed

Correspondence ID: 4854

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4855

Alternative B is the best choice. Please support it.

Correspondence ID: 4859

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4860

Please allow the Tule elk to roam naturally throughout the Tomales Point National Park. This is VITAL to their survival

Correspondence ID: 4863

Resubmittal in raw text font.

Comment: In my previous submittal, all quotation marks were altered to "" in each instance. Hopefully this corrects things. Please provide alternative methods of filing, like all other federal agencies, and allow file attachments as PDFs or .docx (MSWord).

May 31, 2024

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
Department of the Interior Region 10

Subject: Tomales Point Area Plan EA Comments by Wilderness Watch

To Whom It May Concern,

Wilderness Watch thanks the National Park Service for its proposed Alternative B in the Environmental Assessment, which would move stewardship of the Tomales Point area of the Phillip Burton Wilderness closer to compliance with the Wilderness Act.

We believe, however, that Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of Wilderness Act as it relates to ensuring that any future actions will improve and not degrade wilderness character and meet other restrictions. See Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act (“an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man” ... “an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which [] generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable ...”); see also Section 4(c) (“there shall be ... no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, ... and no structure or installation within any such area.”)

Clearly, Alternatives A & C do not comply with Sections 2(c) and 4(c) of the Wilderness Act, which was acknowledged by Park Service staff during its May 22, 2024, public informational session. Among others, these inconsistencies include:

- The elk fence, which unnaturally restricts the Tomales Point elk herd to the Wilderness, not allowing the elk to naturally find sources of water and forage beyond the fence in years of drought;
- The elk fence even makes an incursion into the Wilderness as a structure or installation at its western extent, which infringes on its undeveloped character;
- The continued maintenance of wildlife exclosures within the Wilderness, which are structures or installations that infringe on its undeveloped character;
- The presence of water tanks, troughs, and mineral licks, the maintenance of which trammels the Wilderness by providing artificial and unnatural support to the elk, violates the law's prohibition on motor vehicles, and infringes on the undeveloped character of the area;
- Alt. C would also violate the Wilderness Act with its proposed improvement of water sources for elk, which would adversely affect the untrammelled, natural, and undeveloped characteristics of Wilderness, as acknowledged by Dave Press at the recent public information session.

We applaud the Park Service for eliminating all of these listed concerns in Alternative B, except that the EA does not clearly address several other concerns that relate to Wilderness. We suggest the following adjustments:

1. Remove the PG&E Power Line – It is unclear whether the proposed action includes the removal of the PG&E power line from the Wilderness. While the document hints at removal under Alternative A, it does not explicitly state that the power line will be removed under Alternative B or C. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. We urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

2. Change Prescribed Burning to Wildland Fire Use – The use of prescribed burning in the Wilderness violates the untrammeled and natural characteristics under Section 2(c) because it would implement managers' "desired conditions" rather than allowing the Wilderness and its community of life to be "affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable"

Interestingly, at the public information session, NPS staff made this exact point with regard to the development of water resources under Alternative C. That reasoning applies similarly to the use of prescribed burning:

"This relates to Park Service policy and our mission around protecting natural resources and natural processes. So it would be contrary to Park Service policy to essentially manipulate the systems out there to provide better access to water for wildlife."

Dave Press (Transcription from May 22, 2024, Oral Presentation)

While the reason provided in the EA for prescribed burning initially includes the "potential implementation of small research burns associated with efforts to restore native species richness and density and community response by plant species of special concern, as well as response of host plant for Myrtle's silverspot butterfly," the reasoning also suggest that "prescribed burning may be expanded to increase habitat and forage for tule elk." EA, p. 10.

This reasoning directly contradicts the statement made by Dave Press; and similar to building out water resources prescribed burning would be contrary to Park Service policy and its mission around protecting natural resources and processes, and contrary to its policy to not manipulate the systems to provide better access to water for wildlife.

Not only would prescribed burning be inconsistent with Park Service policies, it would also violate the Wilderness Act under Section 2(c).

Just as other Park Service units are wrestling with their desire to manipulate vegetation in Wilderness in pursuit of "desired conditions" rather than "natural conditions," Point Reyes National Seashore should temper its plan and avoid trammeling and pursuing desired solutions that are man-made and therefore literally "unnatural."

Much of the problem stems from incorrectly perceived tensions between the terms "natural" and "untrammeled" in the Wilderness Act. Such an interpretation allows agencies to view "natural" as a set of conditions existing at some fixed point in time, and when there is a deviation from those conditions, the agencies feel compelled to actively manipulate conditions (trammel them) to "restore" whatever prior conditions the agency has deemed "natural" for the area. This is likely a product of a long-ingrained agency history of modifying public lands to achieve "desired conditions," an idea laden with value bias even in the best of times. Measuring natural conditions with a tiny yardstick necessarily shifts the focus to human preference. Throw climate change and all of its uncertainties into the mix, and the increasing urge to actively maintain static conditions becomes all the more problematic.

Further illustrating the problem, oftentimes agency managers don't agree on the past time-point for demonstrating what is "natural" for the area. As an example, the Forest Service, in conjunction with the National Park Service, is eradicating an "exotic mountain goat population" on the Olympic Peninsula due to "adverse impacts on the natural quality of designated wilderness." Mountain goats were introduced in

the 1920s—well before wilderness designations in the 1980s—but the Park Service and Forest Service do not consider them part of natural wilderness conditions.

In another example, the Park Service relocated wolves to an island in Michigan because “[p]redation on the island has been minimal over the last five years due to the decreasing number of wolves on the island,” and the Park Service “has observed changes in the ecosystem as a result of increased herbivory from the growing moose population.” Wolves did not exist on the island until the 1950s and many of them were choosing to leave the island when ice bridges formed to the mainland. Nonetheless, the Park Service worried that the increased herbivory could accelerate vegetative changes already occurring as a result of climate change and reasoned that “introducing wolves immediately would re-establish a top-down, predator influenced system, thus decreasing herbivory and allowing forest succession to return to a historic trajectory.” The Park Service noted that under the no-action alternative, “the island ecosystem functions would continue to change, from the past predator influenced ecosystem, to an ecosystem primarily influenced by physical conditions and vegetation community structure[.]” It also admitted that “[t]here is debate among scientists as to which is most viable or preferable” and admits “[w]hether this is beneficial or adverse for the system depends on whether there is a preference for an ecosystem more influenced by predation or an ecosystem more influenced by bottom-up controls.” (emphasis added).

These issues are illustrative of agency tendency to manage for “desired conditions” and the tendency to conflate “desired conditions” with “natural conditions.”

The Wilderness Act sought to remove agency bias and influence from the equation. Put another way:

“In contrast to other public land management statutes, which typically authorize agencies to consider and weigh diverse values through exercise of their scientific and policy expertise, the Wilderness Act required certain areas to be managed predominantly for one use: wilderness preservation.... Unlike all other land-management statutes, the Wilderness Act's basic purpose was not to delegate authority to expert agencies, but rather, to exclude certain lands from the application of the agencies' specialized expertise, to restrain agency flexibility, and to protect (with limited, narrow exceptions) certain lands from the impact of the sort of policy choices land managers typically make.”

Sean Kammer, *Coming to Terms with Wilderness: The Wilderness Act and the Problem of Wildlife Restoration*, 43 ENVTL. L. 83, 100-101 (2013).

That Wildernesses have been affected by intentional human manipulation in the past (e.g. vegetative manipulation, development, fire suppression, etc.) or are affected by unintentional human influence now and will continue to be in the future (e.g. climate change) does not change how they are to be administered once designated as Wilderness. The drafters of the Wilderness Act understood:

“[I]t would be impractical and unwise to require that lands be completely untrammelled prior to being designated, but [the drafters] fully expected wilderness areas, once designated, to be untrammelled into the future.”

Id. at 106-107.

The statute, when read as a coherent whole, supports this position. The canons of statutory construction dictate that the term “natural conditions” be read in harmony with the term “untrammelled.” See *United States v. Powell*, 6 F.3d 611, 614 (9th Cir. 1993) (“It is a basic rule of statutory construction that one

provision should not be interpreted in a way which is internally contradictory or that renders other provisions of the same statute inconsistent or meaningless"); see also *Wilderness Society v. U.S. Fish Wildlife*, 353 F.3d 1051, 1060 (9th Cir. 2003) ("a fundamental canon that the words of a statute must be read in their context and with a view to their place in the overall statutory scheme"); *Kmart Corp. v. Cartier, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 281, 291 (1988) ("In ascertaining the plain meaning of [a] statute, the court must look to the particular statutory language at issue, as well as the language and design of the statute as a whole."); *United States v. Lewis*, 67 F.3d 225, 228-29 (9th Cir. 1995) ("Particular phrases must be construed in light of the overall purpose and structure of the whole statutory scheme."). In other words, a statute should be construed "as a symmetrical and coherent regulatory scheme," *Gustafson v. Alloyd Co.*, 513 U.S. 561, 569 (1995), and a "harmonious whole," *Fed. Trade Comm'n v. Mandel Brothers, Inc.*, 359 U.S. 385, 389 (1959).

The Wilderness Act, read as an internally consistent document as required by law, does not pit the terms "untrammeled" and "natural" against one another. "A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape," is statutorily defined as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain" and an area "retaining its primeval character and influence, ... which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions..." 16 U.S.C. § 1131(c). Thus, what is natural for the area necessarily flows from what is untrammeled. Indeed, this is the common meaning of the term "natural." See *Black's Law Dictionary* 1026 (6th ed. 1990) (natural means wild, formed by nature, and not artificially made or cultivated); see also *Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language* (1960) (defining "natural" as 1) "Of, from, or by, birth; natural-born;" 5) "In accordance with, or determined by, nature;" and 9) "Not artificial"). It is the result of a process, not a static end point. Otherwise, the default position will always be to trammel Wilderness to comport with a land manager's notion of what is natural, even though various complicated factors—many of which we do not fully understand and cannot control—are always necessarily at play in shifting natural conditions.

Here, the Park Service is conflating "desired conditions" with "natural conditions" in this case and creating a false conflict to justify prescribed burning in Wilderness. Ultimately, "whatever 'wilderness character' means, it cannot be something that depends upon the active manipulations of humans." Sean Kammer, *Coming to Terms with Wilderness: The Wilderness Act and the Problem of Wildlife Restoration*, 43 *ENVTL. L.* 83, 86 (2013). Restraint and humility are important values underpinning the Wilderness Act, and "[l]and managers should exercise this same humility in dealing with wilderness areas, lest they lead us down a path to where there are no longer any places that are truly 'wild,' no places beyond the control of human institutions and cultural imperatives." *Id.*

The Keeping it Wild 2 protocol acknowledges the importance of protecting wilderness character as a process rather than an outcome:

"Lucas (1973, p. 151) stated, 'If ecological processes operate essentially uncontrolled within the Wilderness frame of reference, the results, whatever they might be, are desirable by definition. The object is not to stop change, nor to recreate conditions as of some arbitrary historical date, nor to strive for favorable change in big game populations or in scenic vistas. The object is to let nature 'roll the dice' and accept the results with interest and scientific curiosity.' "

Landres et al., *Keeping It Wild 2: An Updated Interagency Strategy to Monitor Trends in Wilderness Character Across the National Wilderness Preservation System*, 33 (2015).

The Park Service has the following direction (Lake Clark as the example) regarding wildlife:

“The park resists wildlife manipulation, and wildlife habitat in the wilderness varies naturally based on complex interactions between recent physical (e.g., precipitation, temperature) and biological (e.g., insect outbreaks, plant disease) factors. Wildlife is free to move through the landscape and populations such as caribou that currently range outside the park are free to return and populate the area as before.”

Keeping it Wild in the National Park Service: A User Guide to Integrating Wilderness Character into Park Planning, Management, and Monitoring. Page 164; see also NPS's Wilderness Stewardship Plan Handbook: Planning to Preserve Wilderness Character, which states on page 90 (appendix 4.1):

“Relationship to wilderness character—Wildlife is addressed by several indicators under the natural quality, for example, the indicator “Plant and animal species and communities” and some aspects of wildlife habitat may fit under the “Physical resources” and “Biophysical processes” indicators. Many wildlife management actions are also relevant to the untrammeled quality under the indicators “Actions authorized by the federal land manager that manipulate the biophysical environment” and “Actions not authorized by the federal land manager that manipulate the biophysical environment.” “

Instead of continuing down the ill-advised road of manipulating the Wilderness to achieve “desired” rather than “natural” conditions, we suggest that the Park Service adjust its proposed burning proposal to rely more specifically on natural fire to maintain and restore ecosystems, and implement a wildfire use policy based on natural ignitions in the Phillip Burton Wilderness for ecological restoration.

3. Prohibit the Use of Herbicides in Wilderness – For the same reasons, the use of herbicides to manipulate vegetation, including invasive species, should be prohibited as a violation of Wilderness character. Manual removal of invasive species should use the minimal tool, which should be limited by hand or manual tools, but not motorized equipment such as trimmers or chainsaws.

4. Spell Out the Specifics of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), their Effectiveness, and their Potential Use to Mitigate Significant Effects – The use of TEK is mentioned in the EA as it relates to prescribed burning, but it is not defined or explained, and the EA does not describe how its use is justified, other than the Park Service's coordination with the enhancement of tribal resources and values under the agreement with the tribe. Can the Park Service provide the public with specific details about what TEK means and what it entails, and specifically as the Coast Miwok would apply or would have applied their knowledge? Without a detailed list or specificity of how TEK would be applied to assist the prescribed burning, the environmental analysis is incomplete and application of TEK would be arbitrary and capricious.

During the public information session, Park Service staff stated that a Park Service website describes TEK as “the ongoing accumulation of knowledge, practice, and belief about relationships between living beings in a specific ecosystem that is acquired by indigenous people over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment, handed down through generations, and used for life-sustaining ways.” See <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/tek/description.htm>. Staff explained:

“With regard to the Tomales Bay Area Plan, you know as we talked about, the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria [FIGR] have participated in this planning effort under our general agreement and also through a cooperating agency agreement. And their input on the plan has also been informed by their traditional knowledge of the lands and resources that are know within the seashore. So TEK will also play

a role as the programmatic elements of this plan are implemented. So, for example, if prescribed fire is put on the landscape at Tomales Point, as envisioned under the preferred alternative, the Tribe may shape the burn plan, just by way of an example, in terms of areas that should or should not be burned, or at what intensity, frequency, and so on, based on their traditional knowledge and relationship with the affected resources. So that's just one example that I think just illustrates how this could play out in that specific example.”

Paul Engel (?) (Transcription from May 22, 2024, Oral Presentation).

As stated, this was only one example, and the Park Service has a duty to disclose the use of TEK and any other examples in its environmental analysis. While in no way do we mean to discourage or belittle its use, in essence the use of TEK is similar to the use of best management practices (BMPs) or mitigation measures, for which the Park Service has a duty to disclose their effectiveness as well as their means to reduce significant effects, as in this case, to resources of value to the park and tribe, and to ensure the protection of Wilderness character. See *Nat'l Parks Conserv. Ass'n v. Babbitt*, 241 F.3d 722, 734 (9th Cir. 2001) (“[A] perfunctory description or a mere listing of mitigation measures, without supporting analytical data, is insufficient to support a FONSI.”). When an agency offers mitigation measures to lower a project's impacts below significance, it must include an assessment of whether those measures can be effective. *Neighbors of Cuddy Mtn. v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 137 F.3d 1372, 1381 (9th Cir. 1998); *S. Fork Band Council of W. Shoshone v. U.S. Dep't of Interior*, 588 F.3d 718, 727 (9th Cir. 2009) (agency must provide “sufficient detail to ensure that environmental consequences have been fairly evaluated”).

While the use of TEK may be appropriate in other areas of the Park, in Wilderness it must also be consistent with protecting the wilderness characteristics under Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. Generally speaking, the use of TEK to support prescribed burning does not negate the fact that the Park Service's proposal for burning amounts to trammeling, in this case for the purpose of vegetation manipulation based on a manager's or a plan's stated desired conditions for resource values other than protecting Wilderness character.

Along those lines, the use of FIGR's general agreement with the Park Service must also be consistent with preserving Wilderness character under Section 2(c), including the protection of untrammled, natural, and undeveloped Wilderness characteristics, and it must also be consistent with Section 4(c)'s prohibitions on the use of motorized vehicles, equipment, and mechanical methods.

5. Mixed Results from Prescribed Burning and Invasive Species Require Further Analysis – It should be noted that Dave Press' other statements at the public information session, that the Park Service has had mixed results from prescribed burning due to timing difficulties, air quality concerns, and an inability to provide a consistent application, should be red flags of additional environmental concern. Most concerning is the fact that burned areas have been invaded by non-target invasive species, which could result in a significant effect on both valued resources and Wilderness character. This suggests that the Park Service's use of prescribed burning could have significant environmental effects, which have not been disclosed in the EA. Moreover, there are no mitigation measures or BMPs suggested in the EA that address the issue and would make the Park Service's FONSI in support of its use of prescribed burning arbitrary and capricious.

OTHER ISSUES AND FACTUAL CORRECTIONS NEEDED

6. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) for Removal of Tanks, Troughs, Enclosures, and the Fence is Needed – The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. Please include an MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. Should the NPS choose at the outset to forego the use of motor vehicles or other prohibited uses in removing these structures, and Wilderness Watch encourages it to do just that, then there is no need to prepare an MRA or any other sort of minimum requirement analysis.

7. Provide Sufficient Detail about Ranching Impacts – Although the Park Service has stated correctly in the public information session that the removal of the elk fence would have little, if any, effect on adjacent ranching operations based on its implementation of elk management of the Limantour and Drakes herds, the Park Service should elaborate and provide a more robust analysis regarding impacts on adjacent ranching, even if the analysis shows that the effects would be insignificant. That way the issue is put to rest and does not become a legal concern due to the Park Service's insufficient response under NEPA.

8. Correct Factual Error Regarding Coast Miwok v. FIGR – The EA at p. 2 should be corrected to state that Point Reyes is the ancestral home of the Coast Miwok, and not FIGR. We suggest the following instead, to recognize both: “The lands in the Seashore, including those within the planning area, are the ancestral territory of the Coast Miwok, now represented by the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR or Tribe),” This is consistent with both the FIGR agreement and the park's foundational document reflecting this ancestral heritage:

the Tribe, representing Coast Miwok ... (FIGR agreement, p. 1)

More than 120 archeological sites representing Coast Miwok history and culture have been identified within the park and have yielded some of the most significant information on American Indian history in the San Francisco Bay region. (2020a, p. 4)

9. Correct Language to “Stewardship” from “Management” of Wilderness – On EA p. 3 under goals and objectives, we request that the Park Service change “wilderness management” to “wilderness stewardship” in accordance with the more appropriate usage suggested in the Park Service's Wilderness Policy Manual DO #41.

On behalf of Wilderness Watch,

René Voss

Member, Board of Directors

Correspondence ID: 4866

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the Environment.

Correspondence ID: 4867

please

Correspondence ID: 4868

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I am writing to support and encourage your Area Plan for Tomales Point in order to manage the elk herd in a way consistent with ecological principles and community values.

I urge you to proceed with Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Not only is this in keeping with best practices for wildlife conservation, but also will protect Tomales Point's distinctive wilderness character.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4870

Please remove the elk fence and let the tule elk roam naturally.

Correspondence ID: 4872

Please allow the Tomales Point area elk to roam freely so that they can thrive and the region is restored to ecological balance.

Correspondence ID: 4875

Thank you for preparing a plan that considers a better management plan for Point Reyes' confined elk herd. I very much support alternative B, which involves removing the fence and allowing for an unconfined elk herd. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused periodic elk die-offs during drought conditions which necessitated interventions to provide water sources.

The proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is too be applauded.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants in the area.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4876

Please remove the fence & let the Elk move freely - so they can get the nutrients they need.

Correspondence ID: 4878

Thanks for proposing to tear down the fence and letting the elk roam and behave naturally -- as one expects to occur in a national park.

Clearly I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative frees the tule elk, allowing them to roam naturally. It best preserves the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Alt B also better supports our cultural resources. I like the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. We should be incorporating Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I also support the management plan's elements of using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 4879

We have to leave safe places for wildlife to survive. Protect the Tule elk now.

Correspondence ID: 4882

My husband and I have visited this area several times and have had the pleasure of viewing these magnificent tule elk. Everything should be done to help preserve this herd. Please take the opportunity now to take the right action for the preservation of these animals. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4883

Please save the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 4887

Bk

Correspondence ID: 4888

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4889

Re: Removing fencing of Elk

The herds of Roosevelt Elk in our region are a priceless natural resource. For too long they have been confined & mismanaged. If the elk population is to recover, it will require a change of direction. I support Option B of the proposed Tomales Bay Management Plan. Preserving & restoring this region, for elk & so many other resources, is absolutely crucial.

Please adopt Plan B.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4890

Please do everything to support biodiversity and improving each species by allowing free movement

Remove barrier that make this less possible -- especially those made by humans.

JUST DO THIS === PLEASE

Thank you, George Hague

Correspondence ID: 4894

I support Alternative B as the best plan for the elk in the area. Thank-you.

Correspondence ID: 4895

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4896

I am in favor of Alternative B - the NPS preferred option.

It is best to have structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness removed.

I oppose Alternatives A & C.

Correspondence ID: 4898

take down the elk fence

Correspondence ID: 4899

Take down the barriers that are in the way of free roaming for the Tule elk

Correspondence ID: 4900

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly support Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan to free and let our valued and native Tule Elk roam naturally, as they should. The native Tule Elk is vital to the health of the Tomales Point ecosystem. As stewards, you are in the position to preserve and protect the native ecosystem and animals within this National Park, I would only expect that you will do so by fully supporting Alternative B.

The Tule Elk have suffered unnecessary periodic die-offs and unhealthy reproduction due to the restrictions placed by the National Park. Lack of water and exposure to genetic variation reduces their population and creates an unhealthy genetic population. By being able to freely roam, they will be able to access water (undeniably, it's unacceptable to knowingly allow elk to have no access water at times) and breed within a larger elk population.

I also support National Park's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to enlighten us with Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge in managing the area. We need to implement their knowledge, eradicate the existing invasive plants and let our Tule Elk roam freely to protect this ecosystem and our beloved park.

Thank you, Sandra Osumi

Correspondence ID: 4904

Protect our biodiversity. Save the Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 4905

Please use Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 4908

Please do the right and proper things in regards to this important decision.

Correspondence ID: 4909

Dear Superintendent of Point Reyes National Seashore,

I appreciate that you are preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that will better protect the park's confined elk herd. I support Alternative B that would remove the elk fence and allow the herd to roam free.

It is well known that the elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this herd separate from other elk in the park.

Humans have controlled and destroyed too much natural habitat and that needs to be reversed. Fence the humans out, give the land back to the animals and plants.

Sincerely,

Tina Peak

Correspondence ID: 4914

I am writing in support of Alternative B, the NPS preferred option. I have hiked many times in this area and feel strongly that the Tule elk population deserves the best conditions we can provide. We have "lost" so much wildlife in the U.S. over the past five to seven decades that we simply cannot continue to willfully harm wildlife or continue to allow conditions that are detrimental for the wildlife that remains - especially wildlife on public lands.

I oppose Alternatives A and C; they are inconsistent with wilderness, and they pose threats to the Tule elk.

I also suggest that Alternative B be modified in several ways, such as making explicit that water structures should be removed with non-motorized means, and making explicit how larger structures such as tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence will be removed. I fully support the removal of the fence and other structures, but feel it is important to do such removal with the least disturbance to the elk population as possible.

I also strongly oppose grazing cattle and the use of pesticides of any kind in Point Reyes and the Wilderness area. The damage that cattle grazing and pesticides cause is well established and goes well beyond the detriment they cause to the elk.

Finally, the PG&E power line should be removed, as it is also a structure that is incompatible with a Wilderness area (and can pose a threat of wildfire, as power lines already have in California, causing enormous damage). Please add the removal of the power line, explicitly, to the plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 4915

I AM STRONGLY ASKING NPS TO FREE THE RARE TULE ELK BY REMOVING THE ELK FENCE ON TOMALES POINT IN THE PHILIP BURTON WILDERNESS. THANK YOU, CAROLYN KING

Correspondence ID: 4916

In regards to the fate of Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America, endemic to California, in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore, I believe Alternative B is the best option, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 4917

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4919

Since Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where the Tule Elk live, they need to be protected and have actions done in their best interest. They are a national treasure. They need to move around naturally, but the National Park Service's fence does not allow that and limits their movement to

Tomales Point at the park's northern end, and this has proven to be disastrous by causing large numbers of deaths esp. during drought.

The fence needs to come down and there should be a management plan for Tomales Point that would bring the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to the table so their culture can be better respected, endangered butterflies could have better habitat, as well as the elk. This would be a win-win collaboration

Correspondence ID: 4920

I'm speaking up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. This is your chance to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you,

Rev Margaret Raynolds

Correspondence ID: 4921

Please remove the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option for the National Park Service (NPS) is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. This alternative includes the removal of structures within the Wilderness and the fence just outside the Wilderness, which is the right choice for preserving the natural environment. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and pose a threat to the rare Tule elk. However, some additional modifications to Alternative B should be considered.

The removal of unlawfully built water structures in the Wilderness should be conducted using non-motorized means. Given the small size of these structures, their removal can be accomplished without motor vehicles. A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is necessary for the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The Environmental Assessment (EA) is incomplete without addressing how these removals will be carried out. The NPS must include the MRA in the analysis of Alternative B.

Grazing by cattle should be eliminated in Point Reyes and the Wilderness, in accordance with the original agreement when the seashore was established. Additionally, herbicides should not be used in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence will allow for better distribution of Tule elk and help mitigate the spread of invasive plants.

Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the Wilderness landscape, rather than using manager-ignited fires, which can create artificial conditions. Frequent use of manager-ignited fire tends to favor non-native invasive plants.

Lastly, the PG&E power line, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, should be removed. The NPS should explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 4922

I am writing in support to free the Tule Elk, let them roam free! Humans are the destroyers of the earth and nature. We ought to preserve and and protect the little that is left. Soon there will be no more nature or wildlife if policies like this continue. LET THEM ROAM FREE!

Correspondence ID: 4923

I believe that protecting wildlife corridors and habitats is critical to assuring a rich and diverse wildlife. Updating the Tomales Point Area Plan is a great start. Removing the elk fence will better support a healthy elk herd and allow them to more freely move as water and forage change.

Also, just as the BLM has learned in southern Utah (Bears Ears NM), a collaborative management plan that uses native wisdom and perspectives can provide strong support among local communities and a responsible approach to stewardship. I encourage the Area Plan to maintain and strengthen co-management among local Native Americans.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 4926

Hello,

It is far, far more important to preserve the native ELK at what is called Tamales Point than it is to make even more room for cows. There are enough cows in the world.

Thank you, Terre Dunivant

Correspondence ID: 4928

The NPS must include the MRA in the removal of fencing, tanks, and troughs

on Tomales Point that is within the Philip Burton Wilderness area.

This would allow the Tule elk to once again roam freely across this area that they have had access to for centuries.

Please use non motorized vehicles to do this work to allow less trauma for the elk.

No cattle should have access into this Wilderness.

There should also be no usage of herbicides within the Wilderness.

I understand that a power line exists here as well. This must be removed as soon as possible. Also with as little disturbance as

possible.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 4930

We are supposed to be good Stewarts of everything

Correspondence ID: 4932

Free the Tule Elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness Area

Correspondence ID: 4934

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4936

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they will degrade the wilderness and endanger the elk. I would also like the Alternative B to state that the PG&E power line, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the wilderness, will be removed.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for all you do to care for the Tule elk and ensure their continued survival.

Correspondence ID: 4937

People from Wilderness Watch who live and work in the Point Reyes project area have said preferred alternative B is the best choice but would be better with some adjustments. As always, activities in Wilderness need to be analyzed and done without motorized equipment. Cows out, chemical herbicides out, power line out, take a good look at the use of prescribed fire.

Very glad to see NPS attention to landscape and biodiversity restoration. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 4939

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Also, water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be removed by non-motorized means.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as was the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants, negating the need to use pesticides, which harm insects, bees, birds.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 4941

Elk deserve their freedom.

Correspondence ID: 4943

The best option is Alt.B, allowing for the removal of structures and the fence just outside of the Wilderness.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. There must be discussion and planning for removal of water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal.

Eliminate grazing by cattle.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 4945

Elk and other wild species should be allowed to adapt to climate change, however they can manage to do that.

Correspondence ID: 4947

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Alternative B will allow Tule elk to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, and required emergency intervention to provide water to trapped animals. The fence also reduces the elk herd's genetic viability by separating the elk within the national park. Point Reyes requires an updated management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally.

Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removing the fence will allow better distribution of Tule elk and help control invasive plants. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness!

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Thank you for considering my opinions.

Correspondence ID: 4948

Do this. It matters.

Correspondence ID: 4949

I urge you to adopt "Alternative B," which would permanently remove the fencing that keeps the herd from finding water sources in times of drought.

Respectfully,

Deborah Holley

Correspondence ID: 4953

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4954

I support alternative B regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I also support removal of water structures by non-motorized means, no cattle grazing, no use of herbicides, and no managed fire ignitions.

Correspondence ID: 4955

I DEFINITELY SUPPORT A FREE-ROAMING TULE ELK HERD AND A COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN! THESE MAJESTIC ANIMALS HAVE BEEN HELD CAPTIVE TOO LONG! ALLOW THEM TO LIVE IN PEACE!

Correspondence ID: 4957

. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4960

I support plan B

Correspondence ID: 4962

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

I believe that it is important for us to protect our wildlife and their habitats now, so that they can thrive and be a part of our world for future generations.

Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 4963

This herd has already suffered a severe death toll from dehydration, fenced off from their natural water supply by cattle ranchers using public land.

I've written you on this topic before, and I am so gratified to find that you are seriously considering unfencing the Point Reyes Tule Elk herd at Tomales Point.

Cattle should not be part of this public land at all, but for sure we should not be confining elk to make way for cattle. I fully support Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

I also fully support working with local native American tribes and the use of prescribed burns to preserve traditional use of the land and to maintain the unique ecosystem of the peninsula.

Taken together, these three actions will preserve the unique appeal and value of Tomales Point for future generations.

Correspondence ID: 4966

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 4968

In your management of animal use areas, please consider using animal-safe fencing in all areas. In addition, provide breaks or animal access for migration as well.

Thank you, Rebecca A Kraut

Correspondence ID: 4969

Elk must be free, as nature intended.

Correspondence ID: 4970

May 31, 2024

Dear Superintendent of the Point Reyes National Seashore,

Subject: Tomales Point Area Plan

I was made aware by the Center for Biological Diversity that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs elk during drought conditions. I am concerned, yet hopeful that the Alternative B portion of this plan which would remove the elk fence. By doing this it seems like the right decision because the tule elk will be free to allow them to roam more naturally. This 2,900 acre section of land known as Tomales Point should be opened up to these poor elk who have been confined in an area that is much too small for this herd of elk. If the elk are allowed to roam naturally the animals will be safer

from drought conditions, and it will also enhance the wilderness beauty in this large expanse of land known as the Tomales Point. The fact that endangered butterflies could be brought back to the area would also be very good for the preservation of these species, and the elk will be much happier. The elk can also graze more and keep the invasive plants under control.

I hope that the proposed collaboration of the Park Services with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, will be a dual partnership. Hopefully this could create a concerted effort between the two entities, and will allow for more ideas, options, and creativity in managing the land and ecological growth and success of Tomales Point.

I like the idea of the management of the plan's elements to highlight the Native Tribal interesting history and varied cultural resources to become a part of the Tomales Point Area. I hope that I will be able to visit this area after the changes are made. Having fire protections implemented will be very important for the safety of the tule elk, small animals, and the endangered butterflies. Hopefully, all of these species will be able to grow and prosper. If these proposals are able to be implemented, I would support the Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect the natural and cultural aspects of the land. I am also very hopeful that the invasive plants can be controlled.

Thank you for reading my comments and I will be grateful and happy if the beloved elk can be freed from having to be corralled by the restricting elk fencing. Best of luck to the endangered butterflies, and may the elk be able to eat many invasive plants.

Sincerely,

Diane H. Langejans

Correspondence ID: 4971

Preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd is a good first step. I strongly support Alternative B, to allow elk to roam unconfined, as they are meant to be. This alternative makes the most sense, as it will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. The elk fence clearly is not working, and it is obvious that Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. Native Americans are better suited to make good, sound decisions about the land and the creatures that call it home. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4972

Hello! Why should cattle take precedence over the Tule Elk? We should not be in the business of animal agriculture anyway--it is costing the eco system waaaay too much, bad for human health and cruel to animals.

Protect the Tule Elk please. Tell farmers to start to transition to plant based consumables. They are just too much trouble in so many aspects. We should not be subsidizing them at all, especially not at the expense of the Tule Elk.

Come on...

IT'S TIME FOR BIG CHANGES.

Correspondence ID: 4973

Dear sir / madam,

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 4974

Use your own words, but consider the following talking points:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for speaking up by Wednesday, June 5 to protect rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness!

Correspondence ID: 4975

It's horrific n inhumane

Correspondence ID: 4977

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 4978

I support Alternative B—allowing the Tule elk herd to roam free in order to protect their genetic diversity. I also support the proposal to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Their traditional ecological practices will help sustain the area's wilderness and protect the diversity of the area.

Thank .

Correspondence ID: 4981

I support Alternative B with stipulations:

Remove PG&E power lines

Remove all cattle

Remove small structures such as water structures without motor vehicles

Allow natural fires not managed fires

Don't allow ANY use of herbicides

Before removal of larger structures such as fences, troughs, tanks more analysis is needed

to meet "wilderness" requirements and minimal disturbance to ecosystems

Correspondence ID: 4984

Please do what needs to be done to protect the welfare of these animals!

Correspondence ID: 4987

I support Alternative B,with the following additions:

1. Remove cattle from the Wilderness as agreed to when it was established.

2. Stop controlled burns, or if you have them, do it in a way that does not benefit exotic plants.
3. Stop the use of herbicides.

Thank you for the work you are doing and for the opportunity to comment.

George Ferrell

Correspondence ID: 4988

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As a long-time Marin resident, Point Reyes National Seashore is a sacred, special place for me and loved ones.

So, thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 4991

B

Correspondence ID: 4992

Please remove all structures that impede the Tule elk, including, fences, ower line, water tanks, gates, cattle grazing, and any other structures that are contrary to the Wilderness Act. Please specify how The NPS will remove these structures.

Correspondence ID: 4996

Protecting the animals in the parks

Correspondence ID: 4997

Please help....

Correspondence ID: 4999

Keep it Wild!

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Your attention to this most urgent matter would be much appreciated by all present & future generations of all species.

Thank you

Lydia Garvey Public Health Nurse

Correspondence ID: 5001

The elk should have never been hemmed in!!! They are wild animals.

Correspondence ID: 5002

Please remove the fence so that the elk can roam freely and work with the Native Americans on this issue. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5003

i am a physician,

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 5004

Free the elks!

Correspondence ID: 5005

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

As a former NPS Ranger and Manager I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. It's about time! I strongly support Alternative B, that removes the elk fence and allows an unconfined elk herd. Tule elk should be allowed to roam naturally. Additionally, the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point must be protected.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Instead of managing park resources around livestock operation's needs the NPS at Point Reyes must implement a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Proposals to control invasive plants and better protect natural and cultural resources should be considered and implemented as appropriate to fulfill the NPS mission of preserving and protecting park resources for this and future generations.

Thank you,

Correspondence ID: 5006

I write in support of the Tule Elk, and in that regard Alternative B. The Tule Elk, as with all wildlife, must not be withheld water. They must also be allowed the opportunity to roam free as God through nature intended. Please make the appropriate adjustments to Alternative B that will make it the best for Tule Elk, other wildlife, and wild spaces.

Correspondence ID: 5008

Please free the elk, they deserve to live out their natural lives in peace

Correspondence ID: 5009

Guess I'll just have to postpone my family's yearly vacation to Tomales until this thing gets resolved!

Correspondence ID: 5010

To whom it may concern,

Please don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

And PLEASE eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Please follow original agreements. This is public land!!!

and lastly and most importantly:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Read

Correspondence ID: 5011

I encourage adopting option B and to make additional changes to it that include various things that give elk free roaming and safety like they once had which includes removing fencing, electric power lines, existing water structures, grazing cattle, as well as ending any use of herbicides.

Correspondence ID: 5012

I agree with all the below comments. Wild places are a necessity for our planet, and we wouldn't be good stewards if we allow the destruction of same. Thank you. Virginia Bottorff

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5015

THESE ANIMALS AND THEIR HABITAT BELONG TO THE FUTURE AND NEED TO BE PROTECTED FROM THOSE THAT ABUSE OR DESTROY THEM/IT FOR FUN OR PROFIT.

NATIVE AMERICANS ARE GOOD STEWARDS FOR THIS

Correspondence ID: 5016

Please allow the elk to this area and do not allow ranchers to graze their cattle on public lands

Correspondence ID: 5018

Elk and all animals deserve the right to be protected and respected and to live in peace!!!!

Correspondence ID: 5023

Free the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5024

Bring the Elk back

Correspondence ID: 5025

we should be trying to save these animals .Remove the fence and let them live.

Correspondence ID: 5026

It is imperative that the fence penning the Tule elk in must be removed so that this rare sub-species can thrive. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5028

Stop!

Correspondence ID: 5029

We have visited many western states. The reason I plan to return is the wildlife and knowing that there are plenty of protected lands being preserved. A coworker loves to watch the elk around Jackson Hole, WY all year long, literally watching them on his computer. It is so nice to know that there are others in this world who respect that the animals were here long before we were and are a natural part of the ecosystem.

Please, do not allow the elk to be over hunted and eventually disrupt the balance of life in this region of the country.

Correspondence ID: 5030

Save the environment

Correspondence ID: 5033

Conservation efforts of the Tule elks are an important step to protect wildlife in the U.S. The grazing by cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Also, the elimination of use of herbicides in the Wilderness.

Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would also mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Expansion of cattle grazing goes against efforts to reduce global warming and slow down the extinction of wildlife, which has doubled in the past 40 my years.

Correspondence ID: 5034

Please support Alternative B, removing the elk fence to allow the elk herd to be free. This alternative will allow the elk to roam naturally, and will prevent confinement which has caused many elk to die. Thank you for considering this plan to save the tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5036

Thank you for letting the Tule elk move around naturally. This is so important to their health and vitality. Most important also is to collaborate as allies with the Graton Rancheria in the management of the plan for Tomales Point. We may have serious droughts in the future so allowing the Tule Elk to move around naturally is critical to their well being. Thank you for the good work of everyone in the National Park Service.

Marilyn

Correspondence ID: 5037

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for your work to improve the Tomales Point Area Plan to better protect natural resources.

In particular, thank you for considering a new management direction of the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removal of the elk fence to allow the herd to roam more naturally. I believe Alternative B is most in line with preserving the wilderness of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused unnecessary die-offs of elk and emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals. The herd's genetic viability is at stake by keeping it separated from other elk in the area.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with indigenous communities to incorporate historical ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you.

Janine Dallow

Correspondence ID: 5038

No comment.

Correspondence ID: 5039

Free the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 5040

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considere

Correspondence ID: 5042

Please support wilderness and Tule Elk in these ways:

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Remove the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

Correspondence ID: 5048

Love the National Parks

Correspondence ID: 5051

Please remove the elk fences that they may roam free as they were intended to.

Correspondence ID: 5055

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5057

These are grand creatures. Please do NOT use the referenced killing fence or any other hurtful guards. Let them roam the lands they always have.

Correspondence ID: 5060

It's the right thing to do. Let's just do that for once. We lived and hiked in Marin and Sonoma for thirty years, long ago. We were so proud when the Point Reyes National Seashore was created and such beautiful land was preserved. Keep up the good work!

Correspondence ID: 5063

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I did not write these comments myself, but I read them, agree and could not say it better myself.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5067

Manage the wilderness with legal means and wilderness values. No structures, no motor vehicles, no manipulation of wildlife.

My

Correspondence ID: 5068

Stop Hurting Animals they deserve their Freedom - Let them Roam Free without harm

Correspondence ID: 5069

It is ridiculous to keep that elk herd penned up with no access to food or water for months of the year. Take down the fence and allow them to migrate to a more sustainable habitat.

Correspondence ID: 5073

Please remove fencing in the Tomales Point Area and protect Tule elk which reside therein and keep it a wilderness area as much as is possible....

Correspondence ID: 5074

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park

Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5076

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5078

Majestic animals should run free.

Correspondence ID: 5081

stop the fence from being built do not hurt the animals thank you

Correspondence ID: 5084

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting my comments in regards to the Tomales Point Area Environmental Assessment.

I am asking that you please consider the Alternate B plan, which is preferred by the National Park Service, in this situation which will most protect the integrity of the Wilderness Area and the Tule Elk and other wildlife that inhabit this area of land.

This alternative will cover the removal of all the structures, tanks, troughs, and the PG&E power line, using non-motorized vehicles. Also, all cattle should be removed which will discourage growth of invasive plant species so no chemicals will be needed in these sensitive areas, and cattle should not have been allowed in these areas after the Point Reyes National Seashore was established, which was part of the original agreement. No cattle.

Thank you for considering my statements.

Correspondence ID: 5086

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5087

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5088

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

This Tomales Point Area Plan seems to be a step in the right direction to better protect natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Is not the aim of the National Park Service to provide parks that are free for all animals? Am I missing something as to why you erected the elk fence?

Climate change has caused radically different conditions in different parts of the country. Were you unaware that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Why was it not taken down.

It is incredibly important that the entire National government collaborate with the indigenous peoples; therefore, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I assume this collaboration will be a meaningful one and not a show. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5090

I UGRE YOU TO FREE TULE ELK IN THE PHILIP BURTON WILDNESS.

Correspondence ID: 5096

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I've been up to Tomales Point and I've seen our beautiful elk, confined behind your fence and doomed to inbreeding and dying of thirst during droughts.

I so thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Please choose Alternative B. It is the only viable choice to conserve our elk and to allow them to thrive.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales

Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5097

Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore have a right to live their lives in their natural habitat which doesn't include cattle. The following is the best way to achieve their reintroduction to an expanded natural environment.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5098

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5099

Elk deserve to remain in their totally natural habitat without mankind destroying their natural grazing and breeding grounds. We the people are the ones totally destroying our planet and natural wildlife and habitat with wars, garbage, overwhelming businesses and housing, etc. Let's for once allow nature to run it's natural course without us humans destroying everything!

Correspondence ID: 5100

I support the Tomales Point Area Plan, especially Plan B, which will remove the fence that confines the

park's Point Reyes Tule elk. Confining them has resulted in mass die-offs during droughts requiring emergency intervention so those majestic elk could have water. Allowing them to roam free fits the park's objective much more than confining them, and your collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will incorporate tribals views and ecological knowledge in future management of Tomales Point.

There are also endangered butterflies (pollinators) that will benefit from this plan to use prescribed burns to enhance the habitat. I also support more effort to control invasive plants in what should be a win for all people and animals involved. Thank-you again for protecting the elk & the native Americans' cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5101

Hello,

I'm a native of the SF Bay Area and am so glad that you are seriously considering unfencing the Point Reyes Tule Elk herd at Tomales Point.

Cattle do not belong on public land, and we definitely should not be confining elk to make way for cattle! I fully support Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment.

I also fully support working with local Native American tribes and with using prescribed burns to preserve traditional use of the land and to maintain the unique ecosystem of the peninsula. These actions will preserve the unique appeal and value of Tomales Point for future generations.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5102

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5104

I write to urge NPS to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 5107

More wild life and less domestic grazers.... give the elk more free space.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5108

REMOVE the ELK FENCE at Tomales Point!

Correspondence ID: 5111

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 5113

Regarding the Tule Elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your consideration in the above modifications to "Alternative B". We need to return to a wild and traditional way of life. It is obvious that what we are doing is moving the planet towards extinction for humans.

Paul Shabazian

Coulterville, CA

Correspondence ID: 5114

Please remove the fence for the Tule Elk. I support option B.

Correspondence ID: 5116

Greetings,

I am a young person who cares a lot about protecting wildlife. Thank you so much for all that you do. I am just writing in respectful opposition to the fence that might harm our populations. I am concerned about this fence because the elk are already very special and somewhat threatened creatures, and I think we should do all we can to encourage their populations, not harm them. Surely we can all work together to reach solutions that benefit elk and human coexistence.

Thank you So Much for your time and consideration! Have a really great day. Warmly, Rebecca

Correspondence ID: 5117

Hello! I am a farmer and care about protecting our ecosystems and unique western wildlife. I appreciate your work to safeguard our beautiful wildlife and lands.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. Take good care!

Correspondence ID: 5118

All of GODs creatures should be FREE

Correspondence ID: 5120

FREE the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 5121

Please save these animals!

Correspondence ID: 5123

I urge you to remove the elk fence on Tomales Point Within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Thank you,

Beverly Bullock

Correspondence ID: 5127

Please let Nature Be Natural!!

Correspondence ID: 5128

Please free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best way is going with what the NPS preferred option is alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Use non-motorized means to removed the water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness.

Eliminate grazing by cattle.

No herbicides in the Wilderness.

Remove the PG &E power line.

Correspondence ID: 5129

Hello,

Please release the rare Tule Elk.

The best option is the Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

These beautiful creatures deserve better than what they've been dealt. I am not alone in this thinking.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5130

This is the time to save the Elk !

Correspondence ID: 5131

Please free the elk.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5132

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 5133

Please let the Tule deer roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 5134

As a Colorado native and hunter I have a deep reverence for elk and the support they provide to ecosystems. Generally speaking, mankind has appropriated so much wildland for industrial agriculture and development that the loss of natural habitat has our planet's species disappearing at 1000 time the background extinction rate. Our current ecological status qualifies unanimously by scientists as the sixth mass extinction.

For the sake of property, capital gain, profit, and an economical model that assumes unlimited growth as the basis of a healthy economy, humans have appropriated, raised, plowed, mono-cropped, and sprayed chemicals on so many swaths of land that we are witnessing excessive, irreparable damage to ecosystems. People might prioritize their own attainments, be apathetic, or even ignorantly deny the situation entirely as the change is slow and therefore not dramatically visible from year to year. Additionally, climate protection can be undermined and even made into a joke by politicians and ignorant facebook memes. People simply don't realize that the whole economy is a subset of the biosphere, we NEED biodiverse ecosystems on this planet to maintain arable soil, carbon sequestration, fresh water generation, erosion prevention, and conservation of species, each one serving a specific purpose in their network that maintains the ecosystem's strength to various adversities, such as famine, fire, predator/ prey imbalance, etc.

I directly plead with to adopt this reality into all of your future project attitudes, and be the brave bold one that stands for a sustainable future, rather than seeking endless capitalistic borderlines and gains. In the case of the elk, it would be better to manage them with a minimally invasive approach than to kill them with electrified fences (cheap lazy easy solution).

Thank you for your audience,

Derek Carpenter

PS I use my artwork for fundraising and have raised tens of thousands in a few years for conservation. If your fundraising branch needs help they are welcome to contact me

Correspondence ID: 5136

Good Day,

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

One change would be to eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. In addition, a halt in the use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Thank you for considering these suggestions.

Correspondence ID: 5137

please save these animals.

Correspondence ID: 5138

Please remove the fence! Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5139

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5140

I wish to speak up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed.

Correspondence ID: 5142

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5143

Protect our parks and environment, fauna and flora

Correspondence ID: 5144

It's heartbreaking to me that we have restored the elk population to their natural habitat, after they had been driven to extinction in this area, only to fail to steward this poor, threatened herd, and the entire restoration project is now at risk of failure because of our inaction to protect this herd. Can't we please do better by this iconic species? I thrilled at the restoration story behind the eagle and the falcon and the

osprey, and the condors, and many other raptors, who were brought back from near extinction and were able to rebound due to us changing our ways and allowing them enough habitat in order to survive. I watch the live Web cameras that are trained on eagle nests in the Channel Islands and its proof of one of the most amazing environmental success stories I've ever heard. We have a chance to do this for our elk, who were hunted to extinction by waves of settlers and hunters and trappers during successive waves of occupation and colonization.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Correspondence ID: 5145

The Tomales Point Area Plan protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I think it's very important that Alternative B is adopted. Removing the elk fence and allowing a free roaming elk herd is the best way to preserve and enhance the wilderness character of this area.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. The elk deserve better -- Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. The management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies are important to this area, as are the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely, Sharron

Correspondence ID: 5150

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd to act and live within the full

range of their natural environment. Keeping them confined is not good for the herd, or the greater area ecosystem. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has been a concerns for sometime, as it has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5151

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5152

I support Alternative B as the best one, which is also the NPS preferred option.

First and foremost, cattle grazing must go. This is not appropriate to a national park and degrades soils and wildlife habitat, as well as water quality.

Similarly, herbicide use should be eliminated in the Philip Burton Wilderness Area.

Natural fires suppress non-native vegetation and spur seed release in many native species adapted to fire. Fire releases vital nutrients for plant growth. Manager-ignited fire should be used sparingly or not at all.

Structures in the Wilderness are anathema to the wilderness experience and should be removed, as should fencing. Fencing impedes wildlife movement and poses hazards to wildlife.

I also oppose Alternatives A and C, which would degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Without question, the PG&E power line should be removed. It is deleterious to the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. The power line should be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Lastly, some changes to Alternative B would make it a still better option. Namely, water structures in the Wilderness should be removed by non-mechanized means. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of exclosures, tanks, fences, troughs and the like. Without covering ways in which these types of structures and facilities should be removed, the Environmental Analysis is incomplete and inadequate. The Park Service must include a MRA as a part of the approach in Alternative B.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5157

Public land is not for racers private use.

Correspondence ID: 5159

Free the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5160

I support the removal of the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the National Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 5166

Take care of the environment

Correspondence ID: 5167

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. They have no place wilderness! Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles which do not belong in wilderness..

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action. PG&E has shown in the past that they are irresponsible and not too be relied upon to behave in a responsible manner even if it were appropriate for a power line to be in Wilderness which it is not.

Correspondence ID: 5169

Alternative B is the correct choice.Remove the fence barrier.

Correspondence ID: 5170

Free the tule elk, take down the fence, fight for the freedom of the wilderness and all its inhabitants. Select alternative B and oppose alternatives A and C. Please remove the tanks, troughs, exclosures, and

the fence. Remove the grazing cattle and don't use chemicals or any pesticides/herbicides in the wilderness areas. Don't poison and destroy the wilderness, protect it!

Correspondence ID: 5177

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

This cannot come soon enough! Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5180

I am 64 years old and have lived most of my life in the SF Bay Area. I remember hiking with friends when I was a teenager and first glimpsing the Tule Elk in Tomales Bay -- what a joyful sight! The elk are a state treasure. So, I was understandably horrified to learn about the terrible damage that the elk fence has caused these beautiful creatures. How can such cruelty be justified?!

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5184

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

I'm emailing in regard to the Tule Elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The NPS preferred Alternative B that includes removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought is good, but the Alternative B still needs additional changes for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Alternatives A and C are not of benefit as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. But, what also needs consideration is the removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness and this needs to be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

It would also be of great benefit to the elk to eliminate grazing by cattle in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plant.

I appreciate your time in considering these points that will benefit Tuttle Elk in the Phillip burton Wilderness.

Thank you.

Becky Stephenson

Correspondence ID: 5188

I am writing in strong support of removing the fence that confines the Elk at Point Reyes in California. It is heartbreaking to picture Elk artificially confined and unable to go to life saving water and food because of that. Taking emotion out of it though, it is the right thing to do to help give yet another species on the verge of extinction a chance to survive. Removing the fence will hurt no one and could save these iconic Elk from extinction.

Thank you for reading my comment. I hope to soon read the news that the Tomales Point Elk fence has been removed.

Correspondence ID: 5189

Free the elk in the Tomales Point area by tearing down the destructive fence.

Correspondence ID: 5191

Allowing animals to live in an environment as close to natural as possible really is the least we can do.

Correspondence ID: 5193

NPS to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5194

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5196

Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

I strongly propose the removal of the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness . The NPS to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The plan to remove the fence and to allow the Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point, as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

Respectfully,

Barbara S. Greenwood

Correspondence ID: 5197

Please let the Tule Elk roam free and behave naturally! I do remember that the animals were trapped during a severe drought, with no water access: That is animal cruelty and torture! Please also consider the advice of indigenous people on how to manage the Land: They are a source of wisdom and the stewards of the Land!

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk!

Correspondence ID: 5199

I support Alternative B. It is the best plan to allow free ranging deer which will eliminate unnecessary deer deaths. I also am very in favor of collaborating with the Native Tribe in planning and actual management of the lands . Native tribes have successfully managed Tribal lands and ecosystems for

millennia for the benefit of Nature and wildlife which are so critical to Tribal health both the physical and spiritual as well as maintaining their culture.

Correspondence ID: 5201

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5202

Let's change for the better

Correspondence ID: 5204

Good evening,

I am writing in favor of Alternative B, with especial emphasis on preserving and restoring the Philip Burton Wilderness. I particularly urge you to remove all fences, buildings, and other structures within the wilderness area while minimizing the impact on the land in the process. More importantly, cattle should not be competing with the Tule elk for food and other resources, and cattle grazing should be completely removed from the wilderness area.

Thank you, Rebecca

Correspondence ID: 5205

This is a special type of elk that keep an invasive plant at bay. The invasive plant is *Holcus Lanatus*. The plant is invasive, and the elk keep it in check. The elk allow the mesic perennial grasslands.

These are often called dwarf elk. They are important to allow grasslands to grow and becomes a diverse eco-system with different grasses, which increases grasslands.

Correspondence ID: 5208

Free Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness!

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5210

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I specifically endorse Alternative B, which removes the elk fence and allows the elk herd to roam free within their environment. This alternative allows the tule elk, to roam naturally, and facilitates the preservation of the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I especially endorse the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support proposals that advocate for the control of invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5211

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Correspondence ID: 5212

We need to take better care of what is left of our environment, for animals, plants, and people.

Correspondence ID: 5214

This is animal cruelty

Correspondence ID: 5216

Please continue to support Alternative B, but also add the following provisions:

1. Do not allow cattle grazing in the area.
2. Do not allow the use of toxic pesticides.
3. Consider removing the fence by non-disruptive means.
4. Remove the PG&E power line, which has no place in wilderness.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5217

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 5218

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5219

Please vote for Option B, and take down the elk killing fence.

Let the Elk Roam Naturally at PRNS!

Restore Habitat!

Correspondence ID: 5221

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5222

Please free the Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Please save these beautiful creatures.

Correspondence ID: 5228

Please do everything possible to protect the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5231

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 5232

I want future generations to know the same health and beauty of our earth as I have known it.

Not all of us want to live on Mars

Correspondence ID: 5235

Wildlife should always be the most important consideration in your considerations. Humans are already controlling and destroying so much of the planet. Please consider the following points.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5237

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5239

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Kind regards,

Suzanne

Correspondence ID: 5241

Dear Sir or Madam,

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I also support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources.

Thank you!

Kind regards,

Suzanne

Correspondence ID: 5245

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. Stop

Public grazing of cows, keep motorized vehicles out. There are so few areas left, we need to protect the wildness and wildlife. This is your job, be responsible!!

Correspondence ID: 5246

Please protect these elk to ensure that they survive and thrive where they are. Do not let cattle graze in the wilderness. Please remove fences and structural boundaries. Please remove the man-made water areas without machinery, two strong people could accomplish this. Please do what is right for the elk. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5247

After reading all of the following i agree with them all! Our wildlife has been in the hands of the wrong beings for to long and look how many we have and are losing. Our wildlife, the land and water/water sources.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5249

Please be part of the movement to protect and honor our fellow species and stop the onslaught from human activity to curtail their lives and choices.

Correspondence ID: 5250

Do the right thing and ensure the elk have the best chance possible to live as they should. Alternative B is the best option but needs adjustments.

Correspondence ID: 5251

Remove the fence so the tule elk can be free.

Correspondence ID: 5255

These wild elk deserve the same chance to survive as all wildlife. It isn't necessary to slaughter nature in order to survive ourselves.

Correspondence ID: 5258

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5260

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C would degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare the Tule elk.

However, some changes to the Alternative B should to be considered:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and this could easily be easily achieved.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is should have a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal will be achieved, and a plan in place. The NPS should include the MRA to complete the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. The damage done by cattle in ranges for other grazing herd animals has been scientifically established. It is time to follow best practices, and not sabotage natures' efforts at improvements.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. They poison more than the intended plant life and cause more damage than good. Removing the cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow more natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than over using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a infringes on the character of the Wilderness, and should be removed. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed with Alternative B and it is preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5262

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5264

Alternative B is the best plan! However, it is absolutely crucial that all cattle be removed as well as the PGE power line being removed to bring this wonderful Wilderness into compliance with the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Correspondence ID: 5265

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Please understand that.

Correspondence ID: 5266

I am writing in support of Alternative B, with a few modifications:

- Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5267

for the protection of the elk , I see the best option is alternative B , remove the illegal water structure , remove all grazing cattle and lastly remove all the power lines at the Point Reyes National Seashore .

Correspondence ID: 5270

I fully support a free-roaming elk herd. Please do not impose any fence on them. They need to travel freely.

Correspondence ID: 5272

I think the best option is option B to remove the fence and temporary water tanks and systems.

Also cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the wilderness anymore as per the original agreement.

Removing the fence and cattle would allow better distribution of the Tule Elk and also mitigate the expansion of invasive plants.

Also to urge the Park Service to state that the PG & E power line will be removed under Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 5277

Protect the Wilderness: Support Alternative B with Improvements

This plan calls for backing Alternative B, the choice favored by the National Park Service (NPS). This option removes structures built illegally within the wilderness area and takes down a fence bordering it.

Alternatives A and C are harmful because they damage the wilderness and threaten the rare Tule elk. However, there are some tweaks needed to make Alternative B even better.

Muscle Power for Removal: The removal of these structures should be done by hand or with non-motorized tools. They're small enough to be taken down without heavy machinery.

Plan the Disassembly: A more detailed plan (Minimum Requirements Analysis) is needed for taking out the water tanks, troughs, fences, and the outer enclosure. The current plan lacks important details on this process.

Grazing Goodbye: Cattle grazing should be eliminated entirely. This aligns with the original agreement when the Point Reyes National Seashore was established.

Natural Balance over Chemicals: Herbicides should be banned within the wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence will allow the Tule elk to roam more freely and help control invasive plants naturally.

Let Nature Take its Course: Instead of controlled burns, natural fires should be allowed to burn freely and shape the wilderness landscape. Frequent controlled burns can favor non-native plants.

Power Lines Out: The PG&E power line disrupts the natural feel of the wilderness. It should be removed. The NPS needs to clearly state that this removal is part of their plan.

By making these adjustments, Alternative B can become an even more effective way to protect the wilderness and its wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 5278

Some animals were MADE to roam. (elk for example). They should not have their natural impulses (for lack of a better word) thwarted!

Correspondence ID: 5279

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 5282

I'm writing to urge you to let the elk roam free while at the same time protecting the wilderness as best you can.

It should be possible to find a compromise.

Correspondence ID: 5283

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 5284

Greetings,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments.

I am concerned about all wildlife, since it is our responsibility to protect them from our actions as human beings. As far as the options offered for tending to the needs of Tule elk, I believe the following are the best choices.

The most effective and careful option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Also, minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 5285

1. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
2. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5286

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I urge you to move forward with Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing the elk herd to live unconfined. Alternative B will free the tule elk, so that they may roam naturally. Alternative B is the best plan to preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, The elk fence has also resulted in the reduction of the the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes and the elk deserve a management plan that lets elk roam free, allowing them to behave naturally, which will enable the elk to flourish, strong and healthy for generations to come, all while living within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing these wonderful and unique elk.

Correspondence ID: 5287

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5290

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5291

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

To remedy this, as a tax payer, park supporter and resident of Marin County for over 40 years, I urge you to enact the following :

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you, Isabel Sadurni

GGNRA Park Supporter Since 1977

Correspondence ID: 5296

Do the right thing

Correspondence ID: 5297

I wholeheartedly support the proposal to remove the fence at Tomales Point, allowing the tule elk to roam freely throughout Point Reyes National Seashore. As someone who deeply loves animals and nature, I believe this change is vital for the health and well-being of the elk, especially during drought conditions. The collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria is a wonderful approach, blending cultural resources and enhancing the habitat for both the elk and endangered butterflies. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and for your dedication to protecting and preserving these majestic creatures and their beautiful environment for future generations to enjoy.

Correspondence ID: 5298

Dear Sir/Madam,

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Yours Faithfully, Bernt Johansson.

Correspondence ID: 5299

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5300

Save the Tule Elk!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 5301

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5302

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Thank you for your attention in this matter

Correspondence ID: 5304

Stop this animal cruelty. Elk are caring, intelligent animals capable of love, fear, and pain, and they deserve better.

Correspondence ID: 5305

Hello

I live in the UK but I have been following this story for a while. I would just like to say that I very strongly support the removal of the Elk Fence, which will allow the animals to move freely round Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you very much and best wishes.

Correspondence ID: 5306

Thank you for your service. I've been a visitor to Point Reyes, which is a beautiful area. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for your work on this plan and for considering my note.

Correspondence ID: 5308

Remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 5309

Let the elk live and let live

Correspondence ID: 5310

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. However, removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle and no use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5311

this is disgusting and inhumane

Correspondence ID: 5313

There seems to be no logical reason to keep these creatures locked up so to speak. let them live their lives as God intended!

Correspondence ID: 5314

The Elk deserve to be free to roam safely and without human intrusion .

Correspondence ID: 5315

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction, named Plan B, for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support this idea which means removing the elk fence and allowing the elk herd to wander freely. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point

Correspondence ID: 5316

The park Service is supposed to be about preservation and preserving species. Special interests should not dominate decision-making for the public trust. Remove this fence and allow these animals to be free ranging.. confining these animals to where they are dying is unacceptable. We urge you to remove this fence.

Mary and Don Belkin

Correspondence ID: 5317

Protect wildlife!

Correspondence ID: 5318

Please protect the elk!

Correspondence ID: 5319

Firstly I'd like to thank you for putting forward a Tomales Point Area Plan that provides improved protection for natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, which proposes the removal of the elk fence to allow the elk herd to roam freely. This alternative will allow the tule elk to roam naturally in addition to offering the best preservation of the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for giving these creatures a lifeline.

Correspondence ID: 5321

please take care of our environment

Correspondence ID: 5324

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Correspondence ID: 5326

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 5327

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5328

please help the Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 5330

Please eliminate any and all unnecessary fences on the island that hinders any movement by the deer on said island

Correspondence ID: 5335

I realize that I live at the other end of the country but the plight of wildlife here is connected to the plight of wildlife like the elk there. All plans must include what is best for the animals including the human animal. Here we have alligators, bears, panthers, manatee, and many other species sharing our state. We must honor and respect every creature's right to live as they were intended

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk and acting on behalf of species everywhere to roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 5336

I believe the tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore should be allowed to live as freely as possible -- without imprisonment behind fences.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

Thank you, Matt Bearson

Correspondence ID: 5338

Please remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5341

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. Some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and can be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the

Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against the expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5343

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I would also suggest putting pressure on our partner organizations to changing regulation regarding domestic deer and elk herds. Along with free roaming herds, there is the potential to have robust and healthy managed stock herds. We should be taking an integrated management approach to our environment rather than mindlessly piecemealing out each problem as it becomes dire. If we put resources towards protecting wild herds and their ecosystems, we should also have resources dedicated to studying these herds- to manage growing problems like wasting disease in deer (a disease that has steadily moved to west as each state fails to manage their deer and other game populations).

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5344

This fence needs to be removed so that these deer can leave! What do you expect them to do otherwise? Die? Not an option in my book! Free the Elk!

Correspondence ID: 5346

Point Reyes National Seashore is the last refuge for the Tule Elk population. The fence that separates the elk from sources of water and other Tule elk populations is directly responsible for mass die-offs during droughts as well as a reduction in genetic diversity. For these reasons, I wholeheartedly support the removal of the fence. I also support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Gratin Rancheros in a new management plan for Tomales Point. After too many years, we have discovered that Indigenous populations are excellent stewards of the land. Their approaches to land management, long

discredited by Caucasians, have proven to better conserve the ecosystems that are so important in preserving biodiversity and mitigating the effects of climate change.

Correspondence ID: 5347

I support alternative B. This will benefit the elk and the visitors.

Correspondence ID: 5352

Please Free the Tule Elk — the wilderness/land belongs to them & wildlife. Let's make the intelligent, ethical and compassionate decision to let our unique & precious Tule Elk survive & thrive for the gain and joy for all now and into the future. Thank you v much.

Correspondence ID: 5353

I urge you to adopt Plan B, remove the PG&E power line, and remove structures inconsistent with the Wilderness Act in a minimally invasive way.

Correspondence ID: 5355

Please respect Mother Nature

Correspondence ID: 5356

It is time to show real respect to an endangered sub-species pulled back from the brink so recently. They don't have the biodiversity, ability to disperse to other areas etc that can help get the quantities stabilized. We must take care of the small herd there. The dairy business was bought out with part of my TAX \$\$\$\$. We own the land and should absolutely be better stewards of the animals and plants the park is meant to protect.

My daughter and I from the East Coast, had the privilege and honor to visit Point Reyes about 20 years ago when the elk were starting to rebound. But now in 20 years...the elk aren't in a better place in many ways. It is TIME.

Correspondence ID: 5357

Please consider that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5358

Please choose nature and biodiversity over death and extinction.

Correspondence ID: 5360

To Whom It May Concern:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Also, do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Thank you, Joe

Correspondence ID: 5361

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes needs a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I spend a lot of time near Cannon Beach Oregon that has an elk population. There is a small herd that periodically comes through my yard and probably has for as long as elk have roamed the coast. They need us to help them survive.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5362

Please select a management plan for Elk which favors a free-ranging elk, rather than a confined one. Please also select a management plan which collaborates with local tribes.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As a California citizen who lives on private land where elk are beginning to be restored, I think it is important to share that while the presence of free ranging elk impose some small impositions on me, such as they cost of exclusion fencing of gardens etc., overall the imposition is small, and that the benefit to ecosystems far outweigh the costs. Furthermore, the joy our family receives from encountering the occasion elk sighting or signs is unquantifiable.

Correspondence ID: 5364

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan which protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As I hope you know, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes should have a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5365

none

Correspondence ID: 5366

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I staunchly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused unnecessary large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5367

If I weren't too sick to function, I'd make additional comments. I'll just ask that the native Tule Elk at Point Reyes be allowed to live free of man made entanglements that cause unnecessary their unnecessary deaths.

Correspondence ID: 5368

Please protect the rare Tule Elk who live in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. It's the right thing to do. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5370

I'm gladdened by your three proposals regarding Tomales Point Area Plan. Elk running free, not being electrocuted, not diving of diseases caused by small confinement, seems right. All animals are placed in our Care by the Creator. And it is Care you are proposing. Bravo!

Correspondence ID: 5371

Please consider the following changes to option B. Remove unlawfully build water structures by non-motorized means. Do not allow grazing cattle as per the original agreement. Forbid the use of herbicides. Remove the PGE powerline. These changes will foster the environment of Tule Elk and allow the species to survive.

Correspondence ID: 5372

I am writing to support Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan. This alternative would remove the elk fence, thereby allowing an unconfined elk herd to roam naturally. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Additionally, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for considering my comments on this important issue.

Correspondence ID: 5376

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5377

Dear Park Service:

Please remove the restrictive fencing so that the elk may move freely about the park. They need secure access to food and water during periods of drought. They are an essential part of the ecosystem. Expanding their range will increase biodiversity throughout the park.

Thank you.

Heather Martley

Correspondence ID: 5379

Thank you for taking my comments.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5382

I support the removal of the three miles of fence at Tomales Point to provide elk and other wildlife with grazing, browsing, watering and nesting opportunities.

Correspondence ID: 5383

Dear Staff,

Please use Alternative B in the Wilderness Act way to free the Tule Elk. I am opposed to Alternative A and C.

Thank you, Ralph Fischer

Correspondence ID: 5384

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line.

Correspondence ID: 5387

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park and this alternative will free the tule elk, allowing them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 5389

Elk deserve to live.

Correspondence ID: 5390

Take down that damn fence!!! What is wrong with you!! Stop looking at dollar signs and do the right thing for GOD'S CREATURES!!!

Correspondence ID: 5391

I write concerning wilderness and preservation of Tule elk.

I support the NPs preferred option, Alternative B as the best option, albeit with some additional changes. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger the elk.

Additions to Alternative B should include:

- Removal of all water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

- Eliminate the use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. -

It should be explicitly stated by the Park Service under Alternative B that the PG&E power line will be removed. It is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5392

Plan B is not perfect but is the best choice. Remove fence and other structures. No cattle ever.

Correspondence ID: 5396

Dear NPS folks:

I support Alternative B.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5400

I have spent time at Pt. Reyes multiple times a year for 50 years. I fully support the Elk and the release of the Elk on more lands. I have a fondness for the traditional dairy farms, but they have had a gentle exit opportunity for 50+ years. In a National Park setting a return to native plants and animals, minimizing human impacts, is what we need at Pt. Reyes. I want to protect the Elk and I even wonder what their natural predators would have been. The story of returning wolves to Yellowstone may have resonance. Please release the Elk to broader territory in the National Park.

Sincerely Yours, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Klein

Correspondence ID: 5402

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Elk should not be fenced off - they belong there - cattle do not,

Correspondence ID: 5403

Please implement Alternative B—the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. But the following changes to Alternative B should be considered: 1) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means; 2) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence—discussion of how the removal of these items would take place is necessary and must be part of the analysis of Alternative B; 3) Eliminate grazing by cattle in Point Reyes or the Wilderness according to the original agreement when the seashore was established; 4) Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness--removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and mitigate against expansion of invasive plants; 5) Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions, which tends to favor non-native invasive plants; 6) Remove the PG&E power line which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 5404

It's the right thing to do, don't you want to do the right thing???

Correspondence ID: 5405

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5406

Please speak up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness by Wednesday, June 5. Comments must be submitted on the NPS site: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

Use your own words, but consider the following talking points:

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

I have visited this wonderful place and the Tule Elk must take precedence over cattle and the return of this wilderness to actual wilderness is the main priority.

Correspondence ID: 5408

I am not a good writer, therefore, my comments will be brief.

I support Alternative B. Tear down these fences. These animals don't need to be trapped in case of danger and suffer the consequences. They should be protected at "all costs" from humans' damaging interests.

Thank you.

Patricia Beasley

Correspondence ID: 5410

Tear down this fence! Tule elk deserve to live!

We want the Tomales Point Environmental Plan in effect.

We value wildlife and their habitat. It is all about the balance of nature and its importance in our world.

Correspondence ID: 5411

Sometimes in attempts by very educated, well meaning park service managers and biologists, to solve a problem of nature, the solutions end up in disastrous consequences. I see it all over Wyoming.

Please tear down the fences that contain the Point Reyes Tule Elk herd. It's not working on their behalf.

Thank you for your consideration

Correspondence ID: 5413

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I am happy that the National Park Service has selected Alternative B as your preferred alternative for the Tomales Point Area Plan. In my comments submitted in September, 2023, I urged you to select this alternative, and so of course am pleased that you have done so. I strongly support removal of the elk fence and all temporary water systems installed on Tomales Point, as well as improving trails at the northern end of the point to protect vegetation and improve visitor experience. I also support efforts to protect and maintain the wilderness character of the Philip Burton Wilderness in the planning area, and all methods to better protect natural and cultural resources.

In order for the new management efforts to succeed in the long term, PRNS must lay the groundwork for elk population control actions in the future. Culling is likely to be the most politically and economically efficient solution, and perhaps an Indigenous culling program or tribe-managed hunting concession could be instituted in cooperation with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and other local Coast Miwok communities. However, the most ecologically sound solution to future (inevitable unless managed) elk overpopulation would be to reintroduce wolves to PRNS as the ecologically and historically natural mechanism for regulating the elk population. That would be my preferred alternative, and I hope that you will seriously consider it.

I recommend that the historic condition of native plant communities, some of which were favored by Indigenous use of fire, be looked at as a baseline condition to manage the PRNS ecosystem toward.

I look forward to the final decision soon, accepting and beginning to implement Alternative B of the new PRNS Tomales Point Area Plan.

Sincerely, Bruce A. Byers

Correspondence ID: 5414

I support Alternative B as the best option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade

the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Grazing by cattle should be eliminated. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 5415

I commend the NPS for agreeing to remove the elk fence on Tomales Point, thereby freeing the Tule elk.

To meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act, ensuring that future actions will improve and not degrade the character of the wilderness area, I sincerely hope you will consider several improvements to the Alternative B plan, such as removal of water structures unlawfully built in the area without the use of motorized vehicles. Eliminating grazing by cattle is another positive move, as well as restricting the use of herbicides in the area and remove the power line.

Thank you for thoughtfully acting on behalf of our precious wilderness areas.

Correspondence ID: 5417

I'm firmly on team elk, let them roam.

Correspondence ID: 5419

Remove the fence.

Let the elk move as required seasonally.

Correspondence ID: 5420

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5421

I have been lucky enough to see wild Elk on my trips out West. These animals are awe inspiring to us flatlanders. Please help them survive by allowing them to move freely in what is left of their natural habitat.

Correspondence ID: 5422

My grandchildren deserve a part of the natural world for them to enjoy.

Correspondence ID: 5423

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

The subsequent paragraphs of my message are words shared by those with greater fluency in these issues than I hold, that said I am passionate about the maintenance of sustainable and ecologically informed wildlife practices and these words reflect my personal views. We are obligated as humans to respond in relationship with our fellow creatures and inhabitants of this planet to ensure that our presence and infrastructure is continuously evaluated for its impact on species rights to exist in peace and rhythm with natural biological harmony. The fence and its devastating impact on the elk herds is evident and needs your immediate response. Please consider the message as follows in its entirety with the addition of my personal plea to use your power for good and respond as soon as possible to the requests for better herd and habitat management practices. Thank you!

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5424

To whom it may concern,

I encourage the NPS to adopt Alternative B.

In addition, other measures that would protect the wilderness qualities of Pt Reyes should be implemented. These measures should include eliminating grazing by cattle, getting rid of power lines and water related development, and fences and other enclosures.

Proscribed burns should be used to help combat invasive plants, but the use of herbicides should be banned.

Thank you.

Lindsey Loperena

Correspondence ID: 5425

The best option is ALTERNATIVE B, which is the NPS preferred option.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by NON-MOTORIZED means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

Eliminate grazing by CATTLE. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore, per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow NATURAL FIRES to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

REMOVE the PG&E power line!

Correspondence ID: 5426

I have published three peer-reviewed scientific publications, with CDFW biologists, on California's tule elk populations. I strongly urge you to adopt Alternative B, removal of the tall elk fence, which has caused decimation of the Tomales Point elk herds during drought years. As per the CDFW 2018 Elk Management Plan "Conservation efforts for this [tule elk] ESU should concentrate on maintaining connectivity between remaining populations and translocations of tule elk between herds should continue...the individual herds are at risk if they remain genetically isolated (Meredith et al. 2007)." Tule elk suffer from inbreeding depression, with significant congenital abnormalities appear in some herds. As elk have expanded their range into southern Mendocino County, and at least one bull elk has reached Sonoma County, there is an important opportunity for connectivity and increased genetic variability approaching for the Tomales Point elk. In my opinion, the eight-foot fence should not be completely removed but rather simply lowered. A wildlife-friendly three-strand fence with lower top wire and higher lower wire would enable adult elk to easily cross over and juvenile elk to cross under without harm to elk and with less fence damage (Hanbury-Brown et al. 2021, Visscher et al. 2022). In fact, there is a golden opportunity to study different permutations of wildlife-friendly fence designs at Tomales Point for tule elk by varying the designs for different fence segments and adding cameras to document fence utilization and damage. Lastly, a fence that keeps non-native Eurasian cattle (*Bos taurus*) out of Tomales Point would enable preservation of the natural state of Tomales Point plus continued scientific comparison of elk vs. cattle impacts on native plants (Johnson and Cushman 2007), soil compaction and soil carbon sequestration (Schmitz and Sylven 2023), and pollution from *E. coli*, etc.

Correspondence ID: 5427

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 5428

I firmly believe that the best option is the NPS-preferred option, Alternative B, which includes the removal of structures within the Wilderness, as well as the fence just outside it. I oppose both Alternative A and Alternative C, as they would endanger rare Tule elk and would degrade the Wilderness. Yet I feel that Alternative B itself can and should be further amended in the following ways:

- The removal of all the unlawfully constructed structures must be done by non-motorized means. The use of motor vehicles and equipment is only ever allowable in Wilderness under emergency circumstances to prevent personal harm and bodily injury, which does not apply here. Nothing in the removal of the small structures at issue here require the use of motor vehicles.
- A complete Minimum-Requirements Analysis (MRA) must be done for the removal of the fence, tanks, and troughs. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the removal of these features would be done, and thus the NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate cattle grazing. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness, as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Herbicides must not be used within Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk, allowing them wider area to graze, which would provide natural mitigation against the expansion of invasive plant species.
- Allow natural fires to burn and to shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Overly frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. The Park Service must explicitly and clearly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5430

The free roaming elk in our community is one of the highlights of living here and help humans stay connected to our land and seasons. They were here first and we can live together. 30 years here and i still find them majestic and inspiring and magical, even though they eat our plants. We respect them as we know they have been squeezed out of their homeland by all of the development which continues to encroach upon their territory.

Do what you can to foster coexistence:)

Thank you, Kathy Golic

Correspondence ID: 5431

I am strongly in support of Alternative B for the Tomales Point Area Plan. The Elk at Point Reyes are certainly one of the most important natural resources in this area and in California as a whole so it is critical to keep the herd healthy and viable. Given past disastrous results of the Elk Fence, which has caused large periodic die-offs and reduced the herds already constrained genetic diversity, it is imperative that the Elk Fence be removed and the Elk to be allowed to roam free.

Additionally, I support the Park Service's plan to work with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to include Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge in managing Tomales Point. This plan highlights Tribal history and cultural resources and proposes using controlled burns to improve habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Additionally, I back the efforts to control invasive plants and enhance the protection of natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5432

Remove the fence, they should be free!

Correspondence ID: 5433

Alternative B seems to be the best option--with some exceptions--since it better protects Tule elk and wilderness.

Please get rid of the cows!!! They're not even legally supposed to be there! As an American citizen who values our wildlife, I'm baffled that it's taken so long to enforce agreements and give rare Tule elk the protections and natural home they deserve and require.

Please remove the PG&E power line which is a violation of the Wilderness Act. It's ugly and distracts from the beauty of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 5435

I support free-roaming elk. Please remove the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 5437

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Commercial interests should never take over public park assets and redirect resources intended for the park's wildlife to the detriment and even the harm of those wildlife.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

S

Correspondence ID: 5438

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I support collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

The best option is the NPS preferred option, Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Other changes to Alternative B to be considered:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate cattle grazing. Per the original agreement when the seashore was established cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness.
- Herbicides should not be used in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence allows a wider range for the Tule elk and would mitigate expansion of invasive plants.
- Natural fires, rather than manager-ignited fires favor native plants over invasive ones.
- The PG&E power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 5440

Thank you for working to make Point Reyes a better environment for the Tule Elk. I visited this area a few years ago with my son and have wonderful photographs and memories of the elk and our experience on the trail there. However, I have been dismayed in the years since then of the plight of the elk, confined within the fence that has caused trauma and even death to some of the herd. I strongly support Alternative B in removing the fence and allowing the herd to roam free. I also support the proposal to work with the tribal people there to improve the area, to promote a fuller history, and to create a cultural awareness of the land. I believe everyone will benefit from these things in many ways. I'm looking forward to visiting this area again and to seeing beneficial changes. Thank you for listening and for freeing the beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5441

Free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness!

Alternative B includes removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America, which are endemic to California, is at stake. Let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. The PG&E power line must be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5442

Dear National Park Service, why is it you have taken to practicing "target management" confining the great Elk beings because? You can? Is it true that humans believe Everywhere is theirs only because we think that Everywhere is ours and so we wall/fence it off, kill the wild beings that inhabit or co-opt them to use without acknowledging the life and integrity these animals deserve.

It is very late on this earth; we are going to have to put it all back together and we won't be able to. Your assessment is?

Act with some integrity and knowledge. Un-fence the Tomales Elk.

Correspondence ID: 5445

Hello,

I fully support the plan to remove the fence and save the Tomales Point Elk and restore more of their natural habitat and ability to survive.

These types of programs are of the utmost importance to the survival of the beautiful Earth as we know it, and also to our human survival.

We must live in harmony with nature, not against it.

Thank you and best regards,

Joan Kozlowski

Correspondence ID: 5446

I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its Environmental Assessment, to remove the 8-foot-tall fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore. Yes, please release this largest of the park's 3 herds of Tule elk from their fenced confinement.

Correspondence ID: 5447

I support Alternative B. Stop caging the tule elk herd at Tomales Point as if they're in a zoo. This is a national park, one of the few places in our country where wildlife should have priority. As naturalists, I'm sure most Point Reyes decision-makers must know that the private business beef and dairy ranches in Point Reyes National Seashore do not conform to the National Park Service's mission. It was a serious mistake to extend their leases for 20 years. Besides supporting Alternative B, I also urge you to work on a plan to phase out the ranches as soon as possible.

Correspondence ID: 5452

The question is.....WHY is this even an issue? There should not be fences up for wildlife in their natural range!

HOW LONG AND HOW MANY ELK WILL HAVE TO DIE FOR THE RANGE GIVEN TO COWS?????

I'm disgusted that the people that tried to supply water to these elk had their watering troughs dumped by BLM. Aren't they supposed to be protectors of wildlife and rescue wildlife? Someone needs fired or....management needs fired for telling them to do this nasty act.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Correspondence ID: 5453

We just protect nature and all living things in order to protect ourselves.

Correspondence ID: 5454

Help Free Point Reyes Tule Elk

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 5455

Let's find the best option for the Tule Elk! Currently that is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option, but some changes ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5456

Wildlife has a hard enough time surviving in our URBAN SPRAWL. I have lived in El Dorado County most of my life, which has NOW become the LA & Ventura Counties of the 60s-70's with NONSTOP GROWTH of strip malls & beige colored subdivisions, littering the once untouched beauty that WAS California.

There are not too many Elk, there are too many of our species, which has separated from nature all together. Putting up fences to contain the rare CA Elk, will only add to their already suffering.

Correspondence ID: 5457

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Hello, I live in Tucson currently but I am a Californian by birth. I have always enjoyed the Point Reyes area, and loved seeing elk there. I am writing to thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. It is imperative for us to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, to honor their long connection to the land and their collective knowledge in managing the land for benefit of all who live there.

I hope that the fence is taken down so that the elk may roam freely. It is not healthy for any creature to be isolated in a small space and away from the full population.

It is encouraging that management is pursuing a plan that takes into consideration what we are learning every day - that the ancient ways of managing the land actually work well and that we all benefit when things are in harmony.

Thank you for your dedication and work,

Lori Bryant

Correspondence ID: 5460

Like the majority of visitors to the Point Reyes National Seashore, I treasure the experience of seeing the magical tule elk. It's a highlight of the trip! And while I thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd, I writing today to state that I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5461

I support Alternative B, the preferred option.

I support removing water tanks, fences, troughs, etc and encourage the NPS to remove them without using motorized vehicles. As a Wilderness Area it is important to protect wilderness values and do this work without motorized equipment.

In addition please remove cattle from the Wilderness Area. They compete for resources with native species and this is not acceptable. With climate change and the increasing chances for drought it is important to keep vegetation and water for use by native animals, not for cattle production, which should not be occurring in the park.

Correspondence ID: 5462

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Public lands should be for the public and the wildlife that inhabits it, not large private interests intent only on exploitation.

Correspondence ID: 5469

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Here are some adjustments that need to be done for this to work:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Correspondence ID: 5471

I agree with the National Park Service in its estimation that Alternative B is the best among the alternatives for the plan to remove the fencing that has caused so much cruel and unnecessary suffering by the Tule elk. However, to ensure that this does not happen again, it is vitally important that cattle grazing also be eliminated.

Correspondence ID: 5472

I support a free roaming Tule Elk herd.

I also support a collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 5474

Tule elk at Point Reyes in the Philip Burton Wilderness, CA by Allen Pecorino

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore.

This is our chance to tell NPS to free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness. Speak up by June 5!

Fortunately, thanks in part to public outcry by Wilderness Watch and our supporters, the NPS preferred Alternative B includes removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

Please speak up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness by Wednesday, June 5. Comments must be submitted on the NPS site: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

Use your own words, but consider the following talking points:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5480

Please support the efforts and others to preserve wildlife

Correspondence ID: 5482

To Whom It May Concern:

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

The Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

Thank you for doing this.

Correspondence ID: 5483

No killing fences let these animals run free

Correspondence ID: 5484

PLEASE Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. This is SO important.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Thank you for your attention to the plight of the Tule elk.

Sincerely, Karen Fedorov

Correspondence ID: 5486

Alternative B seems to be the best option, except that man-made fires are totally out of step with the concept of wilderness. Keeping cattle out of the elk area is one of Alternative B's best points.

Correspondence ID: 5487

Free-ranging elk herds ought to be a Thing we preserve. We've done enough damage, so it is about time we try to repair it.

Correspondence ID: 5490

a National Park is no place for fences. Let the Elk roam free.

Correspondence ID: 5491

Maintaining good biodiversity is the best. Humans need to be aware as they share the land.

Correspondence ID: 5493

I take this opportunity to voice my support of the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment "preferred alternative" for the Tule Elk.

Removal of fencing to enable genetic diversity and eliminate the cruel events of water and foraging deprivation during drought conditions is the proper course of action. It is the ethical and humane action to take and will support the well being of the herd.

Respectfully,

Norma Edson

Correspondence ID: 5494

I support free-roaming elk.

Correspondence ID: 5495

The elk should be free to roam.

Correspondence ID: 5497

wildlife is not be held captive

Correspondence ID: 5498

I appreciate your preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I am writing today in support of Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will aid the health of the tule elk and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused several serious issues:

--large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions;

--the necessity of emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals; and

--the reduction of the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

For these reasons I strongly urge you to remove the elk fence permanently.

I also agree with the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. Highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies is a laudable plan.

In addition, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your serious consideration of these issues.

Correspondence ID: 5499

Dear Sir or Madam,

I would like to express my opinion on the subject of the Tule Elk in the Philip Phillip Burton Wilderness. As a former resident of California, I often saw Tule Elk on their wintering grounds along highway 395 in the eastern Sierra. I would like to express my support for option B of the three options currently under consideration by the National Park Service.

Additionally, the following recommendations are also in order.

Please eliminate all cattle grazing on the premises as that is not in accord with a wilderness area.

Please do not use herbicides in the wilderness area.

Please remove all fences, as they impede movement by the elk, and are not in accord with this being a wilderness area.

Please remove the PG&E power line from the preserve. And please notify the public that it is to be removed upon selection of option B.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bruce A. Aird, Ph.D,

Correspondence ID: 5500

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the Park's confined elk herd. I have been an animal and environmental advocate and supporter of the Center for Biological Diversity for decades and I'm writing to support Alternative B, removing the tule elk fence allowing for an unconfined herd. This alternative would free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wild ecosystem of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California who were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now, Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they remain. But the National Park Service has maintained a fence confining a herd to Tomales Point at the Park's northern end. This fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, has required emergency intervention to provide water to trapped animals, and has reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separated from other elk in the park. This is a shameful outrage and the fence must come down.

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets all of its elk roam free and behave naturally. I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opposition to the Point Reyes National Park tule elk fence. I want the elk to be free. Thank you for your immediate attention and positive action on this critical issue. Thank you for freeing the beloved tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5501

Stop the fences

Correspondence ID: 5502

The best option is Alternative B- which is also the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should

be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk, however the following changes to Alternative B need to be considered.

- 1) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means because these structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- 2) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- 3) Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. In addition, don't use herbicides in the Wilderness as removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- 4) Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- 5) Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. I urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

“The human appetite for animal flesh is a driving force behind virtually every major category of environmental damage now threatening the human future - deforestation, erosion, fresh water scarcity, air and water pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss, social injustice, the destabilization of communities and the spread of disease.” - The World Watch Institute

Correspondence ID: 5506

remove the fence , free the Elk

Correspondence ID: 5510

Hello. Please prioritize Alternative B, but with some changes. (Alternatives A and C should be rejected as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.)

Please make sure that removing structures and the fence on the edge of the Wilderness be done without motorized vehicles. Include Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. (The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.)

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. THEY'd be unnecessary once cattle and fence are removed, since then Tule elk can move around and control invasive plants. As well as fire - Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. The Park Service

should spell this out - explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5513

Please devise what is needed without harming the wildlife, in this case, the Elk. We humans do not have to kill to manage territories for co-existence with other species. Thanks for consideration — and CHANGE. I lived 30+ years near Pt. Reyes so especially appreciate whatever you can do to stop unnecessary harm in this and all cases.

Correspondence ID: 5514

Free rare Tule Elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes

Correspondence ID: 5516

I support option B, removal of the fence.

I am a many-times visitor to PRNS, living about five hours away by car. My trips to PRNS are mainly for landscape, wildlife, and bird photography. PRNS is a national treasure. As such, its wildlife deserves respect and suitable habitat. Removing the fence would best assure elk have access to adequate forage and water.

And while we're at it, it's time to fulfill the promises made when PRNS was established. To make it a truly national seashore, it's time to end inholdings and private ranching. Just think what a paradise it would be with removal of all barbed wire fencing and the end of cattle in the seashore. Habitat and water quality would improve and the park would be more of a park, not constrained by fencing throughout. That's what the American people thought they were getting and it's time to make it a reality.

Correspondence ID: 5518

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. This costs far more money than letting elk take care of themselves. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5519

Respectfully We ask you to save the Noble free roaming Elk. We are certain you know they are a national treasure. There are always ways to co-exist with all of nature. Let's not loose our wondrous legacy of rare

and precious species. Be Great and Responsible Caretakers and Stewards. Don't give in to the greedy heartless power of a few. We are counting on you to do the right thing.

Most Sincerely, Donna Sue Shepherd

Correspondence ID: 5521

Thank you for your new plan for Tamoles Point. All Elks should be allowed to roam freely over the entire land. It is important that these Elks have freedom to roam because they need to be able to find water when needed and not die because there is no water in their small area. Also, Elks are social animals and need to be able to interact with all the other Elks as well as have a safe place to enjoy their meals and raise their babies.

I also support the Park Service's proposal to collaborate with the Federal Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge for the future of Tamoles Point. It is important to include all the Native American who have experience in land and animals and to rely on their judgment to help these innocent Elks have a safe place to live, eat, drink water, and raise their families.

I also support protecting the land from invasive plants and use the methods that the Native American have used to protect the land from these invasive plants.

Thank you very much for freeing our beloved Elks. We who love animals appreciate this as it allows innocent Elks to roam as they should be able to do without fences to stop them from the important things in life, food, water, and interacting with other Elks.

Correspondence ID: 5522

It is high time to remove the fencing that inhibits this majestic and truly-endangered animal from roaming Point

Reyes. By impounding the tule elk, such as it is, you are ensuring it's ultimate extinction. Remove the fence!

Correspondence ID: 5523

In a world where you can be anything, BE KIND!

1. Please SUPPORT Alternative B, NOT Alternatives A or C to help the native Tule elk relevant to the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore!

2. Please use NON-MOTORIZED vehicles to REMOVE the unlawful water structures in the area!

3. Please include the Minimum Requirements Analysis as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

4. Keep cattle OUT of Point Reyes & the Wilderness.

5. Do NOT use herbicides in the Wilderness!

6. Do NOT set fires in that area! That's God's job, NOT yours!

7. SAFELY totally remove the PG&E power line!

Thank you!

Best,

gail

Correspondence ID: 5524

The elk need our help now!

Correspondence ID: 5525

This would be great for the environment

Correspondence ID: 5526

how dare you!

Correspondence ID: 5528

I believe the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5529

I'm writing in support of the Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B, which includes removing the elk fence and allowing for an unconfined tule elk herd. I strongly support this option, which will best support keeping the Tomales Point wilderness wild and will allow the tule elk herd to thrive. The current elk fence has created adverse conditions for the tule elk herd in myriad ways and should be removed.

Thank you for preparing a plan that revisits the direction of the park. I also support the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. I strongly support incorporating Tribal traditional ecological knowledge into future management of the park (including prescribed burns) and also support proposals to control invasive plants.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5530

The best option is Alternative B: Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5531

Please remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Please do not allow for herbicides or pesticides or cattle grazing

Correspondence ID: 5533

The purposes of the system are (1) to track progress and milestones of park projects, including the legal compliance process outlined in the National Environmental Policy Act; (2) to allow park staff to collaborate with team members on a project, post plans and related documents for public review; (3) to provide public comment opportunity; and (4) to provide the NPS with a tool for comment analysis and response, which includes demographic information to better make informed decisions and serve the public.

Correspondence ID: 5535

Please remove the fence and let the elk roam freely as they have for centuries.

Correspondence ID: 5536

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Please do the right thing!!!

Correspondence ID: 5541

As a very concerned Californian it's come to my attention that the fate of native Tule Elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is now at stake.

Freeing the Tule elk must be done in a way that again establishes true Wilderness!

The best option in recreating an actual Wilderness is Alternative B, (the NPS preferred option). Removal of ALL structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B should also be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. These structures are small and can easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is obviously inadequate without a discussion of HOW the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle! The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established!

DON'T use herbicides in the Wilderness! Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow NATURAL FIRES to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. The use of manager-ignited fire favors non-native invasive plants.

REMOVE the PG&E power line! The power line is a structure and installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of a TRUE Wilderness! The Park Service must EXPLICITLY state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5542

It is time to remove this fence and let the elk roam. That decision fits with the overall management plan.

Correspondence ID: 5543

Protect Wildlife

Correspondence ID: 5544

I hope that our Tule Elk will finally be able to roam on more park land and have plenty of water to drink whenever they need it. It's about time. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5546

Please follow proposal B for the Elk. Remove the fence to allow them to roam.

Correspondence ID: 5547

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. They are endemic to California. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. It is a national park and not there for ranchers.

Pt. Reyes Seashore should be returned to native wildlife, which would also improve the water quality of creeks and beaches and return the use of the land to the public whose taxpayer dollars purchased the land from the cattle operations decades ago. This is the right thing to do.

Correspondence ID: 5548

I support Alternative plan B using the MRA (minimum requirements analysis) and the removal of unlawfully built water structures and the PG&E power line. There also should not be any cattle grazing allowed nor the use of herbicides. Manager-ignited fires should not be allowed, instead the natural fires should be allowed to burn.

Correspondence ID: 5552

Please come up with something better. There's no need to kill the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5553

I write as a longtime environmental advocate. Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. It is a plan for the 21st century, not just doing things as they "have always been done".

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also strongly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. It is long past time for our governmental agencies to see Native Americans as the original stewards of the land and to include them in planning and management.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 5554

Remove cattle and fencing and don't use herbicides - let nature work it's magic. Consider plan B.

Correspondence ID: 5556

Why must stupid humans always destroy what is good in this country? I hope and pray that all of your choke on that almighty dollar which is why you continue to destroy the areas the beautiful rare animals live. Someday you will get the same treatment and I will laugh at that. How heartless, demonic, uncivilized and inhumane you people are. Someday you will all pay for this

Correspondence ID: 5557

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5558

No right to control these native animals! Who has the right other than GOD!

Correspondence ID: 5559

I am so glad that the Park Service selected Alternative B as your preferred option for the Tomales Point Area Plan. I grew up in Marin and spent a lot of time in Point Reyes. I couldn't agree more that it is time to remove the fence and other structures which have limited the movement of Tule elk for years. It is far and away the best option for both the elk and the land. It has been heartbreaking to hear about periodic die-offs of elk during prolonged droughts and to see the wilderness defaced by the installation of emergency water sources.

The proposal can and should be improved by including a Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) explaining how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal will be done in a manner that is consistent with the Wilderness Act. Since the structures are small, it should be possible to remove them without using motor vehicles. Similarly, the PG&E power line should be removed as well since it too is a man-made structure that detracts from the natural character of wilderness.

Lastly, I commend the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and the incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge into the management of Tomales Point, including the limited use of “good” fire to enhance habitat for native plants and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 5560

Please tear down the LETHAL and unnatural fence. And let the elk live as they were meant to!

Correspondence ID: 5561

An ecosystem is a complex “organism” whose components form an intricate web of life. Restricting elk to only a small part of its ecosystem is dangerous to both the elk and the remainder of the ecosystem.

Please consider this ecological concept in this issue and all other issues that might disrupt ecosystems.

Thank you, Lee Witkowski

Correspondence ID: 5563

National Park Service:

Immediately Free Tule Elk by Removing the Lethal Elk Fence Which is Causing Large Elk Die Offs on Tomales

Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Immediately Remove the Lethal Elk Fence to Allow Tule Elk to Naturally Roam and Ensure that Future Actions will Improve the Wilderness Character.

Please don't use Herbicides in The Wilderness and Removal of the Cattle and The Lethal Elk Fence would Allow Better Distribution of Tule Elk and would Protect Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5566

Please do whatever is needed to Protect The Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, maintaining the beauty and benefits of keeping This Area PRISTINE!

BIODIVERSITY Is IMPORTANT and safeguarded for Now and Future Generations!

Many Thanks Always, Sandra Kanela Barton

Correspondence ID: 5567

You can make a positive difference!

Correspondence ID: 5568

I am writing to request that you implement the proposed Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5569

I support free-roaming elk! Tear that fence down!

Correspondence ID: 5570

I support free roaming elk and working with the indigenous community! Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 5572

Please use Alternate B

Remove the fence to free the Elk

Eliminate cattle grazing

Use non motorized methods to remove unlawful structures

Use no herbicides

Allow natural fires

Remove the power line

Correspondence ID: 5573

SAVE THE ANIMALS!!!

Correspondence ID: 5574

Especially as a Reverend, who survived multiple Near-Deaths, I see Sacredness in ALL Native Life forms!

Why I request that you don't use ANY herbicides in the Wilderness!

Plus ANY removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness MUST be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles!

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is INADEQUATE without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS MUST include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

With Dear, Loving Thanks,

Correspondence ID: 5576

The best option is Alternative B, which is the National Park Service preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5577

Yes, the best option is Alternative B. But Alternative B needs some adjustments. First, remove unlawful water structures without using motorized means. Second, use the Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) when removing tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. Third, eliminate grazing by cattle. Fourth, instead of using herbicides to control invasive plants, the elk could control them. Fifth, allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. And sixth, remove the PG&E power line since it's not natural. Thank you for listening.

Correspondence ID: 5582

I am very pleased that the Tomales Point Area Plan better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has many negative effects on the elk including causing large, periodic die-offs during drought conditions, requiring emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and very importantly reducing the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. The management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies are very important. Finally, controlling invasive plants is critical as well as better protecting natural and cultural resources.

Alternative B is the correct way to go for all parties concerned.

Correspondence ID: 5583

please support plan B.

Correspondence ID: 5586

Please take down the Tomales Point fence that restricts the habitat of tule elk. Please create a collaborative plan and oversight committee with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to manage a free-roaming tule elk herd. They need to be able to access food and water in other areas when there is a drought or other natural threat. The Indians have cultural and tribal knowledge about the environment there that will help to manage this ecological niche more effectively for everyone, including the elk. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5587

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. The original agreement was to not have cattle grazing which takes away from the natural growth of the land. Animals that are wild can restore the land as it was years ago. Any structures on the land should be looked at fully by the people who understand how to eliminate them without causing any environmental impact on the land.

Correspondence ID: 5591

Open it up

Correspondence ID: 5599

CATTLE: It is beyond time to stop grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

POISONS: Please stop Using herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

NATURAL SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT: Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5600

I write to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the wilderness and the fence just outside of the wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

- 1) Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- 2) Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

- 3) Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- 4) Don't use herbicides in the wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- 5) Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- 6) Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the wilderness, and should be removed from the wilderness. I urge the Park Service to explicitly state in the EA that the power line will be removed under Alternative B.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my views.

Correspondence ID: 5601

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 5602

I am pleased to know that you plan on removing that fence. Thank you for that.

Correspondence ID: 5604

Make sure you stop Elk from coming to any harm.

Correspondence ID: 5606

I whole heartedly agree about the cattle. Cattle should not be grazing on public lands. If someone wants to raise cattle they should have no more than what they can raise on their own land. There are too many cattle on this earth now.

Correspondence ID: 5609

June 1, 2024

re: Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear NPS:

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I'm writing in strong support of Alternative B of the Plan because this option removes the elk fence and allows an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for proposing actions to protect Tomales Point and the elk that reside there.

Correspondence ID: 5610

I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT PEOPLE THAT WORKED IN YOUR POSITION WERE ANIMAL LOVERS. LEAVE THEM ALONE TO LIVE THEIR LIVES. ISN'T IT HARD FOR THEM TO SURVIVE DAY BY DAY AS IT IS? FOR GODS SAKE, LEAVE THEM ALONE. YOU HAVE NO RIGHT.

Correspondence ID: 5611

I support the position of Wilderness Watch

Correspondence ID: 5614

Please protect these precious animals!

Correspondence ID: 5615

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5616

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a

management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Please support the health and wellbeing of the wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 5617

Yes, removing a fence in a wilderness area is appropriate. A backup plan to provide supplemental water in the event of a severe drought affecting the Tule Elk should be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5618

Comments

Correspondence ID: 5620

Please free the Tule elk!

Correspondence ID: 5621

Containing these large animals in an artificially small environment is the kind of human interference that typically results in the suffering and ultimate extermination of a species. These animals need free range.

Correspondence ID: 5622

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5624

Free the Elk and include collaborative planning!!

Correspondence ID: 5626

PROTECT AND SAVE ALL WILDLIFE!!!!

Correspondence ID: 5627

I am encouraged that your Tomales Point Area Plan includes an option for removing the current fencing and allowing elk to move freely. I have been horrified by the confinement and resulting deaths caused by the fencing and shocked that the NPS would disregard wildlife in such a callous way. As such, I very strongly support Alternative B. It is essential that this alternative be adopted and the elk be allowed to roam freely and behave naturally without the constant threat of death.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5628

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

It is truly and well past time to address the needs for a healthy habitat for the tule elk herd over the industrial interests that have reigned on this land over the past century. The current fencing separating this herd from the surrounding ecosystem needs to be taken out. Evidence shows that both the land and all organisms living in this place will benefit from free roaming of the elk. Cries from cattle and dairy interests that something like Sudden Waste Syndrome spreading with closer proximity are not true. Again in the interest of the health of the elk herd and of the land in the Point Reyes National Seashore, it is in the scope of your responsibility as stewards of this land to take down the fence now penning in the herd.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5634

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that has confined the tule elk and kept them from water. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with serious Tribal partners, not the Graton Rancheria, which will do anything for a buck, and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I strongly support the long long overdue phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. The general public has overwhelmingly asked for these things for many years and we are disgusted by the NPS colluding with the ranchers.

Correspondence ID: 5635

Please honor the wilderness act. Get rid of Power lines. don't use herbicides in wilderness. Don't use

controlled burns. Don't allow grazing cattle - that's not wilderness..Get rid of all those man - created structures which violate the wilderness act. do it by non-motorized means consistent wit the wilderness act.

thank you

Correspondence ID: 5636

As a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area for most of my 75 years I have made many visits to Pt. Reyes. It sickens me to know that the elk are starving because of their confinement. These majestic animals should be supported in every way possible. They are an important component of the ecology of the park. Confining them affects not only their well-being but the viability of the park itself. Pleas remove the barriers.

Correspondence ID: 5639

The cattle ranches have no place in the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. The welfare of the Tule Elk should take precedence over cattle. The fence trapping the elk in a relatively small area must be removed and the elk left free to inhabit the entire area.. To do otherwise is short sighted and cruel.

Correspondence ID: 5640

Protection for all animals is essential now and forever !

Correspondence ID: 5641

Following are my comments to the National Park Service (NPS) concerning the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for considering my recommendations/requests.

Correspondence ID: 5642

Dear Superintendant Kenkel:

As a native of Marin I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred alternative, Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

I believe a number of people will speak to the specific points in Alternative B: Its consistency with the Point Reyes National Sea Shore Establishment act, its consistency with interagency cooperation policies, as well as being in sync with science-based management requirement. I support these points wholeheartedly.

I am particularly focused on the fact that Alternative B is consistent with the management of the park in light of its designation as the Philip Burton Wilderness Area. The presence of the elk fencing is at odds with the requirement of the National Park Service to support the maximum protection and preservation of the natural environment of the park. The "wilderness character" of the park continues to be severely compromised by the presence of this fencing. It is unconscionable that the needs of for-profit ranching might be allowed continue to supersede the requirements of this legal wilderness designation.

I strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B that includes removal of the fence to allow the Tomales Point elk to interact with the larger ecosystem.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely, Rebecca Akin

Correspondence ID: 5643

I urge you to choose Alternative B, which will remove structures in the Wilderness area and the fence just outside of it. Alternatives A and C would degrade the Wilderness area and endanger the rare Tule elk and should be opposed.

I urge you to also consider the following when adopting Alternative B:

Removal of structures by non-motorized means, including tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence as well as the PG&E power line. In order to do so though, there needs to be a Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) since the EA is inadequate without a discussion of how these structures would be removed.

Eliminate grazing by cattle as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness. A better distribution of Tule elk will help keep invasive plants in check as will allowing natural fires to burn instead of using manager-ignited fire which can benefit non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5644

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

The confinement of Tule elk at Tomales Point has trapped the elk during drought conditions resulting in large elk die-offs (Animal Legal Defense Fund. "Court Decision Allowing Tule Elk to Continue to Die from Dehydration and Starvation Appealed by The Animal Legal Defense Fund. April 19,2023.) Further, the elk's genetic viability has been compromised by not allowing the herd to roam freely.

Obviously, best scientific practices with regard to biodiversity are lacking within Point Reyes National Seashore. The imbalance within this ecosystem must be corrected.

One of the most effective ways to preserve biodiversity is habitat preservation. This ecosystem must be safe and intact to afford the opportunity for restoration. To this end, I strongly support the removal of the elk fence that confines Tule elk to Tomales Point. I further support the proposed collaboration of the Park Service with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to include their historical and ecological knowledge in conserving Tomales Point. Additionally, I support enhancing the habitat for the elk as well as other wildlife species, including endangered butterflies, by utilizing prescribed fire and controlling invasives.

The Park Service's proposal (Alternative B) to tear down the elk fence advances an enlightened direction for the Tule elk. Please continue in this direction so that the elk and this treasured spot will remain viable.

Correspondence ID: 5646

I strongly support Alternative B, which will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5648

I urge you to adopt Alternative B which will remove the fence that confines the tule elk and lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore as well as to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Additionally, please phase-out cattle operations in the National Seashore and return this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 5649

How Dare you keep these magnificent animals fenced

Correspondence ID: 5651

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions with animals dying from thirst, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I DO NOT support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. This is a national park that should support wildlife resources as originally defined. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5652

Please free the Tule elk by removing the structures at Tomales Point in the Philip Burton Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness..

The water structures should be removed by non-motorized vehicles. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence outside of the Wilderness..

Grazing by cattle should be eliminated, as this was not allowed in the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5654

free the tule elk in the phillip burton wilderness at point reyes national seashore.

thank you !

Correspondence ID: 5656

The best option is Alternative B. Removing structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should not be selected as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Also, end cattle grazing. This was never meant to happen here.

Correspondence ID: 5660

We MUST take care of our Wilderness and plants and animals. God put ALL of us together to work together.

Correspondence ID: 5661

I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan, that is, removing the elk fence and allowing the tule elk herd to freely roam the 2,900-acre Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. One benefit among many, will be strengthening this herd's genetic viability by interacting with other elk in the park.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that truly protects all of the unique natural and cultural beauty and life within Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 5663

Enooough with the meat & the cow methane & god knows what chemicals being sprayed, fed to the animals, etc. LET OUR TULE ELK ROAM FREE.

IF the elk overpopulate, add in a natural predator, like wolves, since wolves are callously, arrogantly, being slaughtered in other, clearly less enlightened, states of our nation which COULD be managing the wolves more humanely & creatively.

So, LET OUR TULE ELK BE FREE. NO MORE FENCES. THE RANCH LEASES ARE UP & HAVE BEEN UP! THANK YOU.

Correspondence ID: 5665

Allow the Tule Elk to graze without the fences!

Correspondence ID: 5666

Please use Plan B to protect Tule Elk in the Tomales Point Area Plan at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice, and it should be done with non-motorized equipment, in keeping with the Wilderness designation of the area.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. The tule Elk should be the only animals grazing, and there should be no need for herbicides. The Tule elk should be able to control invasive plants in this Wilderness area.

Remove the PG&E power line. Again, this area is designated Wilderness, and it should be treated as such.

thank you

Correspondence ID: 5667

I strongly support removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined herd. The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention and reduced the genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5668

The points that follow are very valid points and it is critical to preserve this area. The points may need some adjustments but overall, would be the very best option for all concerned. The listing is as follows and the areas with an asterisk are imperative.:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

*Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

*Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

*Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

*Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

*Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

*Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park

Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

We must do all we can to preserve and protect our natural areas and the wildlife who inhabit these areas.

Correspondence ID: 5669

The original deal allowing grazing rights to continue must now end. This is a park for nature, for wildlife, not for cows. Free the elk and rescind the grazing rights to begin to heal this parkland.

Correspondence ID: 5673

Please tear down the fencing restricting movement of the Point Reyes elk.

Correspondence ID: 5674

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 5676

Please free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Concerning the EA:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. You should explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5679

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

So thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

These creatures are in a unique and critical condition. And so are we.

Correspondence ID: 5681

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5685

Please remove this electric fence so the tule elk can flourish.

Correspondence ID: 5686

Stop acting as if we are more important than them. They are far more important than us. You don't see them burning down the world. Let them go where they want to go.

Correspondence ID: 5687

Please leave the parks along. They belong to the wildlife. Stop taking, taking and taking, how about giving for a change, I am sure you would feel better.

Correspondence ID: 5688

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point

Correspondence ID: 5692

I am commenting in support of Alternative B. Removing the fence and allowing the elk to move freely to find food and water. Engaging the knowledge and support from the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will increase the odds of determining the best solution for the elk and tribal heritage. The plan also includes provisions to control invasive plants and protect butterflies. I believe this is the best solution and I support it.

Correspondence ID: 5693

Thank you for taking positive action in this wilderness area by approving option B. Also it would be good to eliminate cattle grazing and the use of herbicides in this area. Removal of the P G & E power line should also be strongly considered. Natural preservation of wild places is very important to our park heritage.

Correspondence ID: 5694

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5700

I strongly favor the removal of all structures within the Wilderness and the removal of the fence just outside the Wilderness area. All Tule elk should be able to roam freely, without restraint or restriction.

All pesticide use should be banned in all areas of the Park.

All unlawfully built structures should be removed.

All managed livestock should be removed from all the grounds of the Park.

Natural fires should be permitted to burn.

The PG&E power line should be removed.

David Ellison

Correspondence ID: 5703

The Tule Elk need protection...

Correspondence ID: 5704

Please select Alternative B and let the tule elk roam.

Correspondence ID: 5706

Hi there,

I am writing to you about my concerns for the Tule Elk in the Tomales Point area. I have been keeping up with the fate of the Tule Elk and am very concerned for their well being. After reading about your different plans for the future of Tomales Point, I think that the best choice would be Alternative B. I also am hoping that you will remove existing man made water structures without the use of machinery, stop any spraying of herbicides in the area, and stop allowing cattle to graze in what should be a wilderness area, not an area for cattle ranchers to graze their cattle! The removal of cattle from the area, and allowing the elk to graze freely, would eliminate the need to spray herbicides. Natural fires should be allowed to burn, as they had been historically. Also, PG&E needs to remove their power lines, to make this area the wilderness that it is supposed to be.

Please allow the Tule Elk to roam freely, and restore this area to the wilderness it should be, not a managed cattle grazing area that harms the elk, and benefits ranchers.

Thank you,

Karen Waltman

Correspondence ID: 5707

Pleas protect Elk with good management

Correspondence ID: 5708

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5709

Alternative B is the way to go. And no motorized vehicles should be used for removal of anything.

Correspondence ID: 5710

Writing in support of a free-roaming Tule elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 5711

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5714

Point Reyes should be returned to wilderness. No ranching should have ever been allowed. Cattle are a VIOLATION of the original agreement. Alternative B is preferred with the changes suggested by Wilderness Watch.

Correspondence ID: 5715

SAVE THE ELK!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 5716

Hello- I have watched the journey and plight of the Tule elk and am so grateful that the fence will come down to enable survival of these beautiful animals. Thank you for doing the right thing! We have walked at Point Reyes multiple times and it is a very special and impotent place. Please follow through with the plan you have to protect the elk.

Sincerely,

Elise Herman MD

Ellensburg WA 98926

Correspondence ID: 5717

I support what is best for wildlife/the planet. Humans have to think about more than just themselves.

Correspondence ID: 5718

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5719

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5721

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Hi There!

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B!

Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your stewardship of this very special place, and your compassionate attention to the health and well-being of all that is in your care.

~Claire

Correspondence ID: 5722

The best option is Alternative B, which is your preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5723

Tear that fence down.

Correspondence ID: 5725

As an animal lover and interested party in the protection of the Tule Elks at Point Reyes National Seashore, I would like to submit my views on the proposed removal of Tule Elk fence at Tomales Point which has been controversial in its effect on the Elk causing many deaths during the drought. As Point Reyes is the only habitat of these elk since they were hunted to near extinction and these animals are native to California it would be only right to allow them to roam free. I fully support the idea of a collaboration with the Federal Indians of Graton Ranchera to include their views, traditions and knowledge into future management of Tomales Point and using fire and research burns to enhance habitat. I would also support proposals to control invasive plants and protect natural and cultural resources

Correspondence ID: 5727

Why hasn't MAN learned from past mistakes? Buffaloes were almost extinct. Why did killing become a sport, this is a real tragedy that could happen. These and all animals are extremely important to the ecosystem. Only humans are not contributing.

Correspondence ID: 5728

Please take down the Thule elk fence, an environmental disaster for these gentle animals!

Correspondence ID: 5729

Please remove the fence that prevents the elk from moving freely. All creatures create a biological web that must stay in balance for the world to stay healthy for everyone. Don't be short sighted. People have been given the responsibility to care for the earth and all of its creatures.

Correspondence ID: 5730

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore. Enough of trying control these beautiful animals.

Correspondence ID: 5732

I support Alternative B,

However, some other changes to Alternative B should be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5736

Hello,

I support free roaming elk herds and I urge you to tear down the fence. Thank you!

Matthew

Correspondence ID: 5739

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5740

Thank you for your Tomales Point Area Plan that considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This would allow them to roam naturally, and preserve the wilderness character of Tomales Point.

Fencing the elk has caused large, periodic die-offs during droughts -because of their inability to roam- and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping them separate from other elk in the park.

Management plans should allow animals to roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

I also support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5741

I support the NPS Alternative B that removes the elk fencing. Pt. Reyes should be a showcase of wildlife and biodiversity. The re-establishment of the tule elk herd was a bold step in this direction and they should not be confined to benefit private cattle and dairy herds on public land.

Correspondence ID: 5744

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5746

I have spent time with the Tule Elk at Point Reyes and am dismayed about the disgusting veal/cattle ranches in the "wilderness". WTF? Get rid of these inhumane and despicable exploiters of our land and wildlife.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5747

As a concerned citizen and nature enthusiast, I am writing you concerning the Tule elk living in the Point Reyes National Seashore national park.

These majestic, highly social animals native to California deserve a break. Once on the brink of extinction they now face another man-made obstacle to their survival. Instead of allowing them to roam around freely as nature intended, the NPS has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. This is unacceptable. Tear down this lethal fence and allow the elk to roam freely in the park once again. Isn't this why our national parks were founded and exist today, to conserve and protect our dwindling natural resources for future generations?

It is a disgrace that this type of cruel behavior is happening in our national parks. In *Laudato Si'*, his letter to the Catholic Church on caring for the environment, Pope Francis covered a wide array of issues including our treatment and view of animals. "Every act of cruelty towards any creature is 'contrary to human dignity.'" "If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously."

I support the comprehensive management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

John T. Gfrorer

Correspondence ID: 5749

I support removing the Tule Elk fence at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 5750

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5751

I am visiting this area for the first time. It is amazingly beautiful. I am a birder and have been delighted by the variety of bird species in the different habitats I've visited. The variety of native plants clearly promotes the diversity of the bird population. I support limiting cattle grazing on this public land, so that wild species can survive. There are so few places left in our country where wild creatures are free to roam. If removing the elk fence will allow the elk to survive in a natural balance with their environment, then I support removing the fence. I am sure hunters can be enlisted to cull the herd in a contrfashion if this becomes necessary.

I frankly do not see why cattle raisers should be given rights to profit from the use of public land. We do not need more beef, but we do need pristine natural spaces. You only have to compare the vegetation on either side of a fence line to see the damage that grazing can cause. In drought conditions, this damage lasts longer. It can even become permanent, as has happened in wild areas of my native state, Texas.

Please follow the recommendations of the environmental assessment and remove the elk fence.

Ellen Hahn (former Texan)

Correspondence ID: 5754

Alternative B is the best option. The removal of water structures and other non-natural structures should be done without a lot of noise, environmental damage or motorized vehicles. Please eliminate cattle grazing, use of herbicides, fire suppression and PG&E power lines. I grew up in this coastal area, value it highly and hope that it can be restored to its natural functioning and beauty. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5755

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5756

Please protect these beautiful creatures!

Correspondence ID: 5757

I urge you to support Alternative B for the Point Reyes Tomales Point Area Plan. These investments to the park will support the Elk while improving visitor experience. However, this action should be bolstered by appropriate removal of unlawful water structures, discussion of minimum requirements for removal of

water structures, the elimination of cattle grazing, the elimination of herbicide use, the removal of PG&E equipment, and the implementation of policies involving natural fires, rather than manager-ignited fire.

Correspondence ID: 5758

I am visiting the Point Reyes area for the first time and am amazed by the wild beauty of the area. After reading the plan, I am in favor of removing the fence and allowing the area to return to a natural state and increase the range of the wild elk population. I understand the feeling of achieving a balance between the needs of the environment and the needs of the ranchers, but I would argue that cattle ranching is not environmentally sustainable as it leads to this type of deforestation and disruption of the ecosystem. Methane gas is also environmentally destructive. I would like to see more wild areas rather than fewer.

Correspondence ID: 5759

To Whom it may concern:

As a concerned, citizen, I strongly support dismantling The Tule Elk Reserve fence @Pt Reyes, ensuring these wild animals will have freedom to roam, access to food and water, and safety from any further suffering from this dangerous fence.

Thank you, Andrea Pett

Correspondence ID: 5760

I strongly support Alternative B to remove elk fences. I hope improvements can be made at Tomales Point to improve the public experience including more bicycle access and parking on the way to Tomales Point and at the end of the road, and the construction of a ADA-compliant overlook to White Gulch. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 5761

I support the comments and opinion as expressed by the Center for Biological Diversity. A former Bay Area resident, this issue needs to be resolved, more humanely, and to more benefit of the wildlife in the area.

Correspondence ID: 5763

I am submitting the following comments because I strongly support freeing the Point Reyes Tule Elk.

In my opinion, the best option is Alternative B - which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. I heartily believe Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

First, removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Second, Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Thirdly, eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Also, please don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

And allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Finally, remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration of my comments.

Correspondence ID: 5764

We strongly endorse your second option regarding the Tule Elk that our family has gone up to visit frequently for over 25 years. The option to remove the fences permanently is the only one that is aligned with our state values to honor the right of animals to coexist with us by being allowed to roam free for water, food and ultimately survival. Big industry cannot continue to profit from the torture these animals experience by being prevented from finding water. This is the only acceptable solution, as described by the Press Democrat:

"A second option, the park service's preferred plan, proposes allowing elk to roam free. This plan provides for greater coordination with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, which entered into a partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2021"

Sincerely, Elizabeth Adams, Marin resident for 45 years.

Correspondence ID: 5766

Dear National Park Service:

I have been commenting on the conditions of Point Reyes for several years now, excoriating the National Park Service for the treatment and management of Tule Elk. Upon my wife's and my visitation to the park several years ago, we were not only disappointed, but angry over what we saw as conditions not conducive to the mission of the National Park Service. But more than that, they were inhumane to the conditions of this iconic species of elk. The Tule Elk deserve better.

My wife and I support the reconditioning of the natural landscape within the totality of the boundary of Point Reyes. Cattle grazing and commercial agricultural operations need to be removed from the park immediately. It is time to return the landscape and the management and treatment of wildlife back to the mission of the National Park Service. It appears that Alternative B maybe the closest to this goal, but we are not totally convinced that even this alternative is the best proposal for the park.

Tule Elk need to have full range of motion and movement upon the landscape and do so in a way that returns a sense of biological integrity throughout the entirety of the park. It is high time the park serves the purpose of protecting biological and cultural resources. All anthropogenic activities should be minimized. A return to natural conditions should be the goal, as well as biological integrity and biodiversity in both flora and fauna.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 5767

I visited Point Reyes National Seashore a few years ago and was shocked at how bad this area was managed. I am glad you maybe trying to change that. I strongly support Alternative B for the Tomales

Point Area which will allow the Tule elk to roam free again. Pont Reyes is one of the worst examples of management I have seen in any protected conservation areas I have visited. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5768

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

Eliminate grazing by cattle.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Remove the PG&E power line. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5769

My answers are based upon what is in the best interest of conserving the Tule elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness:

The best alternative is B which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in Wilderness and fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elks.

There should be some to Alternative B to make it better, in terms of Tule elk Conservation..

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done with Non-Motorized equipment. These small structures can easily be removed without such motorized devices. Loud motorized noise is harmful for the wildlife.

Minimum requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence.

The EA is inadequate without a through knowledge of how this should best be done in the interest of Tule Elk Conservation.

Eliminating cattle grazing in Point Reyes or the Wilderness is necessary agreed upon by the original contract when the seashore was established. Removal of cattle and the fence would allow Tule elk better paths of migration and mitigate against invasive plants.

The use of herbicides must be banned in the Wilderness. The increased migration of Tule elk would mitigate invasive plants. As well as herbicides are poisonous to animal populations.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the Wilderness landscape. This is much superior than trying to manage self-ignited fire which may favor the invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. These structures should not be in the Wilderness areas in any way and they can be very destructive. Power line must be removed by non-motorized equipment.

Correspondence ID: 5770

No cruel Elk killing fencing please!

Correspondence ID: 5771

We need to speak up for these poor animals... let them roam free and leave them alone please!

Correspondence ID: 5772

The Tule elk population is confined to just the northern part of the Point Reyes National Seashore which is

alarmingly decreasing mainly to the FENCE that has been maintained by the NPS. There is an increased die-off of elk due to drought and not have access to other water sources.

The fence must be removed if the elk population is to rally. The elk need to have more space to migrate and the fence is the culprit. It must be removed to help with the conservation of Tule elk.

Also, forming an agreed upon alliance with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, which has been proposed, will greatly increase the knowledge of the rich Tribal History and ecology knowledge of the area.

Such a plan would enhance habitat for the Tule elk and endangered butterflies as well as better control invasive plants and protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5773

Correspondence ID: 5774

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Together we have come this far. It's time to take these extra important steps. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5775

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I support the NPS preferred plan, Plan B, to remove the elk fence and its plan to better manage the natural and cultural resources of the area which Plan B provides.

The tule elk have been confined to this area by the elk fence, which has contributed to the death of 100s of animals due to lack of access to necessary food and water. The park has had to intervene with

emergency water due to drought. Removing the fence will allow the elk to roam freely and have better access to necessary food and water elsewhere in the park.

In maintaining the area for tule elk, old cattle ponds have filled with mud and when water levels are low, causes dangerous conditions for elk to reach the remaining water in the pond. Measures should be taken to ensure these ponds are maintained for safe access to water for elk.

Invasive plants such as wild mustard continue to spread through the planning area as active ranching adjacent to the elk fence continues. NPS should consider ceasing any silage activity adjacent to the planning area to help stop the spread of these invasive plants. Why are ranchers allowed to plant these invasive plants if we are trying to eliminate them everywhere else throughout the park and planning area?

If conflict should arise between the amount of forage available for elk and cow south of the current elk fence, the park should state its intention on how it will address this. In the recent ROD, NPS has said it will cap the number of elk in the Drakes Beach herd. This should not be considered for the planning area elk. It is not the responsibility of the public to ensure enough forage for cattle that are allowed to graze in the National Park. The law states that the park must manage the land with maximum protection to the natural resources. If conflict arises with available forage and it is deemed action must be taken, the number of cows should be reduced to remove the conflict. The elk numbers should not be capped, or elk should not be removed to satisfy a need for available cow feed or for ranchers to maintain a certain status or certification.

Thank you for your efforts and I am hopeful NPS will implement Plan B.

Correspondence ID: 5778

unnecessary

Correspondence ID: 5779

My family has visited and explored Point Reyes National Seashore and the Philip Burton Wilderness over the last 30 years. We are grateful for the NSP and for this unique place. This Wilderness area is unique to the greater Bay Area and should be managed as designated by the Wilderness Act.

We support Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. We have seen this in the natural areas of Sonoma County after the many fires, as well as the recent fires in PRNS.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Correspondence ID: 5782

To Whom It May Concern:

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Also eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established and don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5785

I wish you worlds of good fortune with this effort. However please look around you and see the huge uncultured population many of whom carry guns. Really. If they don't have guns they drive cars while reading their phones. Here on sweet old cape cod there are small gatherings of self appointed militias ready to take charge. Wherever when ever. The other day a turkey was walking through my yard being followed by a young buck who stopped to watch the fast cars on our little road right in front of my house. I planted trees to shut out the unconscious drivers, but there is no real escape. Finally the turkey who had been waiting for the young buck began to go into my neighbors woods. The buck followed with new consciousness. I fear for your beautiful animals as long as there are guns, cars and unconscious people in our land. I wish you luck and consciousness.

Correspondence ID: 5787

Every animal should be free to live and roam in their natural territory. There is a natural process that is endemic to all living things. From plants to animals. Everything has its place.

Correspondence ID: 5788

Alternative B is the best option

Correspondence ID: 5789

I support plan B- the national parks should not be for ranchers/ it's upsetting it's gotten this far. Please follow through with your duty to the citizens if the US, this park is for us and not for ranchers.

Correspondence ID: 5790

The red to the north of Point Reyes is relatively sparsely populated. I see no good reason to fence in these animals that require room to roam.

Correspondence ID: 5792

First off, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. This will ensure the Wilderness is truly wild. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade habitat and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminating grazing by cattle is fundamental. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Also, removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. Furthermore, the use of herbicides in the Wilderness is unnecessary. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allowing natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions is also critical. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to create conditions suitable to invasive plants. Lastly, please remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 5793

I think that there is a better alternative than killing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5794

I urge you to remove the elk fence at Point Reyes. It endangers the lives of the animals during droughts, and in confining them reduces the genetic variability in their reproduction that is critical to their long-term survival. I also urge you to work with the local Native American people as you move forward. THANK YOU in advance for what I have to assume you will do.

Margit Dahl

Correspondence ID: 5796

Protect elk!

Correspondence ID: 5798

I support Alternative B.

I am a private citizen in the region and I visit Point Reyes roughly 10 times annually for recreation.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 5799

I am pleased to learn of your recently proposed Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects and preserves the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point and its natural and cultural resources, and also calls for a new co-management relationship with the local Native tribes that, among other beneficial ecologically-sound practices, will include protection of the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing the elk herd to roam and migrate freely. and best preserve .

Thank you for this new direction and definition of the term “land management.”

Correspondence ID: 5800

I strongly urge you to choose Plan B in managing the Tule elk population in the Tomales Point area. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. Deaths of the elk, caused by restricting their access to water, has been both heartbreaking and runs counter to what a wildlife designated area should be. The genetic restrictions of confining these animals has also been a damaging factor in their current condition. Thank you for working to restore natural, healthy living conditions for these animals, and to improve the health of the region for all animals and human visitors.

Correspondence ID: 5801

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed management plan for the Point Reyes National Seashore. As a long-time environmental professional, I urge you to adopt alternative B. In particular, please include the permanent removal of the fence that restricts the elk population from access to more of their natural habitat. I also urge you to complete a long-term management plan that includes the active participation of local and regional Native American organizations. Thank you for your consideration.

Robert B. Smythe, Ph.D.

Correspondence ID: 5803

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B must be considered. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. The Park Service needs to state explicitly that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5806

I appreciate the Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5809

Yes please take down the fence and give the Tule Elk access to more range. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5811

Please protect the tule elk at all costs.

Please implement a long term plan for their survival.

The American public does not want this tule elk herd lost or decimated.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5812

Please remove the elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 5813

Thanks for this new proposal that could remove the fence for the Tule Elk! Please remove the fence!

We have been visiting Point Reyes since the 1990s and Tomales Point is our favourite area to visit due to the old ranch buildings and the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5814

I support the removal of the elk fence that has confined the elk for decades. I support plan B. Please stop this cruelty on our public lands and free the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5815

I am writing because this issue is very important to me. Thank you for the opportunity to leave comments about this issue.

I believe the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

It's imperative that removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Cattle grazing MUST be eliminated. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Herbicides should NOT be used in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

The PG&E power line has to be removed immediately. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. U The Park Service needs to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5816

regarding Tulle Elk at Pt reyes: I would like to add my support for Alternative B - taking down the deadly unnatural fence and letting the elk roam free on our public lands.

Correspondence ID: 5818

The Tule Elk are endemic to California. To me the best option is Alternative B. Alternative B is the

removal of the Tule Elk fence, all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness. The water structures are small enough to be removed without the use of motorized vehicles. The Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for the removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The National Park Service (NPS) must include the MRA as part of the analysis of Alternative B. Eliminate cattle grazing. Point Reyes is the original agreement when the seashore was established. Point Reyes belong to the Tule Elk. No herbicides in the wilderness. Removing cattle and fencing would allow the Tule Elk to roam freely and mitigate the expansion of invasive plants. Let nature create natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape. By using manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. Please remove the PG&E power lines. The power lines infringe on the undeveloped character of the wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5819

Please use Alternative B to help preserve the elk and the rest of the wildlife in Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 5820

I strongly support Alternative B. I also support the collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Indigenous people have lived in North America far longer than any transplant from Europe or wherever and they have knowledge about how to be good stewards of the land. We need to learn from them and let them lead in the area of the environment, animals, land management and the like. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5821

Please do what is right. We all know what that is.

Correspondence ID: 5824

June 2, 2024

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
Department of the Interior Region 10

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment Report

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

I have reviewed the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, and I support the NPS Preferred Alternative, Alternative B, with implementation as noted in my comments, below.

Alternative B is consistent with goals established for Tule elk in Point Reyes, as well as the laws governing PRNS:

(1) In 1993, the Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore concluded, "The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point. [The National Park Service] and [California Department of Fish and Game] should develop a long-range management plan with the goal of achieving a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population subjected to a minimum of management intervention."

(2) California Fish and Wildlife has explicitly stated a management goal of reducing the number of confined tule elk herds (California Fish and Wildlife Elk Conservation and Management Plan, December 2018, p 454.).

(3) Alternative B is consistent with this Code section which governs PRNS:

§459c–6. Administration of property

a. Protection, restoration, and preservation of natural environment ... the property acquired by the Secretary ... shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area... 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6.

In implementing Alternative B, NPS should prioritize the protection and preservation of natural resources, and specifically the protection and preservation of wildlife with the following considerations:

Removing the elk fence to provide Tule elk with greater access to forage and water requires the elk to be able to move freely in the National Seashore. Tule elk herds, including but not limited to the herds from the planning area, should not be hazed or culled anywhere in the National Seashore. Habitat improvements should be considered to allow for better elk movement throughout the Seashore, which will promote genetic diversity.

Invasive species should be removed from the Wilderness Area, and non-native plants and animals should be excluded. Please restore habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife within the planning area.

Best Management Practices should be used to minimize impact to existing wildlife. It is critical that wildlife friendly fencing be used when fencing cattle out of the planning area, to ensure safe wildlife passage. When the road work was done on Sir Francis Drake near Rogers ranch, Schooner Creek and Drakes Estero several years ago, despite the NPS statement that wildlife friendly fences were the standard for PRNS, the new fencing along the roadway has too many barbed wires and is taller than wildlife-friendly fencing. This injures and deters wildlife species in that area. In addition, since fencing cannot be built in the Wilderness Area, the location of the new wildlife-friendly fencing will have to be outside of the Wilderness Area.

NPS should also clearly identify the carrying capacity for visitors within the planning area during different times of the year, so that visitation impacts can be appropriately mitigated. For instance, overnight camping impacts should be closely reviewed for negative impacts to cultural, wildlife, and other natural resources.

In improving interpretive displays in the planning area, NPS should improve public education and interpretation about both the Coast Miwok who lived on Tomales Point and the Tule elk and their role in the ecology of the Point Reyes peninsula.

Thank you for considering these comments and prioritizing the protection and preservation of the natural environment in PRNS.

Sincerely,

Sarah Killingsworth

Correspondence ID: 5826

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the

Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5827

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

This artificial barrier doesn't belong in any national park unit. It exists only because private ranch owners want to confine the remaining tule elk, comprising the park's largest of three elk herds, inside the fenced "Reserve" at Tomales Point.

Meanwhile, a staggering 5,000 cattle in private meat and dairy operations leasing land in the park are the number one source of pollution of 28,000 acres of land, streams, and the Pacific Ocean, with millions of pounds of manure, urine, and atmospheric methane.

It's long past the time to remove the fences and free these poor, defenseless beings from potentially dying from heat and a lack of water or burning to death.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Please care about their survival. Please free the tule elk now, before the heat of the summer descends on us.

Correspondence ID: 5829

I am resident of San Francisco and have visited Point Reyes National Seashore. I intend to visit again and have followed the NPS's (and state agency) activities related to the Seashore. I support the adoption of Alternative B, primarily because it includes the removal of the elk fence. I was very upset when Tule elk died during drought because they could not reach water on the other side of the fence. I am also concerned about their inability to interact with the other herds and increase their genetic diversity. In addition to what is already proposed in Alternative B, I also suggest:

1) A fast timeline be specified that would remove the fence before more Tule elk die from drought

- 2) Identification of areas within the planning area where human activity, including ranching, has degraded or damaged the natural environment and a plan be developed and implemented to restore it
- 3) Increased signage educating visitors about the importance of the Tule elk to the area
- 4) Increased opportunities for visitors to volunteer and help remove non-native plants and restore areas damaged by ranching. We don't want to just hike and look always; we want to interact positively with the environment and give something back.

Correspondence ID: 5832

Please commit the elk herd to roam the referred to area.

Correspondence ID: 5833

If the Park Service will not protect these wonderful animals who will?

Please accept the responsibilities of your agency and do the right thing!

Correspondence ID: 5835

I ask that you FREE these animals and remove the fencing from this land. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5838

The elk have been punished long enough for just being elk and having no ROI. Take the fence down and evict the cows. And, oh yeah, make PG&E get out of there! Here are more polite words from Wilderness Watch.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5840

It is past time to restore the historic range of endangered Tule Elk on Tomales Bay Point and the Phillip

Burton Wilderness. This is public land, a public refuge for humans and animals. Commercial Grazing cattle should have no place in our Wilderness areas.

Please support Alternative B as the preferred option.

Thank you, Judith May Schumacher

Correspondence ID: 5841

The tule elk should be able to freely roam. Alternative B is best for preserving wilderness. The water tanks should be removed without motorized equipment to preserve the wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5843

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you, Caitlin Caldwell

Correspondence ID: 5844

Dear NPS:

As a lover of the Wilderness Act, and a defender of a strict interpretation of its rules, I advocate strongly for option B in your decision making about the Tule Elk in your Tomales Point EA. I see no reason why any human-introduced structures remain this de facto wilderness, and I encourage you to use non-motorized removal means as required by the Wilderness Act which prohibits all motorized transportation within designated wilderness areas.

I also urge you to keep cows out of Tomales Point. Cows have no reason to be in any wilderness area anywhere. I shall follow your rule making process on this issue. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely, Michael W. Shurgot, PhD

Correspondence ID: 5845

Dear leaders and decision-makers of the National Park Service,

I am a concerned citizen that is writing to ask you that you free the rare Tule native elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness, allowing them to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries.

I understand that the plan still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

I ask you to please consider the following when finalizing your plans for this area:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your time and your service,

Beth Cohen

Correspondence ID: 5846

Please carry out Alternative B, Unconfined Elk Herd. Maintaining a fence to promote the interests of a few cattle ranchers goes against the original charter of Point Reyes National Park. Fences are unacceptable in the wilderness. Please aid the elk by allowing them access to water sources and removing the manmade tanks etc.

Please also include in Alternative B, the methods in which the fence and tanks are removed to assure the least destructive to the park and least stressful to the elk

Please cease to spray herbicides in the area. Once the elk are allowed to roam they will aid in the mitigation of non native vegetation.

Why should herbicides and cattle feces be allowed to destroy this fragile coastal environment?

Thank you for allowing these native, once lost, wild animals to safely roam free in our National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 5848

Dear Ladies and/or Gentlemen:

Please tear down the cruel Elk fence now!

These beautiful animals need more help, water, grazing land now!

God Bless these endangered Tule Elk and you.

Sincerely, Mrs. Jane Van Haaften

Correspondence ID: 5849

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 5850

Please support Alternative B. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5851

These elk need to be free to live as they were intended to. Take down the elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 5854

I am happy to hear that there is a plan whereby the fence confining the Tule Elk herd to Tomales Point north of it will be removed. The elk should be free to range over the non-forested areas of the Point Reyes Peninsula; in particular, they should be able to reach water supplies throughout this area. Lack of access to fresh water has caused die-offs of the elk during drought periods; there are no permanent streams north of the fence.

While I now live in New Jersey, I spent a lot of time at Point Reyes when I was a graduate student at UC Berkeley some 60 years ago. In particular, I used to walk from the McClure's Beach road to Tomales Point before dawn for the Christmas Count of birds - the Tomales Bay count was at that time typically #2 in the nation in species recorded.

Correspondence ID: 5855

The fence must be removed so the elk can live and thrive. Plus it's. cruel and causing premature deaths for no valid reason.

Correspondence ID: 5857

We MUST do ALL WE CAN to PRESERVE and PROTECT ALL of this great WILDERNESS ECOSYSTEM of our Pt. Reyes National Seashore!!!

There are 1000s of native plant & animal species for whom this entire region is home. Pt. Reyes National Seashore is surviving this delicate balance between the human footprint, commercial businesses, housing, loads of cars, trucks and buses - and yet still is managing to hang on as the vibrant ecosystem that it is. We must continue to help this land stay as close to it's original character as possible - which also means complete removal of the 3 mile Tule Elk killing fence!!!

Thank you for doing all you can to protect our seashore ecosystem and the wildlife who live here,

Alexis Morris

Correspondence ID: 5858

Thank you for the steps you are taking concerning the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I would like to state that I fully support Alternative B, the proposal to remove the elk fence and let the tule elk herd roam free. Alternative B will improve habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk. This is the only alternative that meets the Park Service's mission and goals.

I think it is important that the Park Service provide a timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, including the approximate timeline for the removal of the elk fence. I am concerned about the welfare of tule elk during this process, especially given the struggles they have due to lack of proper forage and adequate water supplies. The elk residing in the Tomales Point area furthest from the fence will not immediately migrate to an area with better forage and water supplies. Some of these herds may continue to require supplemental water supplies during the summer months. Please take this into consideration during the planning process and after the removal of the fence.

It would also be beneficial to consider identifying areas where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to human activities within the planning area and restore them to their pre-disturbance conditions.

Lastly, I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and the public use, as it was intended in the Park Service's mission and goals.

Again, I support ALTERNATIVE B and I thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Correspondence ID: 5859

This is not the first time we have submitted comments about the tule elk herd and the fencing on Tomales Point. We last commented during the public scoping period in September of 2023. Our Comment ID: 2417433-131377/21266

This new planning process comes following two historic droughts in Marin County over the last decade, bringing with them dire impacts to the tule elk and other resources within the Tule Elk Reserve at Tomales Point. When it was written in 1998, management guidance for this area neither anticipated such severe drought conditions nor considered climate change. It's now abundantly clear that elk need room to roam throughout Point Reyes National Seashore, a scenic coastal peninsula where hikers enjoy seeing the herds of tule elk, the beaches, and views of the Pacific ocean.

Therefore, we support Alternative B, that would remove the existing elk fence keeping the tule elk herd from ranging, and allow for construction of a new fence to keep livestock out of the wildlife areas.

Alternative B would also entail the removal of artificial water sources and of invasive plant species from Tomales Point. We commend the Park Service for its collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, effectively including tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge in this entire process. This collaboration gives the Park Service an opportunity to restore the wildness of the National Seashore and to appreciate wildlife being free on the landscape.

Thank you for this new opportunity to submit comments. We trust you will give them your most serious and thoughtful consideration.

Correspondence ID: 5862

This is cruel. Why do people need to

be put before the animals on the planet. Wrong!

Correspondence ID: 5864

This is hugely unjust and inhumane treatment of these animals. We must stop catering to big businesses, big Ag, lobbies etc. Lives over greed. Do the right thing.

Correspondence ID: 5869

It's inhumane n horrific

Correspondence ID: 5870

When I visited Point Reyes I so disappointed to see so many cows and no elk. I thought elk would roam free throughout the area. Please consider what is best to herd. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 5873

Tule elk have lived on this land for tens of thousands of years, they've shaped the entire coastal ecosystem. From the Miwok for whom the land rightfully belongs to, to the tourists who come from across the world to visit, all of us in Marin want to see these beautiful beings treated better.

Correspondence ID: 5874

I support Alternative B and the removal of the 8-foot elk fence so the endemic tule elk can roam free to find food and water. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5875

To Whom it may concern,

Do the Decent Thing, Remove the Elk fence!

Sincerely Lynn Sunday

Correspondence ID: 5876

Your agency is charged with doing the best, the right, the sensible thing for the environment and wildlife. Why are you not doing these things? Have you no compassion for the animals, the Tule elk? What is your excuse for what you have done? How can you justify what you have done? There is no excuse and no justification for what you have done to these animals. You are able and can do right by these animals, why aren't you? You have the power to act for the good. DO IT!

Correspondence ID: 5878

I'm a resident of PRS and I support Plan B to remove the Elk fence. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5879

Why are these poor , beautiful near extinct in prison for in the first place? No fence belongs any place in the wilderness. Nor do cows. As for water, make a nice pond for them, without machines and noise and further pollution from humans. Let them roam free as they were meant to be. It is very simple, just leave the place alone the way it use to be before you screwed it up. They deserve that. Peace and quiet... nothing more, nothing less. Why is that so hard to understand??????

Correspondence ID: 5882

protect wildlife

Correspondence ID: 5883

protect wildlife

Correspondence ID: 5884

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Thank you and be kind to al animals be a-good leader and more will follow you.

Mrs

S Rocha

Correspondence ID: 5885

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5886

I support Alternative B because, by removing the fence, Alternative B allows the Tule elk to roam freely. Please make Alternative B even better by adding a few specifications:

1. A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of fences and other artificial structures.
- 2, Cattle grazing should no longer be allowed in Point Reyes or the wilderness.
3. Herbicides should be prohibited in the wilderness.
4. Let fire burns occur naturally, and desist with manager-ignited fires.

5. Remove the PG&E power line.

Correspondence ID: 5887

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for putting together a plan for Tomales Point Area that better protects the natural and cultural resources and takes into consideration a new way of managing the park's elk herd. I really support Alternative B, which involves removing the elk fence and allowing the elk to roam freely. This option will give the tule elk their freedom to wander naturally and will help preserve the wildness of Tomales Point, which spans 2,900 acres. The current elk fence at Tomales Point has caused significant die-offs during droughts, required emergency measures to provide water sources for trapped animals, and has negatively impacted genetic diversity by isolating this large herd from other elks in the park. It is important that Point Reyes has a management plan that allows these magnificent creatures to roam freely and behave as they would in their natural habitat within the national park. Additionally, I fully support the Park Service's proposal to collaborate with Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in order to incorporate Tribal perspectives and traditional ecological knowledge into future management plans for Tomales Point. I also endorse including elements in the management plan that highlight Tribal history and cultural resources, as well as utilizing prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Lastly, I am in favor of proposals aimed at controlling invasive plants and overall improving protection measures for both natural resources and cultural heritage sites. Thank you so much for giving our beloved elks their freedom back.

Correspondence ID: 5888

I urge you to support free roaming elk herd and a collaborative management plan at Point Reyes National Sea Shore.

Thank you.

Randy Hammer

Correspondence ID: 5889

Free the tule elk!

Correspondence ID: 5891

I am writing in support of the Tomales Point Area Plan to free the tule elk by removing the fence that currently confines them to a limited area within the park. It has recently come to my attention that this fence has not only kept them separate from other elk herds, but has also caused large, periodic die-offs due to the elk being trapped without water resources during drought periods. A proper management plan that allows herds to move about naturally would not only increase the elk's genetic viability, but allowing them to roam freely may eliminate the need for emergency interventions in the future.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. I encourage the highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and believe such efforts will help to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. I further request that you consider other plans, such as the removal of invasive plants, that will better protect the area's natural and cultural resources.

Thank you in advance, for all that you can do to free the elk and preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5892

Please don't build and maintain this fence. the natural diversity is needed to maintain the integrity of the whole park. This then extends to the greater community--even if it doesn't support individual financial needs/greed of ranchers. Thanks

Correspondence ID: 5896

This communique' is regarding the Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. The erected fence that is still in place is the death knell for these majestic animals. Not only is the once-thriving herd now diminished through many deaths by thirst, but the immured condition of these animals destroys a healthy genetic pool for a viable future. It is wrong to destroy these animals and I believe the Park Service could and would make wiser choices than what has been the current situation for some time now.

Please do the right thing and free these elk. Eliminate the fence or you ultimately eliminate this beautiful species that is part of the important chain of nature in the Bay Area!

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sharon Niel

Correspondence ID: 5899

Please free the National Seashore Elk from the confines imposed upon them by cattle farming on public/national lands to alleviate the starvation and suffering of these rare and beautiful animals. Not only was I raised in that area, but have family that still resides there and family from Germany who visit the seashore every time they are in the states. None of us believe that these animals deserve the thousands of starvation deaths over the years. It is incredibly sad that these animals have been sacrificed and tortured for unnecessary private use of public lands.

Cydney Siri

Correspondence ID: 5900

I support alternative B—fence removal. As the National Park Service report says: "These potential benefits [of fence removal] include increased genetic diversity, supporting natural population cycles, better habitat management including the potential use of prescribed fire, and other benefits associated with free-ranging elk herds... Alternative B would most align with creating the desired conditions for the project area and would best support current and future tule elk and black-tailed deer resources.

Correspondence ID: 5902

Dear Superintendent,

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point as the national park, protected land and species, it is meant to exemplify.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. The Point Reyes national park requires a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the park's designated protected territory, without harassment from ranchers or having their habitat needs superseded by cows or other livestock.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources, and hope that this will include other indigenous stakeholders than the Rancheria who hold sacred many historic places within the parks boundaries as well.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk and enhancing your awareness and actions towards respect for all whose home the land is and was.

Correspondence ID: 5903

To Whom, It May Concern:

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

George Jackman

Correspondence ID: 5904

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic

to California— is at stake. The Alternative B plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but more is needed to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, the wilderness character of the area.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. However, the following also should be considered:

Use non-motorized means to remove water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum requirements analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Cattle grazing is incompatible with wilderness character.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire tends to encourage growth of non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 5905

Quit killing off the elk. If they have to be killed, cull them with a special hunt and let hunters take them ethically and humanely and eat the meat. Then that money can be put back into the park fund!

Correspondence ID: 5906

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5908

All animals should be allowed to roam without incident and especially without death.

Correspondence ID: 5909

I just wanted to say that I support Alt B, as well as removing the elk fence. Thank you very much.

Correspondence ID: 5912

I am commenting in support of the NPS preferred Alternative B. I would also like to see more invasive species treatment in general and reduced agricultural land use.

Correspondence ID: 5913

The more wilderness we have and the wild life indigenous to the land the better!

Alternative B seems to be a reasonable solution with some amendments.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Herbicides in the wilderness are not necessary. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

The PG&E power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 5917

Please remove the fence confining the Tule Elk herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought. These wonderful animals should be set free.

Correspondence ID: 5918

We need to support nature and the planet for future generations.

Correspondence ID: 5919

Please take down the fences that contain the tule elk. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5920

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for taking a more creative and caring approach by preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan. As this better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. "Wilderness IS the preservation of the world! - Ansel Adams)

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you again for letting a more creative plan to surface that embraces both the elk's freedoms as well as the Indians of Graton Rancheria freedom of traditional practices. Freeing the few may free the many!

Correspondence ID: 5922

I am concerned that if the Pt. Reyes Elk are not confined, they will find their way outside the Point Reyes National Seashore and onto highways. A collision between a car or truck and an elk is more dangerous than a collision with a deer.

Correspondence ID: 5923

FREE THE ELK AND REMOVE ALL FENCING. YOU CANNOT CONTAIN A WILD ANIMAL WITHOUT PROVIDING ADEQUATE RESOURCES FOR IT TO SURVIVE. THIS IS BEYOND INHUMANE. TEAR DOWN THOSE FENCES!!!

Correspondence ID: 5924

Please remove the fencing and restore the elk habitat! I support Plan B.

Thank you!

Elin

Correspondence ID: 5925

keeping wildlife free is the answer

Correspondence ID: 5927

Please remove the fencing so that the Elk can reach water. These are native species and cattle are imported from Pakistan and surrounding areas. The cattle should not be on this land. Having the Tule Elk die of lack of water is unconscionable. Please have a conscience and end this policy and stop this unnecessary suffering.

Correspondence ID: 5928

As a resident of the immediate area for over 30 years, I support Alternative B. The elk fence clearly needs

to go. It is also clear that more committed and aggressive efforts in invasive plant management and trail maintenance are needed throughout the park. Perhaps do more to leverage your volunteers who are eager to help.

Correspondence ID: 5929

America is fortunate to have many species of wildlife but we must remember these amazing animals are "wild" and we should all realize to put these animals behind "walls" of any kind is basically destroying the natural ways these animals lived from the beginning and is cruel and disruptive to their need to live a "wild" and free life as it should. You cannot confine a species because you think it's better than how they've lived their entire lives when the need to be free and roam will never just go away. Humans are making so many critical errors with wildlife we may lose more species out of pure ignorance by those who can't fathom the real meaning and beauty of "WILDLIFE." please start making better choices for America's animals. States allow killing for no reason other than that need to kill what we can't understand and that need is killing more than just targeted wildlife. A future where we imprison free animals is no future at all. I sincerely hope a proper decision can be reached that allows all living creatures the right to exist in their natural state without walls of any kind to hinder them-real or imaginary. It's time to wake up to a better future for all.

Correspondence ID: 5931

As a frequent visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore, I write in strong support of Alternative B, removal of the elk fence and allowing the herd to be unconfined. Doing so best preserves the wilderness character of Tomales Point. Wildlife lovers and Northern Californians have watched in horror over the last several years as this fence has periodically killed many elk, required the park to bring in water and destroyed the genetic viability of this herd by separating this herd from other elk in the Park. I am so relieved that this may finally be coming to an end.

I also have happy to learn that the Service is planning to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria so that the tribal perspective is included in the future management of Tomales Point. This will be invaluable for using prescribed burns to help elk and butterfly habitat and manage invasive plants.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5932

Please remove the fence! It is time that the elk were free to roam again. You have heard and read many reasons why it is time to take it down. I am in support of many of those reasons.

Correspondence ID: 5934

I would like to see more species, that were once native to the west coast, released into habitat that was once in their range.

Correspondence ID: 5936

As a local resident and someone who has enjoyed PRNS for decades, it is really time for the Park to make some important changes. The tule elk are beautiful, and we need to protect them.

I am writing to say that I support Alternative B and removing the 8-foot elk fence so these endemic elk can roam free, to find water and forage.

PLEASE keep the wildlife in the Park stay healthy and able to find the water and food they need.

thank you!

Correspondence ID: 5937

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. The elk are sentient animals that need to be protected. They need to have their habitat respected, we have not right to fence them off since they are the native species.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk. Please preserve their land and cherish their lives.

Correspondence ID: 5940

Please stop the encroachment of civilization into the wilderness and invasive species farm species like cattle and their domestic diseases into the wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 5941

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5942

I favor alternative B, which would allow Tule elk to roam as they did for many years before the fence went up, which is better for the environment and protecting wilderness than alternatives A. or C. Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Please consider using non-mechanized means to remove water structures under the plan. Also, don't allow cattle grazing in the area. Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Please also stop using herbicides in the wilderness, as they inhibit native plants and destroy the ecosystem balance.

- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants. It also ignores the natural cycle and the part that fires play in maintaining the ecosystem.

Correspondence ID: 5945

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. We should helping these elk thrive--but are doing the opposite.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. We can do better for these animals.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I appreciate your help with these issues.

Eliot Kaplan

Correspondence ID: 5946

I visit Pt. Reyes several times per year for the past 25 years. I love seeing the tule elk while hiking on the trails and much prefer to see native elk than all the cows. I realize that the ranches at Pt. Reyes are historic and want to be in continuous use, but not at the harm to the elk. the fence should be removed so more elk can access the remainder of the elk. elk already occur in the outer point, so it's not like they aren't already outside of the fenced elk preserve.

Thanks,

Dan Sidle

Correspondence ID: 5947

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales

Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 5949

Please take down the fence and allow the Tule Elk to enjoy the entire Point Reyes area.

Remove the cattle. They do not belong in a National Monument or Park.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5950

I support a free roaming elk herd where a lethal fence will no longer torture the beautiful animals.

Correspondence ID: 5953

the earth is not only for humans.

We need the wildlife to contain nature

Correspondence ID: 5954

Tule Elk have struggled to survive as a species in the not too distance past. They remain a vulnerable animal and should be given every advantage to prosper. The fence which was installed in the park confines them to a limited area where they are put at risk when food resources are scarce in time of low rainfall. To improve the Tule Elk's chance to survive and thrive, please remove that fence.

Correspondence ID: 5955

I heartily support tearing down the fence that has kept the Tule Elk confined in unhealthy and inhumane conditions at Point Reyes for so many years resulting in many needless deaths and great suffering for the animals. Why has this been done at all? The elk have roamed this land for much longer than the cows and their owners who wish the elk to be destroyed so that they do not compete with their dairy cow and herds of cattle. The elk should be supported and sustained as an historic part of the land. The government agency that created the fence and killed so many of these wonderful creatures has failed in its task to maintain the environment and its wild inhabitants. Cows pollute the water and are a major source of methane gas- a climate changing problem. It is time to restore nature and not to destroy it! Let the Tule Elk live wild and unfenced where there is access to food, water and mates to restore genetic diversity and health. I miss seeing them at Point Reyes. They were an inspiration and lifted many people's spirits with their beauty and grace. Let them do so again.

Correspondence ID: 5956

Please free the Tule elk.

Correspondence ID: 5957

Please remove the fences and free the elk!!

Correspondence ID: 5959

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 5960

To Whom It May Concern:

The best option is Alternative B, removing structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of it. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and further endanger Tule elk. Additional changes to Alternative B should be considered:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done by non-motorized means.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Grazing cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Conventional herbicides should be banned in the Wilderness. Also, removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fires have facilitated growth of non-native invasive plants.

The PG&E power line structures infringe on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed.

Thank you for your consideration on these matters.

Sincerely, **Correspondence ID: 5961**

Dear Craig Kenkel,

Thank you for soliciting and reviewing the public's feedback to the current Point Reyes Tule Elk management and then creating alternatives with this feedback in mind. The NPS received more than 25,115 pieces of correspondence related to how best manage the Tule Elk population, which shows the impact of the current situation on the minds of those of local Marinites.

I have followed the Point Reyes Tule Elk's plight and written before in support of the Tule Elk fence removal. I am writing today to voice my support for Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan which will remove the current Tule Elk fence in Point Reyes and give these beautiful creatures their freedom and ability to roam.

These Tule Elk deserve the same freedom as the other local Tule Elk populations, with access to water and the ability to forage and graze over a large swath of native habitat. This is their home.

Sincerely, San Rafael homeowner

Correspondence ID: 5964

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 5965

I would like to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment at Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service (NPS) should remove the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness in order to free the rare Tule elk. At stake is the fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America and endemic to California. At stake is the fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America and endemic to California.

Alternative B, the plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries, is the best plan, but it still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered, including removing water structures unlawfully built in the wilderness by non-motorized means, eliminating cattle grazing, allowing natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness, and abolishing the use of herbicides in the area.

Thank you for considering my suggestions.

Correspondence ID: 5971

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed, as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

No use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape, rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 5972

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 5973

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5975

Please free the Tule Elk. Take down the fence so they can roam free as God intended. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 5976

It's unimaginable to me that the Reyes National Seashore would corral Elk in such a way that they cannot survive a drought. Thank you for trying to rectify the situation in a way that

better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

Please adopt Alternative B: remove the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing the elk.

Correspondence ID: 5978

All animals have the right to be safe and free. Lets protect their homes and stop the exploitation of our planet and fellow living beings.

Correspondence ID: 5979

We support comprehensive management plan for the Point Reyes elk and for them to free roam. Our animals and land native to this country are tantamount to our preservation of the climate.

Correspondence ID: 5980

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals that are native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during droughts. It has reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park. Thank you for your attention.

Correspondence ID: 5982

Please take down the fence that endangers the Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 5983

I strongly support Alternative B, that allows an unconfined elk herd.

This alternative will allow the elk to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Please continue to collaborate with the Native population and use the wisdom of their input.

We have so little wilderness and wildlife left and they are being squeezed from all directions.

Correspondence ID: 5985

Free the tule elk in the Phillip Burton

wilderness at point Reyes national seashore

Correspondence ID: 5986

What did these beautiful , INNOCENT deer elk do to be submitted to a prison sentence? Release them, NOW. You have not right to imprison them. They did nothing wrong, but you sure as hell did.

Correspondence ID: 5987

Please return to the NPS mission of preservation. For too long Pt Reyes has clearly abandoned wildlife

For special interest ranchers. The superintendent's installation by a twice impeached corporate felon is not a good look for the park. Secondly, a superintendent that is not a biologist or ecologist, but s rancher

also brings light to the preference to starve elk and save briwse for cattle headed to slaughter. And a passive killing mechanism is to fence and crowd the elk.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5994

Please remove the fencing that is causing die off in the last remaining herd of Tule elk in the area. Please let this animals roam free in the park once more. I hope you will do the right thing for them and the future of their kind.

Correspondence ID: 5995

WE SHARE THIS PLANET WITH OTHER SPECIES.

IT IS THEIR HOME TOO.

THAY HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO.

WE HUMANS - OF SUPPOSED SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE- SHHOULD ACT AS PROTECTORS, NOT AS EXTERMINATORS OF WILDLIFE.

Correspondence ID: 5996

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. As a Marylander and ardent conservationist for ALL of the amazing biodiversity of our beautiful country, I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. After all, this is property that belongs to EVERY American citizen, so we should all have a voice in how it is managed and PROTECTED.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 5997

I believe that the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would lessen the expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 5998

To Superintendent and decision-makers,

I appreciate your creation of the Tomales Point Area Plan. It's important to re-think management of the elk herd that is currently confined. These animals are not confined in nature and doing so is detrimental to them at the same time as we are seeking to protect them. I STRONGLY support Alternative B, which will remove the elk fence and allow the elk herd to roam in a natural manner. Not only is this in the best interest of the herd but by extension, the natural wilderness at Tomales Point.

We must stop the elk herd die-offs, and the emergency management required to assist in a non-natural way. These majestic elk require and deserve to be free-roaming, to interact with other elk, and to behave as required by evolution.

I also support the collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. We must consider and incorporate Tribal views and historical knowledge of ecology to the management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements to highlight Tribal history and cultural resources. I agree with using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk as well as endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for any and all efforts to free these elk and restore the natural and historic balance to the area.

Correspondence ID: 5999

Hello

Please free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales point within the Burton Wilderness

Correspondence ID: 6000

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. As a Californian for whom protection of our biodiversity and ecosystems is the top priority, and a frequent user of national parks and other kinds of public lands, I strongly support Alternative B. This alternative will remove the elk fence and allow an unconfined elk herd, which will best preserve both the elk and the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk

Correspondence ID: 6001

Please free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness

Thank you

Bruno

Correspondence ID: 6002

Hi

Please free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the P. Burton Wilderness

Best

Charles

Correspondence ID: 6004

I fully support the Plan B proposal to take down the Elk Fence and allow the confined herd of Elk to roam additional habitat. Please give the wildlife priority over commercial ranching.

Correspondence ID: 6006

PLEASE destroy this horrible, cruel fence!!! TODAY

Correspondence ID: 6007

I support removing the current fence confining this remnant and valuable elk herd to a small area. The fence is making this herd unviable without (and probably also even with) regular human intervention. Once the fence is removed, please develop a long-term plan to enable the elk to roam over their greater

range. Means of keeping them off roads would be essential - protected crossing points if feasible. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6008

Free the Tule Elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6010

Please support Alternative B and remove the fencing, using the most environmentally responsible means. All efforts should be made to return the area to a more pristine state, including removing the P&G power line, not using herbicides, and no longer allowing cattle grazing.

Nature will then give back! Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6011

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

I support Alternative B, the NPS preferred option. Remove structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness.

Remove water structures by non-motorized means.

Conduct Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. Include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate use of herbicides in the Wilderness.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using artificial burns.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and poses a risk of unnaturally-sparked fires.

Thank you for taking clear and explicit action on this matter!

Correspondence ID: 6012

Hello!

I am writing in support of Free Roaming Tule Elk. These animals are habitat key-stone species. Their ability to freely roam the environment is important and necessary.

Humans have the ability to either help or harm. If we want a natural world we need to step in and do what we can to support that. These amazing creatures have been here much longer than we. As stewards, it is our joyful obligation to support the continuation of these species.

Thank you for your work!!!

Best,

Kim

Correspondence ID: 6014

Dear NPS,

Thank you for this opportunity to express my wishes for a better future for our beloved Seashore.

I am in favor of Alternative B. Let's remove the elk fence! It is the right thing to do.

I'm also in favor of removing the commercial beef and dairy businesses in our National Seashore! They damage and pollute the environment. Let's work toward restoration and not continue the degradation by allowing the ranchers to do business on our precious public lands.

Sincerely, Kris Dickinson-Cedar

Correspondence ID: 6016

Free the Tule Elk. Do not fence them in. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6017

Simply stated, elk and other wildlife need to be able to roam freely without fences restricting where they go.

Correspondence ID: 6020

Alternative B sounds good to me.

Correspondence ID: 6022

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 6023

I support free roaming elk and animals

Correspondence ID: 6024

Dear Park Service,

No cattle nor chemicals, just Tule elk!

Thanks, Copley H. Smoak, Naturalist

Correspondence ID: 6025

Tomales area plan

I support Alternative B Remove existing fence that keeps the herd from ranging on the land. A new fence needs to be put up to keep livestock out of the park in certain areas. Especially since drought conditions are starting to show on the land in the park. Alternative B would also entail removal of artificial water sources and remove invasive plant species from Tomales point. Collaboration with federated indians of Graton Rancheria needs to be supported. Tribal views need to go in the plan to help restore Point Reye Nat. Park.

Correspondence ID: 6029

Let wildlife be wild! Take down the fences and give the land back to the elk.

Correspondence ID: 6035

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 6036

Please tear down the lethal fence and let the elk roam free once again.

There are much better and ethical ways to manage!

Correspondence ID: 6037

I support alternate B - remove the Elk Fence. It's a national park, the needs of the elk should always come before the needs of the cattle.

Correspondence ID: 6038

Do the right thing and take down the fence for the elk, alternate B. Remove water structures and no cows in area of Point Reyes. Oh also remove power line.

Thank you, Kathy Limp

Correspondence ID: 6039

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 6040

After following for years the question of the Elk's place amidst the flora and fauna of Tomales Point and, now, reading the three alternatives, as set forth by the Marin Audubon Society, I stand firmly with Alternative B.

Alternative B removes the fences.

Good idea! One for which I have been waiting.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 6041

I fully support removing the fence and allowing the Tule Elk to roam freely.

Please cull appropriately and review "management" (killing) of the stile Elk

Correspondence ID: 6042

Please allow the elk to roam free and not confine them to Tomales Point

Correspondence ID: 6043

What I would prefer is that the Park adhere to Public Law 87-657, agreed to by the ranchers when they were paid above market value, with public funds, for their land. Not the public subsidized "welfare ranch" lease agreements extended forever, that they currently enjoy. Short of that, plan B is better than the status quo. I'll believe it when I see it!

Correspondence ID: 6046

Preservation, conservation says it all!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 6047

Free rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton

Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore

Fortunately, thanks in part to public outcry by Wilderness Watch and our supporters, the NPS preferred Alternative B includes removal of the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake. Now, let's make sure the work to free the Tule elk is done the wilderness way!

Please speak up for Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness by Wednesday, June 5. Comments must be submitted on the NPS site: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

Use your own words, but consider the following talking points:

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6048

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6055

I URGE YOU: PLEASE SAVE OUR PRECIOUS TULE ELK!

Correspondence ID: 6056

We love our Tule Elk and we ask you: PLEASE protect these wonderful animals and keep them alive!

Correspondence ID: 6057

Hello, I support "Alternative B." Please, take the elk fence down and let the elk roam free. Point Reyes National Seashore is not a zoo. It is a nature preserve. The lease you can do is remove the fences and preserve the natural wildlife. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6058

Please do the right thing and eliminate grazing by cattle.

The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Thank you very much in advance for saving our Tule Elk!

Correspondence ID: 6059

Please don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

Removing cattle and all fences will save our beautiful Tule Elk!

Make the right choice and protect these precious animals!

Correspondence ID: 6060

I believe that the best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

I also believe that the removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Lastly, I think you should remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6061

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and all fences just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice! Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger the rare Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 6062

I'm hopeful that the Park Service will make the right call in supporting and better protecting the elk herd through removing the fence and allowing an unconfined herd to roam. This would best preserve the wilderness of the 2,900 acre Tomales Point. In that regard, I support Alternative B.

In additional support of the ecological and cultural significance of this region, I also supported the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. It is extremely important to incorporate the views and traditional knowledge in the management of this area.

Thank you for taking the considerations and comments of the public on this issue.

Adam Love

Correspondence ID: 6063

Please take action to return Point Reyes back to a natural state. Take every precaution to ensure the least amount of damage to the land, plants, and animals that make up the region, by utilizing non-invasive means whenever possible.

Please ensure that all actions taken will be fully and totally documented by photo, video, and audio, as well as, statistical means.

Please assign third-party documentarians whom all share the goal to restore Point Reyes to a natural state, to gather, measure, and then report detailed information on variables of interest, in an established systematic fashion that enables one to post detailed findings for public viewing utilizing various means, as well as, to answer stated research questions, test hypotheses, and evaluate outcomes, in public forum.

Correspondence ID: 6064

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 6066

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 6067

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

To whom it may concern,

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without discussing how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and mitigate against invasive plant expansion.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too frequent use of manager-ignited fire tends to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for your consideration! This wilderness area is important to all of us!!

Correspondence ID: 6068

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 6069

Let the Tule elk wander. They will find food & water better than we can provide it artificially.

Correspondence ID: 6070

Thank you so much for protecting our elk's natural environment but please consider letting them roam free to avoid extreme dehydration during drought. Alternative B would be our best option for a future of prolific elk survival and growth.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for protecting our natural environment and freeing our beloved elk!

Correspondence ID: 6072

I support a free-roaming tule elk population at Point Reyes. I have visited Point Reyes several times and have seen these beautiful elk.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a different management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence, allowing the elk to roam freely.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

The Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point is a great idea. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

I also support proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for giving elk the freedom to roam wild-as nature intended..

Correspondence ID: 6074

Raising commercial livestock in a National Seashore (Park) is an outrageous abuse of a national treasure and the practice should be terminated ASAP. My grandfather, Dr. Paul T. Wilson, was among those citizens who fought the original battle to have one of Marin County's nine unique ecosystems set aside in perpetuity for the good of all, for the preservation and restoration of existing and historic wildlife, and not simply for entitled ranchers, who settled on originally stolen native land.

Correspondence ID: 6075

I support the plan that includes removal of the Tule Elk fence.

Correspondence ID: 6076

I support Alternative B to remove the fence confining the elk herd, a first small step in the rewilding of the national seashore and toward the phase-out of cattle ranching and dairy farming with the eventual return of this land to a healthy wildlife habitat in compliance with the National Park Service's mission statement. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6077

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6081

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

However, I ask you to consider some other changes to Alternative B, including:

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was first established.

Please prohibit use of herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Begin to allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape -- rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation -- which clearly infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness. It should be removed from the Wilderness.

Please explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you so much for considering my comments about this lovely piece of wilderness.

I have visited it while staying with my cousins in northern California.

Correspondence ID: 6082

Please select Alternative B, to result in removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness. Tule elk belong in the Wilderness and surrounding areas.

Other items that should be implemented include the following:

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should no longer be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness, to fulfill the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape where possible, rather than using management-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of management-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line from the Wilderness. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6085

I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk

populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 6087

Please tear down this lethal fence in the Tomales Point Area.

Correspondence ID: 6089

Please seriously consider Alternative B in your planning the use of Tomales Point area. We need to protect and preserve and restore what little natural wilderness / wildlife there is left on our planet. Historic dairies do not need to be in operation in this area. Rather, we need to let the Tule Elk roam free! Doing so will not only benefit the plants and animals in this area but also the health and safety of visitors to the area. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 6091

I support alternative B let the elk roam free I would be uncomfortable if I knew that I was being fenced freedom is not to be questioned

Correspondence ID: 6092

I have visited Point Reyes and the Tomales Bay Area a couple of times in the past. I really enjoyed watching wildlife there with wonderful sightings of coyotes, bobcats and the tule elk. I was very surprised that the elk are restricted by fences and in some cases they are cut off their food and water sources.

I support Alternative B which includes the removal of the fence to provide elk with greater access to forage and water. If we allow the elk to roam freely, it would promote better genetic diversity for the species.

It is important for the other species to move around freely as well so let's implement wildlife friendly fencing to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the area.

I also think that it is a great plan to contain and remove invasive plant populations in the area.

Thanks,

Zita Quentin

Correspondence ID: 6093

I am writing to ask you to choose Alternative B. Alternative B removes the existing elk enclosure fence that keeps the elk herd from ranging and also constructs a new fence that prevents livestock from entering wildlife areas.

Correspondence ID: 6094

I support the removal of the fence so that the tule elk can roam freely. Please remove the fence. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6095

My family is in favor of alternative B to remove the elk fence and improve access to Pierce point/ ranch area. We enjoy the wilderness status of Point Reyes annually. Thanks

Correspondence ID: 6096

Please choose Alternative B, and explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed.

Correspondence ID: 6097

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a new management plan for Tomales Point — a welcome embrace of Tribal historical and ecological knowledge. It will enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies, better control invasive plants, and protect both natural and cultural resources.

I support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing beloved elk. DO RIGHT

WE CANNOT LIVE ON AS THE NATURAL WORLD DIES

Correspondence ID: 6098

Thank you for giving the public this opportunity to express our opinions regarding the management of the elk. I strongly support the removal of the elk fence. This will allow the elk to flourish in giving them access to the vegetation, minerals, and water supplies that have been in short supply in their confined area at Tomales Point.

This will also allow the elk herd at Tomales Point to re-wild Point Reyes National Seashore, returning the Park to the natural state it was in before the Europeans arrived with their cattle and dairy ranches. The ranches do not belong in the Park and have been a major contributor to the decline of the natural habitat, through the pollution of the waterways, the introduction of invasive weeds when importing cattle feed from outside the Park, and the lack of maintenance on the ranch buildings and septic systems.

The expansion of the elk range beyond Tomales Point will draw many more people to the Park who long for seeing animals in the wild. This in turn will expand Marin County's economy way beyond the tiny part contributed by the existing ranches in the Park, figured currently at something like 0.5% of Marin's economy.

In conclusion, I support the Alternative B plan: Unconfined Elk Herd and Pierce Ranch Core Area. Thank you for listening to so many of us who support this decision.

Davis Everett

Correspondence ID: 6099

Wilderness areas are for the preservation of all that characterizes "wilderness," and that does not include fencing wildlife in or out, or the confinement of native species. Those structures that do not belong in wilderness area should be removed (including power lines), grazing should not be allowed, nor should the use of pesticides be permitted.

Correspondence ID: 6101

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects both natural and cultural resources and considers the needs of the park's confined elk herd.

I support Alternative B; removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd, as I feel this will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Additionally, I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Lastly, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your time.

Yours Sincerely, Cris Ramis

Correspondence ID: 6103

I support bringing down the elk fences. Please allow the elk to access the maximum amount of land at your disposal. No more elk fences please.

Correspondence ID: 6104

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I was excited to learn of your proposed Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support

Alternative B - removing the elk fence and allowing Tule elk herd to roam free thus preserving the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

From what I have read, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also whole-heartedly support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for Tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for this wonderful proposal..

Correspondence ID: 6105

June 3, 2024

Superintendent Craig Kenkel
National Park Service
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent Kenkel and the National Park Service,

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan. I am grateful that the National Park Service (NPS) has announced a preferred Alternative B proposed action which includes removing the deadly 8-foot tall fence at the Tule Elk Reserve - allowing the Tomales Point Tule Elk freedom in our National Seashore once and for all. This is an important step so please understand that I am grateful for your consideration in moving this forward. I support the Alternative B plan: Unconfined Elk Herd and Removal of the "Elk" Fence.

I have put thousands of hours in the field within this planning area and with these Tule Elk and in order to show you and NPS staff that I am not speaking out of turn on this subject I would like to include some words from two of the most dedicated (and extremely knowledgeable) advocates for a healthier, more biodiverse, and better all around Point Reyes National Seashore that I am aware of:

Published excerpt from Inverness resident Ken Bouley: "Local wildlife photographer Matthew Polvorosa Kline, who exposed this latest die-off, spent many hours in the elk reserve documenting weak and dead elk. His often-difficult images fueled protests and other forms of objection from the public. Although NPS has steadfastly maintained that these die-offs are "natural and predictable," under increased public pressure, the agency did eventually bring water and mineral supplements to the confined herds in the hot summer of 2021. The crest of that public outcry was a lawsuit filed by the Harvard Law Clinic in June 2021 over the NPS's treatment of the elk in the reserve, citing the Animal Rights Act."

And a quote from writer Ken Brower (son of legendary environmentalist David Brower): "it's about time Matthew got credit for the photographs that broke this open. The power of photography! We wouldn't have Yosemite and Yellowstone parks if it hadn't been for photographers (and painters) Watkins, Bierstadt, Moran, and others. When I was young, I worked with Ansel Adams on Sierra Club photo books. He was in that tradition- -photography as advocacy for parks and wilderness. Have I told this group the story of Kings Canyon before? My father and Ansel led the Sierra Club battle to establish Kings Canyon National Park. What swung the deal was when Harold Ickes, the secretary of the Interior, took Ansel's portfolio "Sierra Nevada: the John Muir Trail" into the Oval Office. FDR looked through and he was persuaded. So Kline joins that procession!"

Over the course of 16 years now, I have spent an extensive amount of time in the Reserve closely observing and documenting the majestic and iconic Tule Elk. It was my firsthand observations and documentations that uncovered and exposed the most recent catastrophic die-off. When I expressed my concern and disappointment to park staff and spoke out about my findings publicly in the news, through press releases, at rallies, and across social media, it was suggested by some NPS employees that I was misleading the public about the situation. This could not have been further from the truth. I am pleased that this truth is clearly evident to decision makers now.

Over the years I have worked closely with biologists and other environmental scientists from around the world, as well as NPS staff in other National Parks. I have always held such people, who are often like-minded, in high regard. This idea that I would intentionally mislead such individuals, NPS staff or the public about something as serious and personal to me as the die-off impacting these Tule Elk was always outrageous. As a professional wildlife photographer and camera operator for natural history films, I believe integrity is essential. Anyone who has worked with me or knows me well knows that I value it deeply. I appreciate the opportunity to express this and make it very clear to you now that my priority was always the well being of the Tule Elk during their most pressing time of need.

I would like to say that I wish NPS staff would have taken more of an initiative initially and shown more concern, curiosity, or even disappointment in what was happening to these beautiful intelligent sentient beings. Instead of getting defensive and insinuating error on the side of me - the observer/documentarian, it would have been wise for NPS staff to listen, to take my concerns more seriously, and to keep an open mind about my observations, documentations and my years of experience being around these Tule Elk, getting to know them quite well - easily over a thousand hours in their presence.

While there are still many painful reminders for me and a great deal of depression and despair from this whole traumatic situation, I am here but far too many Tule Elk are not. I do my best to remain hopeful that brighter days are on the horizon. I am hopeful that NPS staff finally agree that when it comes to the deadly Reserve fence, the status quo is unacceptable. It is also my hope that NPS staff will acknowledge that what has happened to the Tomales Point Tule Elk is unnatural, unethical, inhumane, and dishonorable. There is no better time to correct course on a bad situation, you just have to get started. It was not that long ago that I held this agency, the NPS, in high regard. I hope to get back to that feeling one day again. Please see this Alternative B plan through for the Tomales Point Area and please prioritize biodiversity and environmental health throughout our precious National Seashore - the one and only National Seashore on the West Coast.

Additional Insights, Thoughts, Concerns, Considerations:

In regards to the topic of water and the "Water Locations Map" that the NPS released after I went public with my observations and documentations of the ongoing Tule Elk die-off.

I took the map and examined it in detail and I went on a mission to investigate as many of the “water” locations identified by NPS staff as I could in the days and weeks after the map release. Some days I investigated areas of Tomales Point alone, other days I investigated with a documentary filmmaker friend of mine. What I found was startling to say the least. I must admit that I am still shocked that some of the locations on that map were identified as a water source at all. Other locations I am shocked were identified as a water source for a Tule Elk. I would estimate that I checked nearly 90% of the locations on the map and what I found was very clear to me - the Water Locations Map was deeply flawed.

I should mention that I documented my efforts to uncover these locations and gave, whomever made the map, the benefit of the doubt and looked far beyond the marked “water” location when I could not find any sign of water. This actually happened at quite a number of map locations.

Some map locations had no water whatsoever anywhere near the identified map location. Some locations had a puddles worth of water. Some locations had only mud. Some locations had enough water to provide a bird a drink but clearly not an adult Tule Elk. While yes there were indeed locations on the map that had water or a spring or seep and yes there was even a stock pond in the northern portion of the Reserve that never completely dried up (but came far too close), it was bewildering for me to try and make sense of how that map could so falsely identify so many completely inadequate “water” sources/locations or “water” sources/locations that were actually non-existent.

There were also locations that were identified that were barely accessible by me, crawling on my hands and knees. There were filthy little pothole size water spots that were completely inaccessible and surrounded by thorny brush with no signs of elk movement whatsoever to the location. Again it is my very strong opinion that the Water Locations Map was deeply flawed and utterly misleading.

Furthermore, I have asked this question to NPS staff on more than one occasion, and this question has always been ignored - How much water per day on average does an adult Tule Elk need, especially during the driest periods of the year? For whatever reason, I cannot get an answer to this question. Is this because NPS staff would clearly contradict the “water” sources map? Or is it perhaps because biologist at PRNS simply do not know? I believe that I read (correct me if I am wrong) that larger Rocky Mountain Elk need 5-7 gallons of freshwater a day. Can anyone at the NPS confirm this? If this is correct or even close to correct, I imagine that the smaller Tule Elk needs at least, at a minimum 1 gallon, 2 gallons, 3 gallons per day - at the minimum - is that reasonable to suggest?

The reason I would like to know this information or even an estimate or average is to better inform my observations and documentations as well as help assist NPS staff when it comes to the management of Tule Elk in PRNS.

Personally I have been proactive and doing my best to confront over-exaggerations, mis-identifications, or embellishments made against the NPS but the truth is that no one can control everything people say or feel about a charged or controversial situation - especially one in which sentient beings are dying en mass. I along with the grassroots organization I founded - Mission Rewild - has always strived to lead with integrity and honesty in our field observations and documentations. I appreciate the opportunity to make this clear to you and NPS staff, and I hope that these same values are held in high regard at 1 Bear Valley.

While I believe it makes sense to “discontinue provision of supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point” as the Alternative B plan calls for, I would argue that this practice should be phased out gradually over a longer term while careful monitoring of the herds is also undertaken. If some NPS staff indeed believe that some Tule Elk in the northern portion of the Reserve are completely unaware of the existence of the fence, then it only makes sense that these Tule Elk have supplemental water and

minerals phased out gradually. Even during this past summer I witnessed a herd with young approach a now defunct and unmaintained water trough, and this is after a historic winter full of rain. The conditions on the ground were far healthier than past years with more adequate water about, yet here a herd readily looked for water in this trough during one of the hottest and driest times of year. Furthermore, I believe it is a little presumptuous and shortsighted that anyone, let alone NPS staff, would suggest that these complex and social mammals would not naturally range out of this area if the fence were not there in the first place - especially when harsh drought conditions exist in the area. This is why monitoring is needed. While some of these Tule Elk in the northern portion of the Reserve may have never seen the fence (as NPS staff have said) - especially newborns and young as well as lead females of particular herds content in their chosen and established home ranges, I would not assume that they fail to communicate in a complex way in which it is clear there are risks and rewards to leading one's family group or herd in a direction where there is a shared understanding of obstruction, competition for resources, and risk of failure or even death, etc. Perhaps the Tule Elk do not have the ability to communicate with directional road signs and green and red arrows but I would not be so certain that they are dumb while still being complex mammals...then again I know of some other mammals that can be pretty dumb at times too. Nor would I sarcastically refer to their intelligence levels or limitations when our understanding of them is clearly very limited in scope and research funding. It should also be mentioned that some of these Tule Elk, especially young ones in the northern portion of the Reserve, never got the chance to see the fence because they did not make it through their first year alive, as I have observed and documented personally. It would be difficult for all the Tule Elk in the Reserve to see the fence, if so many in the Reserve keep dying.

Please consider repairing and/or improving the former stock ponds within the Reserve which have over the years become home to endangered California Red-legged Frogs among other species. These stock ponds are, in many cases, the most relied upon water sources for a number of Tule Elk herds as well.

The Alternative B plan suggests adding a fence to exclude cattle from Tomales Point. This is an absolute must. However, why, after decades of public ownership and management by the NPS, are there still cattle within this precious National Seashore at all? Leases should have been phased out years ago and many of the areas that cattle currently roam in should have been restored to native California Coastal Prairie habitat among other habitat types. California Coastal Prairie happens to be the most species rich grassland type in North America. There is roughly 2% of this unique habitat type left on Earth. What better place to restore such a habitat type than in PRNS. Please consider phasing out animal agriculture throughout PRNS completely and sooner than later. Rewild the area; let native flora and fauna do what they have for time immemorial.

Consider a wildlife friendly corridor for the Tule Elk to navigate easily through the Tomales Point area and adjacent areas when they need to. Ideally some of these Tule Elk should be able to mix with other herds like the Drake's Beach and Limantour Tule Elk. Please make sure that all fencing is removed from this wildlife friendly corridor and not just the 8 foot tall Reserve fence. Make sure leaseholders do not intentionally disturb Tule Elk moving through such a corridor. I recall one morning along the road at J Ranch (or Kehoe Ranch), a group of Tule Elk jump over a high barb wire fence into a heavily degraded cattle grazed area adjacent to the road and ranch. Unfortunately, the last bull to jump got tripped up on the top wire and flipped over mid-air and landed squarely on his back with a thud, it was so painful to watch, I can only imagine how painful it must have been for this individual bull. I know of other park goers having similar observations regarding the extensive amount of fencing in PRNS and its horrendous impact on wildlife here. This is unacceptable for a National Park. Wouldn't it be nice if there was no fencing at all in the entire National Seashore?

On more than one occasion, I have heard NPS staff make the statement that during the 2012-2015 die-off in the Reserve, Tule Elk were not regularly seen near the fence. While this may be technically correct within very narrowly defined parameters, I do not agree with it because overall context matters. While I have regularly seen Tule Elk at the fence, even touching noses and antlers with individuals outside the enclosure over the years, and it remains a common area to spot Tule Elk, it is very important to understand that the larger established herds in the Reserve lay claim to more valuable foraging and more easily accessible watering spots not immediately adjacent or along the fence or in the dense coyote brush near it or steeper ravines before it but on the plateaus and lush hillsides most suitable to their needs. These areas are larger with more grass, safer and more inline with the Tule Elk's nature. If park staff had taken this under consideration during the die-off of 2012-2015, they would have likely noticed that more herds than usual, including some large bull bachelor groups were roaming the areas that I speak of.

More consideration and research is needed on the potential benefits and risks vs rewards for utilizing fire or prescribed burns as a management tool for the Tomales Point area. Please look further into this, but not immediately after removing the fence. While the area is almost an oasis when compared to heavily degraded cattle grazed pastures, there is an abundance of non-native grasses and plants in some areas choking out opportunities for Coastal Prairie restoration and rewilding. There are even areas within the Reserve with Eucalyptus stands that should be up for consideration of removal and restored with native trees instead. Some tree stands in the Reserve provide important habitat for multiple species and these trees are extremely efficient at pulling moisture from the fog laden air providing lush areas within their vicinity. The NPS should carefully consider what non-native trees should be removed while also considering what alternatives are available to continue providing a small but pretty important habitat at Tomales Point. Of course these shade providing tree stands and small lush riparian areas in the Reserve have proven very important, during ever-more frequent drought years, not only to the Tule Elk but numerous other wildlife - careful consideration is needed on this matter.

I believe that illegal Tule Elk antler poaching happens in the Reserve more than one might imagine. I have seen and reported this but like so many other concerns, observations and documentations, I fear it could have fallen on deaf ears. On one occasion I witnessed two individuals come ashore at a quiet beach area in the northern portion of the Reserve by way of kayak. They took an impressive set of antlers back to the eastern shore with them. As you know there are a number of little coves and beaches in the Tomales Point area, even some beaches that campers set up at. The NPS should consider more monitoring of kayakers and campers along the Tomales Bay checking for Tule Elk antler poaching. More enforcement of violations against visitors who take their dogs on walks at Tomales Point would also be a good thing.

Now, I would like to include a more recent quote from Dr. Judd Howell as I believe he sums up a number of things worth your consideration: "As a certified wildlife biologist and retired member of the U.S. Department of the Interior, I conducted research about the tule elk at Pierce Point in Point Reyes National Seashore during the 1990s. The studies included elk population dynamics, habitat use, foraging behavior, food preferences and vegetation sampling to better understand long-term trends. I also helped build a number of exclosures. During the large elk die off several years ago, I think the penned in herd at Pierce Point hit a choke point. Severe drought probably did dry up water sources and limited forage. Having individuals with Johne's disease likely contributed to heavy mortality in that population. To hear that park officials are stating that there are a number of water sources there now (or have been observed recently) does not mean they were there during crunch time. Personally and professionally, I am for free-ranging elk and the posthaste phasing out of the ranches that have really overstayed their welcome. Historically, Point Reyes likely had up to 5,000 tule elk. Now it likely has more than 7,000 head

of cattle, yet ranchers are complaining about a few hundred elk. These are our lands. The park is the heritage of our children, grandchildren and beyond. Ranching has a place in our society but not at our National Seashore." - Dr. Judd Howell

Conclusions:

Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) has always been a very special place for me ever since I started hiking and photographing here many years ago. When it comes to the Reserve, I like to recall the many peaceful and rewarding experiences I have had along this beautiful and unique stretch of the Peninsula. And when it comes to the Tule Elk, they have had and continue to have a very profound impact on my life. Today, I often take my 3 year old son and even my baby girl to visit the Tule Elk. My son has already had some pretty incredible experiences - this is exactly the kind of thing that a National Park should provide. Visiting this area of the Seashore can feel as though one is at the end of the Earth in a way, the last bit of North America before the vastness of the Pacific Ocean. Before moving to West Marin, I remember waking up hours before sunrise to take the long drive out to this wild edge and immerse myself in the magic that awaited me. Please give a helping hand to this magic wild edge - I believe that is the core mission of the National Park Service and also the reason behind why PRNS was founded in the first place.

As for the Tule Elk, I would like to finish with these words that I wrote for the Mission Rewild website (MissionRewild.org). A website that I started to help assist in this journey to see PRNS live up to its highest ideals and greatest potential: "What a profound feeling it must have been for those who had a hand in saving the tule elk from the brink of extinction in the last two centuries. We are all better off and forever indebted to those who did such honorable work. Nevertheless, it's now the 21st Century, and if you ask me if the work is anywhere near complete, I would say we are just beginning. The tule elk story is one to continue writing. A voice for this majestic wild one, is a voice for the past, present and future of California."

Thank you Superintendent Kenkel and NPS staff for your time and consideration. You have the opportunity to be a voice for the Tule Elk at this historical moment in time. Thank you for proposing to remove the Tomales Point fence and free the Tomales Point Tule Elk once and for all. Please understand that my writing may have included a little frustration and even anger in tone at times, but this is simply because I truly love the Tule Elk and I love our Seashore and want to see the very best version of itself.

Please consider visiting MissionRewild.org to learn more about my time in PRNS and/or consider getting in touch with me to learn more about the Tomales Point planning area, I live nearby and I am easy to find out and about in our special Seashore.

Thank you Sincerely, Matthew Polvorosa Kline

www.polverosakline.com

www.missionrewild.org

Correspondence ID: 6106

Please remove your elk killing fence. Please enable access to potable water for the elk anytime they need it. Thankyou for your attention to their wellbeing.

Correspondence ID: 6107

Please take down the fence. Wild animals in this country are struggling to survive thanks to climate change and man's behavior. If we don;t do something we will lose them all. Removing the fence is a

small action with great ramifications. Let's give the beautiful, majestic Elk a fighting chance. Thank you very much. Sincerely, Theresa Roach

Correspondence ID: 6108

September 24, 2023

Superintendent Craig Kenkel
National Park Service
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Superintendent Kenkel and the National Park Service,

My name is Matthew Polvorosa Kline - I am the founder and director of Mission Rewild, a grassroots organization that I founded in 2021. One of the reasons that I founded this organization was out of love for this truly unique and geographically significant Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) - a National Park that I have personally spent more time in than any other. One of the goals of Mission Rewild is to see this only National Seashore on the West Coast live up to its greatest potential, the very best version of itself.

In just under a year our petition on Change.org titled "Free the Tule Elk at Tomales Point" has garnered over 1,850 signatures. Our 1,850 plus supporters would like to see the Alternative B plan: Unconfined Elk Herd and Pierce Ranch Core Area implemented.

Here is the full text of the petition that over 1,850 people have signed on to so far:

"Hello Matthew Polvorosa Kline is a wildlife photographer and filmmaker (@polvorosa_kline) who has been documenting the lives of Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) for over 15 years. These magnificent animals have had a profound impact on him and he wants to speak up on their behalf - "I have witnessed far too much pain, suffering and unnatural death afflicted upon these beautiful animals. I continue to document and speak up about this tragedy, one that has already claimed the lives of hundreds of these elk thus far. It was my firsthand observations that led to a lawsuit against the National Park Service for their neglect and mismanagement of these elk back in 2021, the same year I later founded Mission Rewild to further assist in these endeavors."

Further Information:

The rare and iconic Tule Elk, a flagship species endemic (native) to California, was once thought to be extinct. Today a few thousand of these majestic wild mammals still survive in a number of disconnected "islands" scattered through the state. This remains a sad representation of what was once a population of 500,000 animals not long ago.

In the only National Seashore on the entire West Coast - Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS), one such disconnected herd of Tule Elk continues to suffer catastrophic die-offs most noticeably observed during ever-more frequent drought years. This is actually preventable.

The Tomales Point Tule Elk that we are referring to are inhumanely forced to try and survive behind an 8ft tall woven wire fence inside a so-called "reserve." They are unnaturally prevented from roaming elsewhere in the National Seashore when poor conditions on the ground in the form of inadequate water supplies, a lack of adequate forage and essential minerals exists. Hundreds of these wild, beautiful, social, and intelligent Tule Elk have suffered and died as a result of this horrific enclosure. This

fence that keeps these wildlife from being free might have a place in a zoo, but it has no place in a National Park.

This is our public land. These Tule Elk have suffered enough. We implore the National Park Service (NPS) to remove the entire 8ft tall fence and refrain from putting any fencing or other obstructions in its place. We ask the NPS to heal the scar that this fence has left not only on the land but on its wild inhabitants. The NPS in PRNS should protect the very unique wildlife with which they have been entrusted - Free the Tule Elk and help us take down the fence once and for all.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, please help us by signing and sharing this petition."

Mission Rewild would like to thank you Superintendent Kenkel and the National Park Service for this opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan. We are grateful that the NPS has announced a preferred Alternative B proposal to remove the deadly 8-foot tall fence at the Tule Elk Reserve - allowing the Tomales Point Tule Elk freedom in our National Seashore once and for all. We are grateful that the NPS is considering this important step, and thank you for your consideration in moving this plan forward.

Sincerely, Matthew Polvorosa Kline

Founder & Director

MISSION REWILD

www.MissionRewild.org

Based in Marin County, California

Correspondence ID: 6109

Save the Tule Elk!

I have visited Point Reyes National Seashore Park near Carmel, California. It is truly beautiful. The Tule Elk are majestic animals that need to be free to roam.

Sadly elk have died from being contained within a fence.

I am excited to learn of a possible collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in a plan for Tomales Point. This is a win-win proposal. This will lead to improved management of Tomales Point.

Please save the elk, butterflies and all wildlife for future generations.

Correspondence ID: 6111

As an advocate for the Tule elk,

I support Alternative B and the removing of the 8 foot elk fence.

These endemic elk need to roam free to find water and forage.

We must protect wildlife in PRNS, particularly the iconic and majestic Tule elk.

Please support Alternative B.

Sincerely, Joyce C. Killingsworth

Correspondence ID: 6112

I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, which would remove the 8-foot-tall wire and post fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Release this largest of the park's three herds of Tule elk from fenced confinement. Fences to confine any animals do not belong in Point Reyes or any national park unit.

In addition, please officially rescind the current regulation in the General Management Plan allowing killing of elk in the other two herds, because herds may intermingle when the fence is removed. I oppose all lethal "management" of any wild animals at Point Reyes and in any national park.

Finally, the Seashore's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed because they expose elk to numerous hazards; massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the privately owned ranches in the park. The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease.

Hundreds of miles of wire and barbed wire fences do not belong in this national park or any other. They restrict the public's access and negatively impact the free movements of wild animals which the park is legislated to value above all other considerations — especially commercial, for-profit businesses that only lease land in the park.

I thank the National Park Service for requesting and considering public comments on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 6113

I support the Alternative B as the best of the options presented.

I would also like to see the elimination of cattle grazing in the Wilderness, as well as the removal of ALL man-made utilities.

Correspondence ID: 6114

I'm writing to respectfully voice my support for option B, including fence removal. I understand the situation is contentious, ranchers may be adversely impacted, and hope due compensation and consideration are given to them. That said, I wholly believe option B is in keeping with sound wildlife ecology and management for the long haul and applaud your commitment to doing due diligence in thinking through the cascading impacts of this decision.

Correspondence ID: 6115

Growing up in Marin County in the 1980's I loved the nature and wildlife, including these Wild Elk. Realizing now that for years these animals have been unfairly treated by the state is very troubling and angering to me. I am so disappointed and sad about this.

But now there is an option to actually allow the Elk to roam to their water sources, naturally, this is how it should be. Thank you for THIS OPTION.

To cater to Special Interests like Cattle Business in the area or Sheep..whatever-they CAN NO LONGER TRUMP THE SPECIAL WILD TULE ELK IN THE AREA OVER THEM.

It is high time that COI's conflicts of interests stand down and Bad Actors GET OUT of THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, as The People's thoughts and feelings TOTALLY MATTER AND ALWAYS SHOULD, So please

listen to the people of America and take MUCH BETTER CARE OF WILDLIFE LIKE THESE ELK THAT COULD BECOME EXTINCT DUE TO COI'S AND BAD ACTORS.

Please do the right thing and make these Wild TULE Elk REBOUND AND BE HAPPY-THEN AMERICANS AND LOCALS TOO WILL BE VERY APPRECIATIVE & HAPPY TOO.

Equity matters for the Elk and The People (the public). Livestock are not as important as WILD ELK. AND OTHER WILDLIFE.

Thank you, Cambria Smith

ps same issues here in northern Nevada over Wild Horses being abused and/or neglected in ways that include fencing them off from forage/water. Not acceptable to THE PUBLIC ANYMORE-they see it is for RANCHERS SPECIAL INTERESTS.

Correspondence ID: 6116

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 6117

Please tear down the lethal fence impacting native Free Point Reyes Tule Elk populations. Please work/collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to come up with a management plan and foster positive/meaningful relationships with them and promote the wellbeing of the animals simultaneously.

Correspondence ID: 6119

From my understanding the fence was erected for ranchers. For profit ranchers grazing cows (by lease) on public lands. Why is a national park not giving priority over all these years to biodiversity and ecological concerns? Why prioritize for profit cattle? It's long overdue. Please remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 6120

I strongly urge you to support a free roaming elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 6121

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Most importantly, I am writing to personally thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan. After reviewing this plan, with the help of information from the Center For Biological Diversity, it is apparent to me that this plan provides better protection for (a.) natural & (b.) cultural resources, while at the same time, considering a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd.

I strongly SUPPORT Alternative B, REMOVING the elk fence and ALLOWING an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam NATURALLY, and provide the BEST approach to preserving the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Based on articles & research I've read, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped

animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam FREE and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Kind Regards,

Joel P. Cleveland

Correspondence ID: 6124

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 6125

The best option is Alternative B, however, some changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

The Park Service needs to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6126

Please help these rare animals survive by considering the following:

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 6127

Remove this stupid death fence already! Ranchers do NOT own this land.

Correspondence ID: 6129

Hello,

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 6131

Please protect our endangered species with better planning

Correspondence ID: 6133

Hello

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 6134

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

There should be not use of herbicides in wilderness areas.

Correspondence ID: 6135

Please protect animals in this area

Correspondence ID: 6136

I hope they do this soon, It is longgg overdue!

Correspondence ID: 6137

I am in favor of Alternative B, removing the fence on Tomales Point that has kept the Elk herd captive. The fence needs to be removed.

Thank you

Michele Egan

Correspondence ID: 6138

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that frees the amazing tule elk that must live free on Tomales Point. I support Alternative B and ask you to remove the fence ASAP. My husband and I visit Pt. Reyes National Seashore often and it always pains us to see the tule elk penned up and trapped -- and vulnerable to drought.

I am pleased to hear that the Park Service has a plan to collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. It is long past time that Tribal knowledge was incorporated into the management plan for Tomales Point.

Now -- as you work to free our beautiful Tule elk, let's get rid of all that ice plant too and all the other invasive plants so our experience of this precious wilderness is a natural one.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6139

We have visited over 100 National Parks and Monuments over the years, and I am personally a Junior Ranger at more than 20 of them now that my sons don't want to any more. We really wanted to see some tule elk when we were at Point Reyes National Seashore. I am glad to see that the Tomales Point Area Plan better protects both natural and cultural resources, as well as considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, to remove the elk fence and allow an unconfined elk herd. This will allow the elk to roam naturally and best preserve the wilderness of Tomales Point.

The current elk fence has not helped the elk herd in the long-term, causing periodic die-offs during droughts, requiring emergency water supplies, and reducing the herd's genetic mix by keeping this herd separate from the other elk herds. Free the elk!

I fully support a collaborative management plan with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional knowledge and to highlight Tribal history and cultural resources.

There are some improvements to Alternative B:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness should be done in a non-motorized way. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for the removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how these removals would happen. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is clearly an installation which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Please add this to Alternative B.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6140

Thank you for opportunity. I started to draft a custom letter for your consideration of Diane and my views...but the fact is the CBD form letter states our position better than my draft. So Diane and I endorse and support this CBD letter and ask you to take steps to protect the elk and other wildlife”

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk

Correspondence ID: 6141

You must comply with the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act. Alternative B comes closest, but the illegal water installations must be removed by non-motorized means, the PG&E power line must be removed, herbicides must not be used, and you should institute a policy of controlled burns for fire prevention.

Correspondence ID: 6142

1) I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its

Environmental Assessment, to remove the 8-foot-tall fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore. Yes, please release this largest of the park's 3 herds of Tule elk from their fenced confinement.

2) a. Fences do not belong in Point Reyes or in any other national park unit. Fences alter animal behavior, sometimes subtly, sometime fatally. Fences can affect the natural migrations, foraging and mating of wildlife. Fences can cut or otherwise injure — and even kill — animals who attempt to cross between them or jump over them.

b. An additional 300 miles of barbed and straight wire fences should also be removed; they do not belong in this national park, or any other. Many of them, including recently installed fences are not even wildlife friendly. All cattle fences should be removed.

c. In addition all the cattle fences restrict the public's access to 28,000 acres of Point Reyes — which is 1/3rd the entire park — have been fenced off for these private businesses which have no place in a national park.

2) Please officially rescind the current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan which allows shooting elk to death in the other two herds as population control measures. Because with the Reserve fence gone, the park's three herds may intermingle, as they should for herd health. I oppose ALL lethal “management” of ANY wild animals at Point Reyes.

3) The NPS' Environmental Assessment for Tomales Point (viewable [HERE](#)) recommends removing the current water tanks and troughs (aka, supplemental water) from the Reserve — but this action should be delayed for at least two years from the date of the fence removal. Drought conditions may return and more elk might die of thirst, especially in the northernmost herds at Tomales Point, so supplemental water may be needed again. It is both efficient and economical to leave the tanks and troughs in place should the need arise to refill them. Over a few years time, they can be removed, once all the Reserve's elk have learned they can now, with the fence removed, move naturally to additional water sources in times of drought

4) The park's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed. Cattle operations expose elk to numerous hazards, including massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle which contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the park's ranches and can infect elk.

5) The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease. Cows-for-profit are the source of the disease problem, not wild elk. Ranchers often blame the park's elk for infecting their cows with Johne's, a “wasting” disease, despite their thousands of cows, crowded together, being the breeding ground for this and other ungulate diseases, which are common in cattle operations.

The park's private cattle have infected the park's wild elk, not the other way around. Ranchers then blame the victimized elk, when it is their filthy, crowded businesses (which exploit cows too) that are responsible for bringing Johne's disease to the Point Reyes peninsula — and infecting the Tule elk herds — in the first place.

6) I visit Point Reyes often [or only occasionally] and I come to enjoy the wildlife, not the private cattle operations which degrade the land, pollute the water, harm and kill wildlife. Cattle businesses are brutal on cows, are eyesores in the park, and have no business being here in a national park.

7) Thank you, National Park Service for considering my, and the public's comments on this very important issue. [Etc. Be polite and respectful for maximum impact with the government and the public which will have access to a record of these Public Comments.]

Correspondence ID: 6144

Please choose Alternative B and remove existing fencing that confines Tule Elk and prevents the elk from freely roaming their home landscape as wildlife. Restore natural water and forage resources for these elk. Remove commercial livestock grazing from the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. The new plan must reflect that the elk will need extra land and all available resources to survive weather extremes. It is completely inappropriate for commercial grazing operations to take precedence over the Tule Elk. Private cattle do not belong in a National Seashore usurping its habitat.

Correspondence ID: 6145

When I heard about the Point, Reyes elk, I immediately paid attention. Because I have been to Point Reyes. Such a beautiful place. The elk need to be set free. Please tear down the fence that is keeping them. Please engage in a management system with others that will help protect the elk for now and into the future.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6148

The plan to remove the Tule elk fence and all water tanks and temporary water systems installed in the Philip Burton Wilderness during the most recent drought, fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character

- The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.
- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. The Park Service

needs to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6149

Why is it that the animals always have to pay with their lives, because humans cannot figure out how to live along with them? Ghandi said you can judge the humanity of a civilization by the way it treats its animals. This is not just domestic animals, but wild animals as well. Native Americans lived along with their wild animal brothers, long before we came on the scene. Unfortunately, they faced the same treatment as their wild neighbors. We blamed this on a primitive society and government of the time. Well, supposedly we are a more civilized society, so we should expect more civilized solutions. We need to protect our wild animals and let them live a decent existence, not kill them off because they are inconvenient to our land grabs. We are already taking all their habitat, we should not also take their lives. The American buffalo know all too well this scenario.

They deserve better, we deserve better policies.

If Alternative B is the best we have, then I can support this program, as long as it is a collaborative effort including the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

The elk are an enhancement to the area, and only represent an obstacle, to the greedy land grab.

We need to do the right thing for the animals, for once.

W.E.Young

Correspondence ID: 6150

It's time to choose compassion and empathy over politics and economics!! DO THE RIGHT THING!!!

Correspondence ID: 6152

I support Alternative B, which best respects the area's status as Wilderness. I am opposed to Alternatives A and C, as they would degrade the Wilderness and endanger the rare Tule elk. Cattle grazing in Point Reyes should be eliminated, as it is inconsistent with the area's status as a national seashore. This would be in accordance with the original agreement establishing the seashore. Finally, the PG&E power line should be removed, as it does not belong in a designated Wilderness. Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 6153

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 6155

I am writing in support of Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk at Pierce Point. This should result in healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support working with Indigenous groups to utilize traditional ecological knowledge in developing management plans.

Lastly, I very strongly support the phase-out of ranching in Pt. Reyes National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 6156

I support removing the fences and letting the elk roam free. option B

Correspondence ID: 6157

As a former wildlife rehabilitator, a Commissioner on the Sonoma County Fish & Wildlife Commission, and a long time advocate for wildlife, I support the NPS Preferred Alternative B, which removes the elk fence on Tomales Point. Please let these elk finally roam free.

To me, it has always been a complete disgrace that our native wildlife - in this case Tule elk - are behind a fence for the purpose of benefitting cattle in a national park. In addition, the park employees seemed to think it was perfectly ok to fence these animals without any monitoring at all. When these elk were in need of water and minerals, nothing happened until a couple of years ago when public outcry finally forced them to bring in water and minerals. Because of prior neglect on at least two occasions many elk died.

I believe that during the period when the elk are transitioning from fenced in land where they have spent their entire lives, they should be monitored. It may take a long time for the elk to realize the fence is down and that they are free to wander. Some may never leave. I don't believe you should just take the fence down and wash your hands of it. Keep an eye on those elk and give them support if they need it.

Cattle should not be allowed on Tomales Point, and, in fact, I hope those ranches will soon be gone. Those cattle are causing a lot of problems for the environment. The public is not allowed on much of the land that is part of the park because of the ranches. It is way past time for them to go. The cattle could expose the elk to Johnne's disease.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 6158

I write in support of Preferred Alternative B which would remove the fence which constrains California's native Tule Elk to an insufficient grazing area.

The analysis details the positive effects fence removal would have on not only the elk, but also native plants and cultural practices. Fence removal would have an additionally positive outcome for the visitor experience, allowing us to appreciate this majestic and still too rare species in a more natural environment.

Correspondence ID: 6159

Free the Tule Elk that are in the Philip Burton Wilderness!!!! Animals are not ours to keep, own....hurt. Let them be free and enjoy their life as we would want to do.

Correspondence ID: 6160

We are happy to learn that NPS has taken our suggestion to remove the elk fence. We hope that this is a first step in planning for a gradual transition from the current ranching leases to a national seashore free from private enterprise.

We have 3 comments based on a review of the TPAP:

1. We feel strongly that NPS should begin the process of restoring the land from the effects of ranching NOW, not by ending existing leaseholds but by allowing them to end based on the larger economic forces at work here, including the fact that ranching is no longer profitable within PRNS, even with subsidized rents and NPS assistance. To this end, we urge NPS to continue the policy of short-term leases rather than granting the 20-year leases sought by ranchers. And leaseholders should be required to live on their ranches within the seashore.

Many of the people currently employed by private ranches could be hired to do the needed restoration work on ranches where the leaseholders have given up ranching.

2. We welcome the renewed commitment of NPS to work with Indigenous People on all aspects of planning and work in the seashore. We also believe that this commitment needs to be broadened to include more than FIGR (Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria). We recognize that FIGR is the federally-recognized Tribe for the Coast Miwok people, but the range of interests and concerns is much broader than the official Tribe, and should be included in planning and implementation of NPS policies in TPAP. For example, the Coast Miwok Tribal Council of Marin, dedicated to education and to preservation of Coast Miwok culture, brings a different perspective to the table and should be encouraged to participate along with FIGR and other Indigenous Coast Miwok groups or individuals.

3. In addition to MUCH more information and education about the Indigenous period at what is now PRNS (which goes back as much as 8,000 years), it is appropriate to inform visitors about the ranching era (going back 175 years). For this purpose we propose making Pierce Point Ranch into a living exhibit of dairy ranching on the Point, including not only buildings and informative signs but a demonstration dairy ranch with a small confined herd of cows which would be milked for butter and cheese production and sale onsite.

Thank you,

Charles Gay

Pamela Ross

Correspondence ID: 6161

I have seen these amazing animals on many occasions and felt pride in living so close to them, never dreaming of the cruelty that awaited them.

Please, the best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 6162

Via Online Form

June 4, 2024

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment - Support for Alternative B

Dear Acting Superintendent Altman:

I write in strong support for the Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore.

I am a regular visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore who has hiked its incredible beaches and trails for more than 20 years. I am drawn to Point Reyes for its natural beauty, its wildness, and its abundant wildlife. It is not an exaggeration to say that Point Reyes National Seashore is the reason I still live in California, and it is the resource in California that I cherish most. I believe that the Park should be managed to preserve and enhance its wildness and its wildlife for the benefit of the public at large.

The long-term confinement of the Tomales herd has been devastating to the herd and to the ecological health of Tomales Point. It is critical that the Park Service act now to remove the fence that confines the Tomales herd, restore elk and other wildlife habitat throughout the Seashore, and prioritize wildlife over agricultural operations. Alternative B is an important step in that direction—and is the humane thing to do—including because it will:

1. **Improve the Health of the Tule Elk Herd:** As an endemic species, the tule elk should be able to engage in natural movement and foraging behaviors unimpeded by the 3 miles of artificial 8 foot elk fencing. Removing the elk fence will restore their ability to roam freely and find sufficient food and water sources throughout the National Seashore, and minimize the risk of the types of massive, horrifying die-offs suffered by the Tomales herd during recent droughts.
2. **Improve Genetic Diversity for the Seashore's Tule Elk:** The current confined conditions increase the risk of inbreeding depression and reduce genetic diversity for this unique herd. Providing access to a larger range helps maintain gene flow and genetic variability of the free-ranging tule elk herds of the Point Reyes peninsula.
3. **Improve the Ecological Health of Tomales Point:** Confinement of Tomales Point elk herd to a small area of the National Seashore has led to overgrazing, habitat degradation, and mass die-offs of elk during historic drought years. Allowing elk to roam beyond the planning area will improve ecological function and processes at Tomales Point.
4. **Respect and Account for the Cultural Significance of the Tule Elk:** The tule elk holds great cultural and spiritual importance for the Coast Miwok peoples, who are indigenous to this region. Alternative B provides opportunities for further consultation and coordination with Tribal partners, building on opportunities such as employing prescribed fire and incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge to steward natural and cultural resources at Tomales Point.
5. **Greatly Improve the Visitor Experience:** Like me, many visitors come to Point Reyes to view wildlife in their natural state. Removing the elk fence and permitting the tule elk to roam free will create more opportunities for visitors to observe and appreciate these magnificent animals in an open, natural setting.

I urge you to move forward with your preferred alternative—Alternative B—and remove the elk fence at Tomales Point immediately. This decision aligns with the mission of the National Park Service to enhance the character of the Phillip Burton Wilderness and is mandated by the Park's very purpose of saving and preserving a portion of the nation's diminishing seashore for the public benefit "without impairment of its natural values" and in a manner that is "supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Melissa Samet, Esq

Correspondence ID: 6163

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the

Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Correspondence ID: 6164

I support free roaming elk. Afterall they were here first.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 6165

I support alternative B and would like to get rid of the tule elk fence. They are wildlife that should be able to roam free. Please do away with the elk fence!

Correspondence ID: 6167

I am writing to strongly support Alternative B and the removal of the fence that holds Tule Elk captive. These beautiful creatures attract visitors to Tomales Point and have been treated almost like animals in a zoo -- except with no ongoing commitment to ensure that they have adequate food and water. It is hard to imagine a zoo that only provided food and water to the animals kept there when circumstances became so dire that the zoo faced public pressure. Yet that is essentially what has been occurring for years with respect to the Tule Elk. I hope that we are better than this.

Correspondence ID: 6168

As a resident of Marin county who lives near the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, and has protested the suffering of the Tule Elk, I believe the Tule Elk fence must come down, and I very glad that the NPS believes in righting a long-time wrong by preferring Plan B for the future of the Point Reyes park and these beautiful wild animals. However I would like to know more about a plan to build a "cattle fence." Please consider that wild life needs for water and food should come first on federal park land

No wild elk herd should be confined and culled when the purpose of National Parks is to protect US wild life and allow them to roam freely. The Tomales Point Area is not a zoo with a Tule Elk exhibit.

Thank you so much for Plan B.

Correspondence ID: 6169

Please support Alternative B.

Seeing tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore is the highlight of any visit to West Marin.

It is inhumane to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach. The situation on the peninsula for Tule Elk continues to deteriorate.

Removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

Correspondence ID: 6171

Wilderness is a gift to all. In reviewing all the options, the best option is Alternative B, the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice to protect and maximize wilderness. Unfortunately and sadly, alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk, which no one wants.

Some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered and include:

-removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

-Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

-Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

-Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

-Critical to Wilderness is to allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

- to maximize Wilderness, remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure that diminishes the

undeveloped character of the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALL WILDLIFE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND ALL HUMANS, THESE ARE THE HEALTHY, RIGHT, FAIR, JUST AND HUMANE ACTIONS TO TAKE TO KEEP THE WILDERNESS WILD!

Correspondence ID: 6172

PLEASE FREE THE TULE ELK:

= The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

= Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without using motor vehicles.

= Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for the removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without addressing how removing the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fences would happen. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

= Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should no longer be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

= Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and mitigate against invasive plant expansion.

=Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too frequent use of manager-ignited fire tends to favor non-native invasive plants.

= Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

PLEASE FREE THE TULE ELK... ##

Correspondence ID: 6173

I approve of the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. Barbara Dailey

Correspondence ID: 6174

The best option is Alternative B,. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness ANYMORE as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6175

I was happy to see that work is being done to consider a new management plan for the Point Reyes Tule Elk herd. Removing the elk fence will allow the animals to roam and behave naturally within the park.

I also am in total agreement with the proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. Who better to lend their tribal history and cultural resources to best manage and enhance the habitat not only for the elk but all of the area's wildlife.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 6176

Please support a free-roaming elk herd and collaborative management plan!

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic

viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 6177

Stop destroying the wildlife! Humans must become guardians for all not the destroyers of all!

Correspondence ID: 6178

Tule elk are the smallest and rarest subspecies of elk in North America, and they deserve everything we can do for them! Removal of fences and other structures by non-motorized means is best for these animals, as well as adhering to other strictures set forth by the wilderness agreement. Please put their needs first!

Correspondence ID: 6180

Sir or Madam:

I recommend Option C as the best choice for the Tomales Point Area Plan: remove the structures in the wilderness. Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence.

I also recommend removing cattle and the fence just outside the TP Area . This would allow for better distribution of Tule elk. The elk would help control invasive plants.

Natural fires should be allowed to burn and shape the wilderness landscape.

Finally, remove the PG&E power line.

Thank you!

Sincerely, Tim Durnell

Correspondence ID: 6181

Tule elk are majestic, highly social animals native to California — and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live. But instead of letting them move around naturally, the National Park Service has maintained a fence that artificially confines a herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Finally, thanks to public outrage and a flood of comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters, the Park Service is proposing to tear down this lethal fence, letting elk roam freely in the park once again.

The agency is also proposing a management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 6182

I support Alternative B, which is also the preferred choice of the NPS. The removal of fences is key to saving the Tule elk and implementing the core values of Wilderness.

Alternatives A and C should be rejected, due to further endangering both the Wilderness and Tule elk.

Unfortunately Alternative B does not go far enough. Therefore, the following improvements should be considered:

Unauthorized small structures, such as water troughs, should be removed without the use of motors. This can easily be achieved on foot, without the use of any vehicles.

The EA does not mention how the removal of water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would be achieved. A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is required to address these issues, and must be used to efficiently analyze Alternative B.

All cattle should be removed with immediate effect. The damage ranching has inflicted on the Point Reyes Wilderness and its wildlife over the decades, is absolutely unacceptable. The original agreement regarding the seashore must be adhered to, which does not include any rights to graze the land.

If Tule elk are given their freedom, with the removal of fences, the shortest of invasive plants will naturally be reduced. The use of herbicides should therefore be banned in the Wilderness.

Invasive, non-native plants tend to fare better than native plants in response to deliberate controlled fires. Fires should be left to burn naturally; shaping and strengthening the Wilderness accordingly, without human intervention.

Power lines should not be present within Wilderness. PG&E must remove their equipment. This should be clearly stated in

Alternative B, alongside methods to remove it without motors, in order to restore the character of the Point Reyes Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6184

I am against fencing that kills elk, whether or not that is the intent. Our wild animals are of great importance to me.

Sincerely, Robert Brown

Correspondence ID: 6185

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing the elk to roam

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused an unspeakable amount of damage. The deaths are unnecessary, cruel and unusual.

Please remove the fence.

Correspondence ID: 6186

Thanks for your hard work.

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Tule elk could mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions.

Remove the PG&E power line. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B.

Thanks, Joe

Correspondence ID: 6187

I suspect the elk were in the area long before the cattle ranches.

I believe the leases for this land between the Park Service and the ranchers have long expired.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

I suspect the elk were in the area long before the cattle ranches.

I believe the leases for this land between the Park Service and the ranchers have long expired.

It's time, once again to let these majestic animals run free.

Please tear down the fence!

Correspondence ID: 6188

To Whom It May Concern:

Over the years my wife and I have visited Pt Reyes National Seashore many times.

I've always wondered "Why the fences in the Wilderness Area?" Now I know.

In your current review and assessment I strongly advocate that you select Alternative B with some additional enhancements as well. To preserve the wilderness features of this area, please remove the Tomales Point elk fence to allow the elk to roam as they please. Please remove the water structures but do so without any motors, to concur with the dictum of the Wilderness Act regarding their use. Eliminate

the cattle by following these same wilderness guidelines, And do the same by removing the PG&E power line.

Let the wilderness be the wilderness! Thank you for your wise custodianship of the timeless resource by righting the mistakes of the past.

Mel Preusser

Correspondence ID: 6189

I am writing to express my support for Alternative B, removal of the barriers to allow tule elk to be free. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6191

Let the elk live in peace!!

Correspondence ID: 6196

I support the plan to take down the fence and let Tule Elk roam free!!

Correspondence ID: 6197

Alternative B

Remove all tanks, troughs and other structures

No cattle

No herbicides

No power lines

This what must happen, this what the public majority (who pay your salaries) want to see happen.

Correspondence ID: 6198

The mass die-off of tule elk was a needless tragedy and was difficult to witness as the Park Service delayed helping these captive wildlife. The Park Service needs to take down the fence immediately and let the elk roam free to access water and other resources they need.

Correspondence ID: 6199

Let these creatures roam in their natural habitat without fences!!

Correspondence ID: 6200

Dear Superintendent,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide public commentary on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I'm writing to add my support for Alternative B. Alternative B is the best option for improving Tule Elk herd health and the visitor experience.

Rodger Silvers

Correspondence ID: 6203

The Wilderness Act of 1964 established federal areas designated by Congress to be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in a manner that leaves them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness. The Wilderness Act provides for the protection and preservation of their wilderness character.

To best fulfill the goals of the Act for the Tomales Point Area Plan the preferred option would be Alternative B. The other Alternatives would have greater detrimental impact on the Wilderness; however, additional modifications to Alternative B would more strongly the alternative with the spirit and goals of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Among changes that would improve Alternative B would be the removal of the Tule elk fence. Climate change has adversely impacted elk survival by forcing them to increase their foraging and grazing range. With a fence impeding the area that this rare elk can find food survival will be adversely impacted.

Cattle compete with elk. Grazing cattle in Wilderness areas not only have detrimental impacts on the wilderness itself but violate the spirit and the purpose of the Act. The infrastructure associated with cattle grazing harms both the plants and animals that depend on an intact Wilderness for survival.

I would urge you to give serious consideration to Alternative B with modifications.

Correspondence ID: 6205

The Tule Elk have suffered long enough with the fence confining them to one part of the Seashore preventing them migrating to find food and water resources. Some have died. I support Alternative B. Please take down the fence and allow the Tule Elk a natural life and promote a healthier herd. Also phase out cattle operations in the National Seashore and return this land to wildlife and public use. Once our wildlife and wilderness areas are gone, they are gone forever. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 6206

The Tule elk were native to this land for thousands of years until they were whipped out by settlers from the east. We were lucky that a smart man who had protected a small herd on his ranch and that NPS did the right thing and repopulated the newly created Point Reyes National Seashore. Unfortunately much of the PRNS are working cattle ranches left over from Spanish conquests. The ranchers have been paid for their land 50 years ago and should have vacated by now. This is an amazing piece of nature being trampled by cows. The Elk fence should come down to let the park heal, in fact all the barbed wire fences should come down. Get the cows out and let the Elk roam FREE.

Correspondence ID: 6207

I strongly support the decision to remove the "elk fence" that is currently enclosing the Tule Elk at Tomales Point - otherwise known as Plan B. There are so few of these endemic creatures left and many continue to die due to dehydration and entrapment within the fence every year.

There are hundreds of millions of cattle in earth, but only a few thousand tule elk left. Let's please give them the space they need to not only survive, but to thrive. They are instrumental in keeping local biodiversity grasses and shrubs in check and facilitating their healthy regrowth and reproduction.

Correspondence ID: 6210

I urge you to consider Alternative B, which requires removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence that borders it.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6211

I'm fully against ruining America's Last Frontier just so that greedy Big Oil billionaires can add to their pollution-filled bank accounts.

We need to minimize mankind's effect on Alaska by any/all of the options below:

1. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

2. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

3. Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

4. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

5. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

6. Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for considering the safest options possible!

Correspondence ID: 6212

I support the plan to take down the fence.

Correspondence ID: 6213

It is unconscionable that humans insist on blocking the pathways of creatures who have as much right to move freely as we reserve for ourselves. The fence must come down.

Correspondence ID: 6214

My husband, James A. Wilson, and I support Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 6217

I am pleased that a plan has been approved to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point. I do want to make sure that the Alternative B version of the plan will adhere to the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act in order to ensure that future actions will improve, and not degrade, the wilderness character. As a strong supporter of the National Park Service, I approve this organizations suggested guidelines of Alternative B which ensure (1) removal of water structures unlawfully built in the area using non-motorized means; (2) inclusion of the MRA in the analysis of Alternative B; (3) prohibition of cattle grazing in Point Reyes as agreed when the seashore was first established; (4) prohibition of herbicides in the Wilderness areas; (5) usage of natural fires rather than managed fires in the Wilderness areas; and (6) removal of the PG&E power lines.

Correspondence ID: 6218

I am very concerned about the survival of the rare Tule elk. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C would degrade the Wilderness and endanger the elk.

However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

--Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

--Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place..

--Eliminate grazing by cattle.

--Do not use herbicides in the Wilderness.

--Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape.

--Remove the PG&E power line.

Thank you for ensuring that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Correspondence ID: 6219

Protect Elk at PRNS, Tear Down the Deadly Fence! Support Option B! Co-manage elk habitat with Graton!

Correspondence ID: 6220

Please support free roaming elk herds.

Correspondence ID: 6224

June 3, 2024

Dear National Park Service and Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan. My family is grateful that the National Park Service (NPS) has announced a preferred Alternative B proposed action. We support the Alternative B plan: Unconfined Elk Herd and removal of "Elk" fence.

My husband and I live and work in Marin County and visit Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) every chance we get. We live down the road and consider this National Park just a greater extension of our backyard in a way.

This Seashore is where my husband proposed to me, on a beach not far from the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. We actually had engagement photographs taken at Pierce Point Ranch among other beautiful locations in the Seashore. Recently we sat and had a picnic at Pierce Point Ranch and watched our son investigate the barn and run around the retired ranch buildings. His curiosity peaked with the bugling of the Tule Elk nearby. We had to run and go see them as he "loves them" too. He has had some great experiences specifically in the presence of our beloved Tule Elk. Sometimes he brings his own stuffed animal "Mr. Tule" along for the journey. We are grateful for the breathtaking beauty that these special Tule Elk bring into our lives. Our growing family is already wandering in our footsteps, getting caught up in the same wonder and curiosity that we have experienced for many years now.

However, I must also mention that I have seen the pain and sorrow that my husband (Matthew Polvorosa Kline) has returned home with after uncovering and exposing this recent die off at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. This situation and experience has left a real scar on him as he is a deeply empathetic man with a real love for the wildlife he films and photographs. He still has trouble looking through some of the photographs, videos, and sharing some of the stories from the Reserve. This is a man that grew up wanting to be a Veterinarian, so I can only imagine that he felt helpless at times trying to do whatever he could to stop the pain and suffering of the Tule Elk we care for so much. When our son was born, he actually had to stop visiting the Reserve for a while because the negative energy, the sadness, and the suffering he witnessed and felt himself was too much to bring home.

I wanted to mention the above because I think the NPS should be aware of not just the positive beautiful experiences most, but also the deeply disturbing and negative experiences some of us are burdened with after visiting what is a National Park. I would ask that you further your understanding of what I write about here by visiting the website my husband set up to inform the public about some of what is going on in our Seashore, as well as what is going on with the Tule Elk - www.MissionRewild.org

It is my hope and my family's hope, that no one else will have to see such atrocities again. Removing the horrible fence at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve should have been done many years ago, when we knew better. Now, we all know better and now there is a real opportunity to bring some positivity to this situation. The fence must come down and the healing process must begin.

Again, thank you staff at the NPS for proposing this preferred plan. Thank you Superintendent Kenkel for your leadership and allowing this historic opportunity to shape the future of our Seashore for the better!

Regards,

Linda Kline

Correspondence ID: 6226

I support Alternative B, which is also the preferred choice of the NPS. The removal of fences is key to saving the Tule elk and implementing the core values of Wilderness.

Alternatives A and C should be rejected, due to further endangering both the Wilderness and Tule elk.

Unfortunately Alternative B does not go far enough. Therefore, the following improvements should be considered:

Unauthorized small structures, such as water troughs, should be removed without the use of motors. This can easily be achieved on foot, without the use of any vehicles.

The EA does not mention how the removal of water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would be achieved. A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is required to address these issues, and must be used to efficiently analyze Alternative B.

All cattle should be removed with immediate effect. The damage ranching has inflicted on the Point Reyes Wilderness and its wildlife over the decades, is absolutely unacceptable. The original agreement regarding the seashore must be adhered to, which does not include any rights to graze the land.

If Tule elk are given their freedom, with the removal of fences, the shortest of invasive plants will naturally be reduced. The use of herbicides should therefore be banned in the Wilderness.

Invasive, non-native plants tend to fare better than native plants in response to deliberate controlled fires. Fires should be left to burn naturally; shaping and strengthening the Wilderness accordingly, without human intervention.

Power lines should not be present within Wilderness. PG&E must remove their equipment. This should be clearly stated in

Alternative B, alongside methods to remove it without motors, in order to restore the character of the Point Reyes Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6227

I support better management of the Tule Elk

Correspondence ID: 6228

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, enclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, enclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire t

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 6229

Let the elk drink!! Thank you!!

Correspondence ID: 6232

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes elk should be able to roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I also support the proposed plan to use prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

Correspondence ID: 6234

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. They should not be competing with the elk in a Wilderness.

- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for considering these points.

Correspondence ID: 6235

Please allow the herds of Tule elk to free roam with collateral management, they represent some of the best of America's wild lands, not overbuilt and forgotten as in older countries. Let them come to our county to see wildlife management at its best in our fabulous country!

Correspondence ID: 6237

Remove the "elk fence" on Pointe Reyes National Seashore and retire/buyout the grazing leases grandfathered-in the the park.

Correspondence ID: 6238

Please free rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Kim Camuso

Correspondence ID: 6239

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 6242

Please permanently remove the elk fence in Point Reyes so that the Tule elk can get sufficient food and water. It should never have been put up in the first place.

Choose Alternative B (National Park Service plan) in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

Correspondence ID: 6245

Please save these beautiful animals & take down the fence!

Correspondence ID: 6247

As A United State Taxpayer and Resident of Mill Valley, Californian I ask that OUR Tulle Elk Finally be Free to Roam with NO Fences trapping their movements and way to get to water!!

I agree that The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures UNlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Thank you for Immediately Recording MY Comments as a California TaxPayer.

Correspondence ID: 6248

Number one priority should The protection of the ranchers and ranch operations. If there too many elk for the space they have currently they can be moved elsewhere or by the use of birth control. Ranchers can't move. Local ranching is essential must be protected. I want my meat and dairy products to be

locally sourced & these ranches have been wonderful stewards of the land. They know more about protecting the land than attorneys for “nonprofits”.

Most people do not know about this comment period. Unless you sign up for every government agency website to be notified, Who would know? Organized groups that send out templates, most likely have the most comments. The elimination of ranching, which this is a roundabout way of trying to do, would have overwhelming negative consequences on Californians. The number one option is to do what will ensure the continuation of ranching on the land.

Correspondence ID: 6249

Good morning -

I am writing to express my full support for the removal of the fence that confines the Tule Elk to a specific area. It is the best decision for the health and long term existence of these endemic animals, and for the Tomales Point environment.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6252

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Katharine Molnar

Correspondence ID: 6254

We support a free roaming Elk herd. Leave them be! They were here long before people came in and started destroying everything!

Sincerely!

Tammy Fenske

Correspondence ID: 6256

I've been to Point Reyes National Park three times. Please remove the fence

Correspondence ID: 6257

I am writing to express my beliefs concerning the Tule Elk. I believe they should not be fenced in and should be allowed to roam free to seek out the resources they need to survive. Keeping them enclosed where they do not have adequate food or water is horribly cruel. In fact, it reminds me of a zoo in the Philippines where they had a beautiful lion in a small cage. It is the same heartless approach to wild animals. Those lands are PUBLIC LANDS. Giving priority to the desires of the ranchers is catering to a narrow private interest, over the interests of the American public. Fencing off those animals and leaving

them to die of starvation and dehydration on public land is not what I am paying taxes for. Please put the elk, which cannot speak for themselves, at the top of the priority list. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6258

Free the rare Tule elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6259

Please protect the Elk

Correspondence ID: 6260

FREE THE TULE ELK!!!!

Correspondence ID: 6261

Please let the elk roam as they should in the wild and if there are drought issues where they are dying because of no access to water it is obvious you should put the fence down,

Correspondence ID: 6262

I support more freedom to roam for the Tule Elk.

Sincerely, Steven W. Morris

Correspondence ID: 6263

Please allow the Tule Elk herd to roam freely at Point Reyes. Let them have access to food and water sources.

Correspondence ID: 6264

Support free roaming elk

Correspondence ID: 6266

I believe Alternative B is the best option.

Correspondence ID: 6267

I support plan Alternative B. Please open up access and take down the fences.

Correspondence ID: 6269

Regarding Tule elk and Phillip Burton Wilderness:

Alternative B is the best option with removal of unlawfully built small water structures in a non-motorized way.

MRA needed for tanks, troughs, enclosures and fence removal.

No cattle grazing in Point Reyes or the Wilderness per original agreement.

No herbicides in the Wilderness.

Natural fires only, manager-ignited fire favors non-native invasive plants.

Remove PG&E power line and state that it will be under Alt B.

Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 6270

It is very important that we eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Please don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6271

I believe that your Tomales Point Area Plan better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I completely support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

Clearly, Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Additionally, I support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

And of course, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely, Renee Gregory

Correspondence ID: 6272

I support Alternative B, taking down the fence and letting these elk roam free on OUR public lands

Correspondence ID: 6274

PRNS remains an anachronism among NPS units. It hosts the largest commercial for profit extractive industry of any NPS unit. The rationale for maintaining the ranches is their historical/ cultural value. Yet the history of the ranches chronicled by NPS ignores the settler/colonial element and numerous negative aspects such as restrictive covenants imposed by the Shafter family that excluded all but white Christians from visiting, let alone owning property, in the town of Inverness. To be sure the same discrimination was applied to the tenant ranching system they devised. The oppression, to the point of genocide, of the indigenous population is not exposed in these sanitized history, ignoring a Residential directive for the NPS to more accurately describe the history of our parks to make them more welcoming for all.

The fact that by the early 1970s all the ranchers were purchased with taxpayer funds and that the purchases included finite terms for the cessation of ranching was consistent with the original intent of the park's establishment as described in the Sedin chronicled history of the park. The early 1970s also saw a park service committed to establishing a park that would provide a wilderness experience for some of the millions of Bay Area residents who could not afford access to some of the NPS's more iconic parks. But effective lobbying by ranchers and their allies have maintained a status quo that benefits a handful of individuals while degrading the biodiversity of 1/3 of the park.

One of the rationale posed by NPS to remove the elk fence is the environmental consequences of climate change. The fence was always a blatant violation of the Organic Act and should have never been erected in the first place. Please do remove it.

But when considering the impacts of climate change how can one ignore the overwhelming evidence presented in IPCC and other scientific reports of the degree to which dairy and beef ranching contribute to the problem?

Moreover, how can the NPS, promoters of the Healthy Parks, Healthy People initiative ignore the considerable evidence that supports the mental health benefits derived from visiting national parks? The unique demographics of PRNS, being within an hour's drive of some 8 million people, augers for it to be managed in a way that maximizes its value in building climate change resilience for the broader community. One rancher recently commented that PRNS is not the "Serengeti" I expect biologist could argue that point given PRNS' unique and abundant marine and terrestrial biodiversity. Moreover, for the many Bay Area residents who will never have the opportunity to travel to a place like the Serengeti, PRNS should be managed in a way that prioritizes the health of its own unique biodiversity.

Correspondence ID: 6275

I am writing to speak up for the Tule elk, which are the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America and are endemic to California.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed, as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. At the same time, there are some other changes to Alternative B that need to be considered, including:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- A Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.
- Grazing by cattle must be eliminated. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

The Tule elk should be permitted to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries, and we must ensure our actions are improving the wilderness character.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6276

I strongly support Alternative B that will remove the fence confining the tule elk at PRNS, which is the most ecologically sound alternative that will support the long-term ecological health of the PRNS. This fence is a travesty that never should have been put up in the first place. I also support the phase-out of

cattle operations in the PRNS and the return of this land to wildlife and public use. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 6277

Dear PNS,

I heartily support Alternative B to remove the Elk fence. I also look forward to the day when the cattle ranches are gone, and the Park returned as much as possible to its natural state. I would encourage the involvement and/or leadership of the Rancheria indigenous tribes in the re-wilding effort. I would encourage the employment of workers formerly employed by the ranches to help with this effort.

Please work to return this Seashore/Park to the semi-wilderness state to which it was intended when it was created: many years ago: the leases are up, the ranchers have been paid, it is time for them to move on. Thank You

Correspondence ID: 6279

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

My name is Anah McMahon, and I'm a strong supporter of protecting wildlife and the habitat in which they exist.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 6280

Free roaming elk, please. And a collaborative management plan. Thank you! Maureen

Correspondence ID: 6281

I am writing to express my support of the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B, in the Tomales Point Area Plan. It should NOT include the removal of the water tanks. The elk still depend on them even though we have had sufficient rain these past two winters. After the fence is removed it may take

time for the elk to find the water sources that are necessary for their survival so the tanks should not be removed until they have been observed not using them.

How many elk do you plan to kill with Plan C? You want to keep them fenced in while doing controlled burns? Is this another cruel administrative plan that is supposed to show the ranchers that the GGNRA wants them to continue violating their ranching agreement? Have the elk harmed the ranchers? What evidence do you have of any harm they have done to the ranchers?

The National Parks have a hands off policy and should let the elk roam freely.

Correspondence ID: 6282

I support and applaud the NPS preferred alternative B to REMOVE THE ELK FENCE.

I do not support the idea of another fence in it's place. Tule elk and all wildlife in the Seashore need to be able to move through the Park unimpaired by fences.

The solution is to REMOVE the CATTLE from the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. The destruction of habitat, coastal prairie ecosystem, erosion of Purisima formation, pollution of air and pollution of waterways is NOT what is supposed to happen in a National Park.

The NPS has been sued time and again for failing to uphold the Organic Act and the Wilderness Act for good reason. The NPS has caved to political and rancher pressure and have let PRNS deteriorate into a 28,000 acre barren wasteland, with over 350 miles of barbed wire fencing to keep cattle in and wildlife and citizens out. This is a National DISGRACE.

Please keep wildlife a PRIORITY and REMOVE the ELK FENCE, the RANCHERS AND THE CATTLE.

I suggest that the workers on the ranches could be hired by NPS to remove the infrastructure and miles of fencing and help with the RESTORATION of our Park.

Volunteers could be organized to help with this effort and I am hopeful that in my grandchildren's lifetime PRNS will start to look like a PARK instead of a Concentrated Animal Feed Operation.

In addition, I support the removal of all dams created by ranchers to free up springs and flowing water for wildlife.

I think it is critical that the NPS remove or fill in all slurry ponds and other hazardous places where wildlife could drown or get caught in the muck.

I also support removal of all invasive plants brought by ranchers for silage. Wild Radish, Wild mustard, Poison Hemlock and Milk Thistle to name a few.

I suggest a massive restoration project to try to undo the decades of destruction by cattle ranching, with the ranchers who created this mess footing the bill.

Thank you for finally listening to what the public truly wants, a COW FREE PARK!

Correspondence ID: 6283

I am in favor of removing the "elk Fence" They have been here originally before us. I am a Marin Co. native and happy to see the elk back. I would also be in favor of a shorter fence to keep thje cattle out of the elk area.

Correspondence ID: 6285

I strongly support alternative B the removal of elk fence to allow elk to roam the whole park. This will be best for putting nature first over private interests.

Correspondence ID: 6286

Please do the right thing for innocent animals!

Correspondence ID: 6287

We need to stop interfering with wildlife & coexist.

Correspondence ID: 6288

Too many species have already gone extinct in modern times. It is an outrage that we are not doing everthing possible keep this small herd of Tule elk thriving by clearing their range of structures. So Alternative Plan B with the necessary adjustments should be enacted,

Maryjo Osowski

Correspondence ID: 6289

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for freeing our beloved elk.

Correspondence ID: 6290

The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6291

Don't be destroying wildlife animals for your pleasure. These animals have the right to live on this earth

as much as we do, they deserve to be living in the wildlife area. STOP BEING GREEDY, SELFISH PEOPLE, have a heart for the animals!

Correspondence ID: 6293

Regarding the future of the tule elk of Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I support Alternative B which will remove the fence that confines the tule elk and expand their migrating territory greatly; thus enabling them to seek out more food and water sources. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans. Thank you for this opportunity to make comments.

Correspondence ID: 6294

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Within the Tomales Point Area Plan I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. Tomales Point is visited and valued because of its wildness but restricting movement of the elk stands in contrast with the goals of park land management.

Further, I support the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and encourage incorporation of Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. Prescribed fire and research burns are an economical way to control invasive species and return ecological processes.

Correspondence ID: 6295

The Alternative Plan B to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is good, but the plan still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

My suggestions include:

- Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness. Removal must be done by non-motorized means. As the structures are small, they could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Eliminate the use herbicides in the Wilderness. Since removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk, that action would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using prescribed and managed fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of managed fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.
- Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

These positive actions will help ensure the survival and success of the native Tule elk population. Thank you for taking my comments.

Correspondence ID: 6296

June 4, 2024

Anne Altman
Acting Superintendent
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes National Seashore
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Subject: Comments on the Draft Tomales Point Area Plan/Environmental Assessment

Dear Acting Superintendent Altman:

I am writing on behalf of over 2,700 members of the Coalition to Protect America's National Parks (Coalition), who collectively represent more than 45,000 years of national park management experience. The Coalition studies, educates, speaks, and acts for the preservation of America's National Park System. Among our members are former NPS directors, regional directors, superintendents, resource specialists, park rangers, maintenance and administrative staff, and a full array of other former employees, volunteers, and supporters.

On behalf of our members and followers, we commend the park for creating the Draft Tomales Point Area Plan/Environmental Assessment (DTPAP/EA). For decades, visitation at peak times, especially holiday weekends and summer months, has been a constant problem at Tomales Point. Also, we agree that the management of tule elk has been a major issue for the park since reintroduction. Future management direction must be developed. We believe that the confinement of the tule elk, a species that is integral to the ecosystem, is incongruent with the basic tenets of National Park Service management.

Overall, the Coalition supports ALTERNATIVE B: UNCONFINED ELK HERD, IMPROVED VISITOR AMENITIES, AND EXPLORE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF PIERCE RANCH CORE AREA (NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE). The Coalition offers comments for improvements and to meet legal requirements for the proposed plan and environmental analysis.

The following laws and policies apply to this planning process and are the foundation of our comments.

The Organic Act of 1916 states the following: "The service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations hereinafter specified by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." In 1978, Congress clarified and reaffirmed the Organic Act, through the "Redwood Amendment" to the 1970 General Authorities Act, which states, "The authorization of activities shall be construed and the protection, management, and administration of these areas shall be conducted in light of the high public value and integrity of the National Park System and shall not be exercised in derogation of the values and purposes for which these various areas have been established, except as... directly and specifically provided by Congress."

In addition, the Seashore's enabling legislation requires that the park "shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the

natural environment within the area.” Because the planning area is 85 percent wilderness by law (Public Law 94-544), we are concerned that current management is inconsistent with guidance and sideboards set by NPS wilderness management plan guidance, applicable legislation, and NPS Director's Orders.

Because the park lacks an overall wilderness management plan for the Phil Burton Wilderness area, it has not met the intent of the Wilderness Act (Public Law 88-577) or the guiding principles of the park's enabling legislation. We hope future planning will rectify this situation and that the TPAP can begin the process.

We believe the longstanding issues at Tomales Point with the elk fence create an obvious conflict between the conservation of park resources and values and adjacent ranching. As stated in NPS Management Policies 2006, Section 1.4.3, “The fundamental purpose of the national park system, established by the Organic Act and reaffirmed by the General Authorities Act, as amended, begins with a mandate to conserve park resources and values. This mandate is independent of the separate prohibition on impairment and applies all the time with respect to all park resources and values, even when there is no risk that any park resources or values may be impaired. NPS managers must always seek ways to avoid, or to minimize to the greatest extent practicable, adverse impacts on park resources and values.”

We offer the following specific comments for DTPAP/EA.

As we stated in our scoping comments, the DTPAP/EA needs to set a visitor capacity for the planning area. For effective management, day-use and overnight visitor-use quotas should be established and a data-based monitoring system should be in place. Several of our Coalition members have observed visitation already exceeds the visitor capacity that promotes a wilderness experience on weekends, holidays, and summer months. Parked cars often are seen outside designated parking areas, as well as crowding on the Tomales Point Trail. As directed by the National Parks and Recreation Act, the National Park Service is required to set a visitor-carrying capacity for all areas of a park. A visitor carrying capacity should be based on a set of desired conditions for this specific planning area. We also encourage the park to establish scientifically based and peer-reviewed indicators, standards, and thresholds for measuring visitor quality and resource conditions. Monitoring these indicators will help identify issues that may need to be addressed as the DTPAP/EA is implemented. The DTPAP/EA states the carrying capacity has not been exceeded; however, there is no data to substantiate this claim and no carrying capacity number is presented.

The DTPAP/EA dismissed performing a visitor-carrying capacity study. We disagree with the park's decision. This alternative action dismissed would have initiated a visitor carrying capacity study to help the NPS set a carrying capacity for day use and overnight camping visitation to protect the Seashore's resources to ensure public access on Tomales Point does not diminish resource and wilderness values. Visitation of the park has grown steadily since its inception and is expected to grow by 2 percent per year; setting carrying capacity is a requirement of applicable law and policy. Since the park has not shared any visitor use or capacity data, nor any visitor experience quality data, there is no evidence that the park is not exceeding current capacity, what the visitor capacity of the area is, and whether resources are not being degraded. Observations by members of the Coalition have seen heavy use of Tomales Bay beaches, especially on weekends and holidays, that may be exceeding wilderness capacity (which has not been set) and damaging coastal ecology.

The DTPAP/EA has not met policy and applicable law for wilderness management. All future actions in the wilderness areas of Tomales Point must preserve wilderness character. The planning area is primarily wilderness (85 percent). As stated in NPS Director's Order #41: Wilderness Stewardship and the

Wilderness Act [16 U.S.C. 1133(b)], NPS policy and law directs that “each agency administering any area designated as wilderness shall be responsible for preserving [its] wilderness character.” Wilderness character is the combination of biophysical, experiential, and symbolic ideals that distinguishes wilderness from other lands. The five qualities of wilderness character are (1) untrammeled, (2) undeveloped, (3) natural, (4) offers outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation, (5) other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Accordingly, each wilderness park will integrate the concept of wilderness character into park planning, management, and monitoring in order to preserve the enduring benefits and values of wilderness for future generations.”

The DTPAP/EA must conduct a wilderness character assessment. As stated in NPS Management Policies 2006, “Wilderness parks will conduct a wilderness character assessment, which includes identifying what should be measured, establishing baseline data, and conducting ongoing monitoring of trends. Each measure should be relevant to tracking change in an attribute or element of the park's wilderness character, or relevant to tracking a threat to this attribute. Once a baseline is established, tracking change and reporting on the trend in wilderness character should generally occur every five years.”

NPS Management Policies 2006 Section 6.3.4.3 states, “Whenever a park planning process that has the potential to affect wilderness character occurs, the park should determine how wilderness character can be both integrated into the planning effort and presented in the planning document.”

The DTPAP/EA must address long-term monitoring of resources and establish outstanding resource values, including for the marine systems adjacent to the planning area but within the Seashore. For the long-term protection of this biologically and culturally rich area, the TPAP should establish long-term monitoring programs to ensure management actions and visitor use are not adversely affecting wilderness. The Seashore was created to protect a wild coastal sanctuary, and the NPS should commit to a science program that ensures it remains wild and healthy. The monitoring program should include impacts on marine wilderness areas adjacent to a National Marine Sanctuary.

As directed in 2006 NPS Management Policies 6.3.6.2 “In every park containing wilderness, the conditions and long-term trends of wilderness resources will be monitored to identify the need for or effects of management actions. This monitoring will ensure that management actions and visitor impacts on wilderness resources and character do not exceed the standards and conditions established in an approved park plan. As appropriate, wilderness monitoring programs may assess physical, biological, and cultural resources and social impacts. Monitoring programs may also need to assess potential problems that may originate outside the wilderness to determine the nature, magnitude, and probable source of those impacts.”

The DTPAP/EA does address the long-term future and management of tule elk in the planning area. Reintroduced in 1978 and later in 1999 to the Limantour Area, a keystone species that is critical to ecosystem health has been established. Removing the restrictive fence has long-term positive implications for the health of the park's entire ecosystem. Additionally, the removal of the fence would meet the California State goal to “Reduce the number of confined (Tule elk) herds” (CDFW 2018). The Point Reyes herd is one of the last remaining confined herds in the state, and this unnatural isolation has resulted in Tule elk in the Reserve experiencing four population irruptions and crashes since their introduction. The tule elk are instrumental in preserving a diverse biological system and natural biodiversity. We recommend that the herd be adaptively managed with carrying capacity population levels set in broad ranges, not one set number.

We are unsure why the development area has been expanded, considering the DTPAP/EA indicates no parking expansion or additional visitor amenities except a new restroom. Please provide the area expansion rationale and give the size of the expansion in acres and what the impacts are.

As the DTPAP indicates, a wildlife-friendly fence is installed to keep any animal stock out of the wilderness area once the high elk fence is removed. Please indicate in the final plan how that will be constructed. Coalition members have indicated that the recent fence installed along Sir Francis Drake Hwy to the Lighthouse and fencing at Blue Line Creek is not wildlife-friendly.

We recommend the Seashore not conduct any parking improvements and major trail projects until additional compliance and public input are undertaken. The Coalition agrees that a vault toilet is necessary to alleviate resource degradation.

We encourage the continuation of education and interpretive efforts at the historic Pierce Point Ranch. The site is an excellent location for sharing the rich ranching history that once helped to feed the San Francisco Bay Area.

We support engaging appropriate Tribal entities to enhance resource knowledge and co-stewardship efforts. However, we would be remiss if we did not express our concern about the public statements made by park officials regarding 50-50 cooperative management of the park with a Tribal entity. We believe that Congress only has delegated to the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service the legal authority and responsibility for managing the National Park System units and that authority cannot be redelegated outside NPS. We believe Tribes can be excellent partners and consultation should be conducted with them as applicable law requires. However, as your agreement with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria states "Nothing in this Agreement shall be understood to preempt the Tribe's or NPS's responsibilities under regulation or law." (General Agreement Number GPORE210001PS, 2021). Therefore, any Tribal views or traditional ecological knowledge the Tribe wishes to be applied to the Seashore must be reviewed and determined to be consistent with those laws and adopted by you as the product of NPS's careful consideration, documentation, and final decision-making. Such determinations must be a matter of public record.

We believe a Draft Tomales Point Area Plan/EA with revisions is key to meeting mandates established in the Point Reyes Foundation Document, Point Reyes National Seashore enabling legislation, and National Park Service policy and law. We strongly encourage Point Reyes National Seashore to protect cultural and natural resources and wilderness values and that the plan supports "the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area." We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments during this stage of the planning process.

Sincerely, Phil A. Francis, Jr.

Chair of the Executive Council

Coalition to Protect America's National Parks

CC: Anne Altman, Acting Superintendent, PRNS
The Honorable Chuck Sams, Director, National Park Service
Frank Lands, Deputy Director for Operations
David Szymanski, Regional Director

Correspondence ID: 6297

Please remove this fence ASAP.

Wildlife confined to a small area always do poorly; first, because they cannot move to more favorable habitat (enough food, water, shelter, and favorable temperatures) when they need to; and second, because confinement will lead to inbreeding by preventing dispersal of any increased population.

The fence will likely also negatively affect other species; first, because they will be similarly prevented from responding to changes in their environment; and second, species dependent on the elk will lose their source of prey.

Finally, plants affected by and in balance the elk (through grazing, etc.) will be overgrazed in the confined area inside the fence, and overgrown outside the fence. This will likely increase erosion in the overgrazed areas, and forest fire probability in the overgrown areas.

Correspondence ID: 6300

Elk are free roaming animals that need a lot of room to graze. If not, then they will suffer from the fence you have around them and eventually they will all die off of disease. Is this what you want? You, as the Park Service are supposed to take care of the animals in your park as well as the humans who visit. YOU are the ones who are supposed to keep us all safe, animals and humans. Have you forgotten this?

Correspondence ID: 6301

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94903

Subject: Protect the Tomales Point's Wilderness Values and Tule Elk -- Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

To the Point Reyes National Seashore Superintendent:

Thank you for considering my comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan.

I believe that the best of the three alternatives offered in the Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment is Alternative B, although I do not believe Alternative B, as drafted, will properly or adequately protect the wildlife, native vegetation, or Wilderness values of the Tomales Point area, nor comply with the National Park and Recreation Act of 1978. At least the removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Of course, Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger the tule elk. But the National Park Service should modify Alternative B to address the issues raised below and to comply with the National Park and Recreation Act of 1978.

The Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment indicates that the park does plan to “enhance” parking capacity by formally designating areas currently used unofficially and to establish a new location-based reservation system for authorized Tomales Bay beach camping locations. Before doing so, Point Reyes National Seashore must determine an appropriate, science-based visitor carrying capacity as required by the National Park and Recreation Act of 1978 for the Tomales Point Trailhead, the McClures Beach Trailhead, and Tomales Bay beach camping locations. Disappointingly, conducting a visitor carrying capacity study was dismissed as unnecessary by the environmental assessment because:

“Visitation levels would remain within capacity limits, as current use is below capacity.”

and

“Proposed visitor enhancements under alternatives B and C are not intended to expand visitation but rather to enhance the experience of visitors under current visitation levels while better protecting natural and cultural resources. Any improvements to visitor facilities would be limited to the non-wilderness portion of the planning area, which has already been developed.”

Point Reyes National Seashore management apparently doesn't think they need to follow the law and are treating this issue similarly to how they decided to cap the number of overflights of Point Reyes National Seashore in its Air Tour Management Plan: whatever the current levels are will be accepted as an acceptable maximum level of visitation (or overflights) with no need for any scientifically-based analysis on whether current levels are negatively impacting park resources or visitor experience.

Have any of those drafting this Environmental Assessment been to Tomales Point on a weekend—much less a holiday weekend—to observe how overrun with vehicles and visitors the area can be? Sure, if you average the visitation to Tomales Point out throughout the year on a minute-by-minute basis, “current use is below capacity,” but I doubt that was the Congress had in mind when they passed the National Park and Recreation Act of 1978.

The National Park and Recreation Act of 1978 established a statutory requirement (54 U.S.C. § 100502) that national park general management plans include “visitor carrying capacities for all areas” of each park unit. This is not an optional guideline—it is a requirement. Yet, this issue is minimally, if at all, addressed in all of the management plans developed for Point Reyes National Seashore since 1978. The only reference to carrying capacities in Point Reyes National Seashore's General Management Plan (completed in 1980) applies to cattle grazing in the pastoral areas and maricultural operations in estuarine areas. (And given how denuded many pastures around ranches are in the summer and fall of each year, I would say that the park's management has utterly failed to “manage seashore activities in the pastoral...areas in a manner compatible with resource carrying capacity.” But I suspect that, given that this parenthetical comment pertains to ranching, it will not be considered relevant to the Tomales Point Area Plan since ranching is already not allowed in the area addressed by this narrowly focused plan, and that park management won't do anything to reduce ranching levels to be “compatible with resource carrying capacity.”)

Regardless, the park's 1980 General Management Plan did not address visitor carrying capacity, as is required by law, and the park's 2020 General Management Plan Amendment apparently only addressed carrying capacity for locations within the Pastoral Zone. It is extremely disappointing that 46 years after the passage of the National Park and Recreation Act of 1978, Point Reyes National Seashore allows what would objectively be deemed by anyone with a hint of common sense to be visitation to Tomales Point (as well as the Point Reyes Headlands, the Palomarin Trailhead, and many other park sites) that is far in excess of the area's carrying capacity on many weekends throughout the year. This negatively impacts the park's vegetation (e.g., trampling by vehicles and pedestrians), wildlife, and Wilderness values. (It's difficult to feel like one is in Wilderness when a hundred or so hikers pass by, say, Windy Gap or Bass Lake every hour.) But park management only seems to care about assisting an unregulated number of visitors to recreate in the park and not protecting the park's scenery, plants, the wildlife, and Wilderness values.

Point Reyes National Seashore should follow the law and implement and enforce science-based visitor carrying capacities for Tomales Point—and for every other area of the park. While the 2020 General Management Plan Amendment's Appendix I addresses carrying capacity and establishes thresholds representing the minimum acceptable condition for various indicators of over-visitation, I have yet to see any implementation of these carrying capacity limits anywhere in the park, nor is this issue addressed in this environmental assessment. As an example, the threshold for informal parking set by the 2020

General Management Plan Amendment's Appendix I is "No more than 10% increase in extent of informal parking at key destinations, per day." There are about 40 parking spaces within the Tomales Point Trailhead and McClures Beach Trailhead parking areas. Ten percent of 40 is four, which would seem to imply that the park would shut off further access to the Tomales Point when the number of vehicles exceeds 44. Yet I've only observed the park closing access to the area when there are over 100 or more vehicles. Visitors arriving around noon or later in the day park their vehicles wherever there appears to be enough room to fit the vehicle, frequently parking on vegetation, in "No Parking" zones, or even in Pierce Point Road's lanes of travel. (Similarly for the Point Reyes Headlands and the Palomarin Trailhead.) Despite establishing a 10% informal parking threshold in the severely degraded Pastoral Zone areas of the park, there is no threshold set for the Tomales Point Area in this environmental assessment. So, I assume that park management will continue to sacrifice Tomales Point up to unrestricted visitation. But what is one to expect from park management: it's been 46 years since the National Park Service was required to set carrying capacity limits and even when thresholds are set, they are never enforced.

Returning to "enhancing parking capacity by formally designating areas currently used unofficially," I strongly urge the park to ensure that these new or redesigned parking areas are covered in permeable surfaces so that rainwater can soak into the ground rather than running off. And please replace the asphalt surface of the McClures Beach Trailhead parking lot with a permeable surface. I am disappointed, but not at all surprised, that this suggestion, which was made during the scoping comment period, has been totally ignored in the environmental assessment. It would appear that park management would rather go with the cheap and easy polluting techniques with which road construction companies are familiar rather than adopting a bit more expensive yet significantly more environmentally-friendly tools that have been tried and proven at other parks in California.

There is currently a dearth of regulatory and informational signage at Tomales Point and throughout the park. Last time I visited Tomales Point, there was a sign just north of the elk fence indicating that the collection of elk antlers is prohibited. A second sign less than 100 yards north indicated no pets or camping. But beyond that, there was next to no other regulatory signage to inform visitors about NPS and Wilderness values, ethics, and rules and the types of activities that are and are not allowed in Wilderness and national parks. When I arrive at trailheads at national forests, Marin County Parks and Open Space, and Marin Municipal Water District areas, it is rare not to find signage or bulletin boards that contain a fairly comprehensive account of the area's rules and regulations, whether it be in print or icons. When I arrive at trailheads or beaches managed by Point Reyes National Seashore, I may find a sign with icons indicating no dogs, no camping, and maybe one or two other rules, but I have long found these signs to be extremely inadequate when I observe other visitors violating rules not included on the signs, such as approaching or feeding wildlife, picking flowers, collecting rocks and seashells, flying drones, using metal detectors, etc. (On the topic of inadequate or confusing signage, the icon used by Point Reyes National Seashore for "no dogs"—a silhouette of a person holding a leash attached to a dog with a red line running diagonally through the leash—needs to be replaced with one featuring just a silhouette of a dog with a red diagonal line.) Point Reyes National Seashore needs to install better regulatory and information signage at the Tomales Point Trailhead, McClures Beach Trailhead, and throughout the park.

Given that expanding or enhancing interpretive signage and education was a dismissed alternative (similar to the issue of visitor carrying capacity), it appears that park management wants to shirk its duty with regard to educating visitors about park regulations and Wilderness ethics. And from what I've heard about park rangers, more often than not, issuing verbal warnings to rule breakers rather than issuing citations, it would also appear that park management doesn't even care about enforcing park

regulations. Of course, this will only result in further rule-breaking since word quickly spreads to scofflaws when law enforcement officers stop enforcing the law/regulations and stop issuing citations.

The Environmental Assessment should also address the issue of social trails and the rehabilitation of locations along the Tomales Point Trail and McClures Beach trail that are deeply eroded and much wider than what should be allowed in Wilderness areas, particularly the section of Tomales Point Trail immediately north of Windy Gap. Social trails contribute to the destruction of native vegetation through trampling and through the spread of seeds from introduced plants, which are, unfortunately, more than abundant along Tomales Point Trail and throughout the park's Pastoral Zone. These trails also exacerbate erosion and degradation of surface water quality. No trail in Congressionally-designated Wilderness should ever be allowed to be over three-feet-or-so wide, yet there are sections of trail north of Windy Gap that are over 25-feet-wide with eight or so different ruts along which hikers walk. The park should have addressed this issue decades ago and I doubt that the park, given its horrendous track record, will ever remediate this problem in the next several decades.

I strongly support Alternative B's proposal to remove the elk fence and allow an unconfined elk herd to roam freely and naturally. Removing the elk fence (and cattle throughout the park) would allow for better distribution of tule elk. (And the removal of fences throughout the park would open up the possibility of reintroducing pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*).)

I strongly support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources. However, the National Park Service should not use herbicides in the Wilderness to control for invasive plants. Point Reyes National Seashore should increase the number of paid NPS employees whose responsibility it will be to manually remove invasive plant species and to raise and propagate native plant species across Tomales Point and the entire park.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The environmental assessment is inadequate without a discussion of how the removal of water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fences would take place. The National Park Service must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

I strongly urge the National Park Service to explicitly state that the aboveground PG&E power line north of the current elk fence will be removed and put underground under Alternative B and its preferred action. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. (And, ideally, all of the power and phone lines within the park's boundaries should be undergrounded to improve the viewsheds throughout the park.)

I also support the National Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies.

I also want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Lastly, I want to express my disappointment with how it appears that the National Park Service didn't want to make easy for the public to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan. On Point Reyes National

Seashore's website's home page (<https://www.nps.gov/pore/index.htm>), one has to scroll past ten images promoting "Where Can I Hike," "Start Your Visit Here," "Park Programs and Events," and seven other topics before one gets to an image of Tomales Point and the link to the Tomales Point Area Plan web page. It's as if the park was wanting to bury this image and link as much as it could without making it look too much like it was trying to hide image and link. And then on the Tomales Point Area Plan web page (<https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/planning-tomales-point-area-plan.htm>), while "Environmental Assessment Public Review and Comment Period" is the first header on the page, it doesn't appear any stylistically different from the other headers on the page. At least once one is on the "Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment Public Review and Comment Period" (<https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/planning-tomales-point-area-plan-environmental-assessment.htm>), the first link is to the Planning, Environment & Public Comment (PEPC) page (<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?documentID=136861>) for the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, but then one has to click the "Comment Now" button to finally get to the page to submit this comment. And, if one were wanting to submit a comment by mail or hand delivery, which is indicated on <https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/planning-tomales-point-area-plan-environmental-assessment.htm> as two other ways to submit comments, there is no indication of these other options anywhere on any of the PEPC pages. Given how frequently Point Reyes National Seashore and the National Park Service engages in soliciting comments for projects as is required by the National Environmental Policy Act, it would seem as though those putting together these pages would know how to make them easier to use. But, since this isn't the case for this environmental assessment, it sure does appear as though park management doesn't want to make it easy for the public to participate in this process.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Correspondence ID: 6302

Tule elk are very social animals native to California and were once hunted to the brink of extinction. Now Point Reyes National Seashore is the only national park where they live, but instead of letting tule elk move naturally, the National Park Service put a fence that artificially confines a tule elk herd to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

Please tear down this lethal fence and let tule elk roam freely in the park once again.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 6303

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Furthermore, removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Of special importance is how the issue of cattle are being addressed. Frankly, eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

In addition to the above, don't allow the use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Maintaining native biodiversity is critical to the health of the immediate ecosystem in question, but also contributes to the overall health and integrity of planet Earth, from which we would all benefit.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathryn Podgorski

Correspondence ID: 6308

Please don't restrict animals from accessing food and water. Such a fence does so.

Thank you for showing you care.

Correspondence ID: 6309

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6310

The Tule Elk are a treasured asset and like all species need to be treated humanely. I strongly support Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment which would remove the restraining 8-foot fence allowing the animals greater access to food and water, for the reasons stated by Alison Hermance of WildCare in the June 4 Marin IJ.

Correspondence ID: 6312

I am writing in support of the option to REMOVE THE FENCE that confines the Tule Elk in West Marin.

Please stop being zookeepers (who then don't provide needed food and water) and start being stewards of the land.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6313

Alternative B is the best option. Cattle grazing should be eliminated. Water structures should be removed by non motorized means. PG&E power line should be removed. The fence should be removed. Tule Elk should roam free. Herbicides should not be used at all.

Correspondence ID: 6315

/Users/lauracunningham/Documents/WWP/Pt. Reyes/Tomales Point Area Plan EA/WWP-Tomales Point Area Plan-2024.pdf

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Submitted via NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment website parkplanning.nps.gov/tpap

June 5, 2024

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

Dear Superintendent,

Please accept these comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment (EA).

According to the National Park Service, this new plan will replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan and revise the 1980 General Management Plan (GMP) for Tomales Point. The 2,900-acre planning area includes all lands north of and including the tule elk enclosure fence. More than 85% of the planning area is within the Phillip Burton Wilderness. This plan is separate from the recent GMP Amendment, which addresses all NPS lands leased for ranching and the management of elk on those lands.

We found the proposed action (the Alternative B) to be very good. We recommend the elk fence be taken down, but no cattle fence built in its place.

Western Watersheds Project (WWP) is a non-profit organization with more than 15,000 members and supporters. Our mission is to protect and restore western watersheds and wildlife through education, public policy initiatives, and legal advocacy. WWP staff and members have been visiting Tomales Point to observe, photograph, and sketch tule elk since the 1980s, and have a keen interest in these important tule elk herds.

The Center is a nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.7 million members and supporters, dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats through science, policy, and environmental law. The Center has expertise on protection of endangered species, cattle ranching impacts on the environment, management of federal public lands, and implementation of federal environmental protection laws. The Center has been working to protect native wildlife and other environmental resources of the Bay Area for more than two decades.

We Support the Preferred Alternative B to Take Down the Elk Exclusion Fence

The National Park Service (NPS) Preferred Alternative B would remove the existing 8-foot tall elk exclusion fence to allow an unconfined free-roaming tule elk herd, and focuses on preservation of historic park ranch resources such as the Pierce Point Ranch as an interpretive center where visitors can experience an historic dairy on public lands that has been closed to livestock grazing.

We thank the National Park Service for considering this resource conservation Alternative.

Alternative B includes removal of the tule elk fence and all temporary water systems installed during the most recent drought. It also includes potential opportunities to improve recreational uses and visitor experience at the historic Pierce Ranch, approaches to preserve and maintain the wilderness character of the Philip Burton Wilderness in the planning area, and methods to better protect natural and cultural resources. We support this as fitting for a popular National Park unit visited by millions of people annually (2,268,058 visitors in 2023) in a near-urban environment in the Bay Area.

The EA at 43 summarizes the benefits to tule elk of removing the fence:

The removal of the fence would benefit the Tomales Point tule elk by allowing the elk to access additional habitat, increasing population resilience during drought, and thereby promoting more natural population cycles. It is likely that as the current and future sub-herds use additional habitat outside of the Tomales Point area, they would eventually have increased exposure to the Drakes Beach and Limantour herds, allowing for mixing of the herds that could increase genetic variability within each population. The current boom and bust population pattern experienced by the elk in the project area reduces the overall health of the herd, potentially increases habitat and vegetation impacts, and does not reflect natural population trends.

Alternative B would prioritize preservation of park resources. We support this, as this follows the National Park Service Organic Act which mandates non-impairment of natural resources in park units. The 1916 NPS Organic Act, which makes protection of natural resources the highest management priority in decision-making for all units of the national park system, including seashores and recreation areas:

(a) In General.-The Secretary, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall promote and regulate the use of the National Park System by means and measures that conform to the fundamental purpose of the System units, which purpose is to conserve the scenery, natural and historic objects, and wild life in the System units and to provide for the enjoyment of the scenery, natural and historic objects, and wild life in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

54 U.S.C. § 100101. (Emphasis added.)

The Point Reyes National Seashore enabling legislation of 1962 also contains language regarding no impairment is as follows, and this can include the Pierce Point Ranch property:

§459c–6. Administration of property

(a) Protection, restoration, and preservation of natural environment

Except as otherwise provided in sections 459c to 459c–7 of this title, the property acquired by the Secretary under such sections shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides

for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area, subject to the provisions of the Act entitled “An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes”, approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535),¹ as amended and supplemented, and in accordance with other laws of general application relating to the national park system as defined by the Act of August 8, 1953 (67 Stat. 496),¹ except that authority otherwise available to The Secretary for the conservation and management of natural resources may be utilized to the extent he finds such authority will further the purposes of sections 459c to 459c–7 of this title.

16 U.S.C. § 459c-6. (Emphasis added.)

We support and emphasize that the Tomales Point area be managed without impairment of its natural values.

NPS states that actions and strategies focused on preserving park resources would include the following:

--Removal of the existing elk enclosure fence and the construction of a new wildlife-friendly fence to prevent cattle from entering the planning area. Activities associated with this action would include access and removal or modification of posts and wire fencing using mechanized equipment for the nearly three-mile length of the fence.

--Upon removal of the elk fence, the tule elk from Tomales Point would be a free-range elk population. Tule elk that leave the Tomales Point planning area after the fence is removed will be managed in a manner consistent with the Limantour herd, as described in the GMPA ROD.

--Cultural landscape features outside of the Pierce Ranch core area would be retained. However, historic-era stock ponds that are determined to be a hazard to wildlife may be modified to minimize the potential hazard. The NPS would make a determination whether features pose a resource impact or hazard in the event of a documented issue.

--As part of a long-term invasive plant species management effort, the NPS would endeavor to contain or remove invasive plant populations from the planning area.

--Twelve elk enclosures within the wilderness zone (see figure 4) previously used for vegetation monitoring projects would be removed, and vegetation research independent of these enclosures would be encouraged. Activities associated with this action include onetime access and removal of the posts and wire fencing from these locations.

(EA at 13)

The Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk prioritized a large free-ranging elk herd:

The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the reestablishment of free-ranging elk throughout the Seashore and associated public lands. This would involve . . . removal of the fence across Tomales Point. NPS and CDFG should develop a long-range management plan with the goal of achieving a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population subjected to a minimum of management intervention.

We support removing the elk fence, but we do not support constructing a new cattle exclusion wildlife-friendly fence on the border of the Tomales Point area. Elk should be able to freely move without artificial fencing impairments.

We support surveying and analysis of historic area stock ponds and removal of such stock ponds that are a hazard to wildlife due to mud, attraction of hazardous water source conditions, and disruption of natural springs. We have documented elk becoming stuck in mud as they try to reach water in stock ponds, and these hazards should be removed.

We have sent in photos of elk mortality events as elk apparently become stuck in drying historic stock ponds possibly due to drought conditions as the elk seek water behind the current elk exclusion fence.

Tule elk attracted to an historic stock pond in Tomales Point. During normal rainfall years these are good water sources, but in drought years these stock ponds can be disastrous to elk in an area which has few natural water sources. When these artificial stock ponds dry into mud they have been recorded to create entrapment hazards. Photo: Matthew Polvorosa Kline (www.polvorosakline.com and www.missionrewild.org).

The EA at 53 states:

Water resources are limited on Tomales Point and elk have trampled existing water resources including McClures Creek in their efforts to reach water, especially during drought periods.

The EA at 65 states that Alternative B:

...would also consider the modification of historic-era stock ponds if they are determined to be a hazard to Tule Elk or other wildlife. These treatments would be to minimize the hazard posed by the feature rather than to remove the physical evidence of the structure and return it to an earlier condition. Therefore, it is anticipated that the overall form and structure of the remnant stock ponds would be retained, and the overall level of impact would be low to moderate.

Tule elk mortality events in historic stock ponds in Tomales Point during drought. These livestock pond hazards should be removed. Photos: Matthew Polvorosa Kline (www.polvorosakline.com and www.missionrewild.org).

We support the removal of the Tomales Point elk enclosure fence for many other reasons, such as that we have observed tule elk on both sides of the fence. Existing free-roaming elk herds have already spread northwards to meet Tomales Point elk at the fenceline. We have numerous photos documenting this.

A free-roaming tule elk bull seen on the outside of the Tomales elk exclusion fence, photographed by Matthew Polvorosa Kline from inside the Tomales Point area. (www.polvorosakline.com and www.missionrewild.org)

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will simply allow elk populations to merge naturally, and relieve the NPS of a considerable workload to supply water to Tomales elk populations behind the fence in a range which is poor in springs and not sufficient to provide elk with enough water to survive naturally

during extreme droughts which have been occurring more and more in recent years on the California coast.

In addition, old fence sections that are lying on the ground in the Tomales Point area should be removed, because these cause a snag hazard to elk.

(www.polvorosakline.com and www.missionrewild.org).

We support the Desired Condition (EA at 20) that prioritizes tule elk as a species of management concern, with habitat improvement and removal of hazards as a priority. Any actions in the future to manage populations that are perceived as passing population thresholds should undergo reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Desired Condition: Native plant and animal communities persist and thrive.

- Prioritize monitoring tule elk as a species of management concern to identify population trends, movement patterns, and habitat use.

Monitoring data will be used to determine population thresholds and identify management actions such as habitat improvement.

Seeps and Springs

We support restoring and rehabilitating seeps and springs on Tomales Point. This should include removing or modifying stock ponds and earth dams, some of which may be spring-fed.

There may be over 30 seeps and springs in Tomales Point, yet most were barely a trickle of water, or mostly mud, when visited during the 2021 drought during the summer. The main seep is down a steep cliff, where it is a challenge for elk to access on a regular basis. Restoring these seeps and springs could aid in giving elk more access to water on Tomales Point, but these water sources should not be relied upon to fulfill the water needs of the elk herds. Removing the fence would relieve this water scarcity problem as herds can find better water sources outside of Tomales Point.

One of the dry ponds in Tomales Point that may have an associated seep. These could be converted to vegetated swales, or the earthen dam taken down. Photo by Matthew Polvorosa Kline, mid-August 2020. (www.polvorosakline.com and www.missionrewild.org).

The map on page 54 of the EA, Figure 5. Location of Water Resources in the Planning Area, in Chapter 3: Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences, appears to be missing mapped freshwater ponds in light blue. Please correct this or clarify the map in the final EA.

Desired Conditions

Desired conditions are defined as “a park's natural and cultural resource conditions that the NPS aspires to achieve and maintain over time, and the conditions necessary for visitors to understand, enjoy, and appreciate those resources. These conditions are identified through a park's planning process” (NPS 2006 at 157).

This section of the proposed Alternative B is excellent. We support the goal of restoring ecological function, connectivity, and processes in wetlands, grassland, scrub, and beach communities. The EA (at 17) proposes these management strategies in the planning area:

- Identify community types, ecological sites, and their extent and distribution. Periodically evaluate for large-scale changes.
- Research and evaluate connectivity of ecosystems and flexibility of species niches.
- Conduct management actions that promote habitat heterogeneity, connectivity, and species considered ecosystem engineers.
- Identify previously damaged or degraded natural systems and restore them where possible.
- Identify and implement practices that protect soil health and minimize soil erosion.
- Continue to seek funding and partnerships to restore structure and process to habitat types such as creeks and wetlands.
- Implement the Point Reyes Fire Management Plan, including the use of prescribed burns to manage vegetation, and update the plan as necessary, consistent with federal law and departmental management policies.
- Locate and design visitor use improvements to minimize impacts on ecological functions.
- Coordinate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) to incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) into NPS habitat monitoring and management efforts within the planning area.

These are very good Desired Condition goals. We would welcome working with the Park Service in the future to identify and describe Ecological Sites and accompanying reference sites, such as for coastal prairie communities, following such protocols described by Pellant et al. (2020) and also using California Native Plant Society relevé surveys.

We support the Desired Condition to restore rare and Threatened and Endangered species, which the Seashore has a high number of (EA at 19):

Desired Condition: Habitats and populations of threatened and endangered species, special-status, and rare species persist and are improved.

- Prioritize inventory and monitoring of rare and special concern species based on species rankings and/or perceived level of threat using existing data. Inventory and monitoring could help identify population trends, distributions, associations, and ecological functions/connectivity. Targeted monitoring related to proposed activities will also occur to determine effects of proposed actions.
- Conduct habitat restoration and management, including the removal of non-native plant species where appropriate as defined by the strategies above. If monitoring data indicates threats to sensitive species by invasive plant species encroachment, visitor use, barriers to dispersal or other means, take appropriate actions to protect these species. Non-native

species management is addressed further below under the desired conditions of maintaining and enhancing native plant and animal communities and limiting invasive, non-native species. Generally, IPM and prescribed burns are two potential management actions.

- Continue to seek funding and partnerships to monitor these species and restore habitats.

We approve of Inventorying and Monitoring of Tomales Point species to update baselines and monitor population trends and geographic ranges.

We support the Desired Condition to limit invasive species (EA at 22), with the request that herbicides be minimized to the extent possible. Invasive plants should be removed and an Invasive Plant Plan be adopted in order to prevent the spread of such invasive and noxious weeds from impairing Tomales Point.

Vegetation Communities

During our searches and observations of grassland species in and around Tomales Point over many years have found and recorded certain small reference sites with native perennial grasses, forbs, and meadow sedges and rushes that may represent Desired Conditions. But these are not recognized in Parsons et al. (2023) according to the summary of that paper presented in the EA at 28 and following. These coastal prairies, valley grassland, and meadow communities need much more study.

Parsons et al. is a very good start at analyzing changes in vegetation based on different aerial photos and GIS map datasets. The mapped vegetation communities are broad, and include such categories as Grassland, Open Scrub/Grassland, Salt Marsh, Vegetated Dunes, Bishop Pine Forest, etc. These give a broad overview of changing acreages and geographic locations of vegetation. The mapping and paleoecological summaries can guide how Tomales Point is restored. For example, the history of Indigenous cultural burning may date back about 4,000 years in Point Reyes National Seashore from charcoal evidence in ponds. Fire suppression in recent centuries may have led to scrub moving into grassland, perhaps more reflective of early Holocene times when fire was less common and lightning ignitions occurred 2-4 times per century.

Point Reyes can be envisioned as moving between alternative transient states, albeit perhaps very long-term transient ones, over the millennia in response to long-term climatic shifts, the onset of wildfires, and, more recently, prescribed burning by native peoples. However, the conjunction of anthropogenically induced disturbances that started in the late 1700's and escalated in the mid-1800's -- livestock grazing, logging, fire suppression, and non-native plant introduction -- essentially triggered changes severe enough that the Point Reyes vegetation landscape was pushed into an entirely new alternative transient state. (Parsons et al 2023 at 51-52)

This is a very good discussion and shows the complexity of trying to restore Tomales Point to a certain date in the past. Rather, restoring ecological processes and cultural traditions to create healthy vegetation communities able to withstand perturbations is a better goal.

On a finer scale, Marin County has undertaken vegetation surveys and mapping that have classified vegetation types into Alliances, yet some relict native grassland communities may not be represented, with species that were once likely important coastal prairie components on Tomales Point. These relict sites should be studied as reference sites to guide future active restoration.

We provide our own observations of Tomales Point area vegetation communities below.

The California coastal prairie community is a perennial grassland on moister, cooler coastal hills, bluffs, terraces, and valleys that are influenced by Pacific coastal climates: summer fog and heavy winter rains. Many diverse wildflowers and shrubs also inhabit this zone. Classically, this plant community was defined as running along the

coast of California from northern Los Angeles County into Oregon, although a form of coastal prairie probably occupied the prehistoric southern California coast.

Inland in Marin County, drier, inland native grasslands are found in relict patches—the “valley grassland” of older texts. The transition, however, is irregular, patchy, and discontinuous among species. Formerly abundant in an emerald carpet on the sea bluffs and coastal hills and valleys, only relicts of coastal prairie remain.

Native relict perennial grass cover should be surveyed for and mapped. Tomales Point is in an early to mid-successional stage after the dairy operations were ceased at Pierce Ranch and cattle grazing ended in 1980 (EA at 40). Most of the grassland is still recovering and dominated by introduced European annual grasses, in a vegetation community described as California annual grassland. Old erosional headcuts can be seen to be gradually recovering. Yet small populations of the original native coastal prairie can still be found as these species recover from heavy disturbance.

Pacific reedgrass (*Calamagrostis nutkaensis*) is a coarse, thick-leaved, large bunchgrass that lives on the direct coast with all its fury of ocean winds, salt air, cold rain, and foggy summer moisture. This tough bunchgrass has to withstand strong saltladen winter winds directly off the ocean, and it appears to thrive here. Within the tule elk fenced area on Tomales Point, we found large bunches of this grass and scattered on hilltop coastal prairie, with light elk use.

Red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) is a sod grass growing by short rhizomes growing into small patches — we have seen them tuft-like to a yard across and spreading. It is found in the summer-cool areas of the Coast Range from Monterey County northward, in coastal prairies, mountain meadows, open grassy hills, sandy coastal places, bogs, and saltmarsh edges. We found red fescue in the elk-grazed Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve.

Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*) is an important northern coastal prairie climax bunchgrass, found continuously from San Mateo County northward. It is also abundant in open forests of the North Coast Range, and on the Modoc Plateau and interior West.

These “old growth” prairies should be mapped on Tomales Point as they likely represent relict climax vegetation that has not been disturbed in decades. Large areas of the coast may have held this species on well-drained uplands.

California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*) is not a true oat but its seeds have a slight resemblance. Found coastally these grasses grew formerly from the vicinity of Los Angeles north to British Columbia. They need adequate soil moisture, so are quite rare in the inner Coast Ranges, Central Valley, and Sierra Foothills, although they have been reported from wet meadows and seeps in these regions. Jepson (1901) said they were the prevalent grass on well-drained uplands and hills along the coast. Their prostrate “pre-trampled” growth form aids the oatgrasses to resist elk grazing. The culms arch outward and down, and in the extreme the culms

spread flat out sideways along the ground away from hungry ungulate mouths. Each node on the culm puts out flowering spikes, and the culms fall off easily, perhaps an adaptation to allow passing hoofed animals to kick them away and spread the seeds far from the plant. The bunches become smaller in basal diameter with increased grazing, around 4 to 5 inches. We found California oatgrass fairly commonly on Tomales Point in open grasslands and trail edges.

We found purple needlegrass (*Stipa pulchra*) occasionally on drier hilltops and slopes in Tomales Point, a typical valley grassland species, once dominant across California west of the Sierra Nevada.

Creeping wildrye (*Leymus triticoides*)—a native rhizomatous meadow grass—can be found in swales, in the backs of coastal dunes, pond edges, and low moist soils. We found creeping wildrye on the Tomales Point tule elk fenced area, and watched an elk trail through a beautiful, tall green patch of creeping wildrye in a ravine bottom near a marsh.

Other species observed in Tomales Point: an annual lupine (*Lupinus* sp.), wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*), California buttercups (*Ranunculus californicus*), sun cup (*Taraxia ovata*), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), Douglas iris (*Iris douglasiana*), checker mallow (*Sidalcea* sp.), miner's lettuce (*Claytonia perfoliata*), red maids (*Calandrinia menziesii*), soap plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*), brodiaea (possibly *Dichelostemma capitatum*), white yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), common bog rush (*Juncus effusus*), wild cucumber (*Marah fabacea*), cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*), coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), coastal bush lupine (*Lupinus arboreus*), and California blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*).

Many and likely all of these plants have important cultural values to tribes, such as soap plant, brodiaea, and blackberry.

Rare Plants

We approve of rare plant surveys undertaken in Tomales Point. In the EA at 32, management studies are summarized for host plants and nectar plants for federally endangered Myrtle's silverspot butterfly. Western dog violet (*Viola adunca*), found on Tomales Point, is an important host plant for this butterfly. Tule elk grazed populations of Western dog violet were found to have higher population densities than on cattle-grazed pasture.

In a 2003 study of Myrtle's silverspot butterfly habitat, western dog violet plots were established in grasslands grazed by cattle or grasslands protected from cattle but grazed by elk. The violet plots established in Tomales Point, which were grazed by elk, were found to have the highest density of violets per square meter. The study also examined nectar sources for the butterfly using transects in dunes and grasslands that were either grazed or ungrazed by cattle. The butterfly's nectar sources include flowering species such as yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and Pacific gumplant (*Grindelia stricta*), but not the western dog violet. Although the western dog violet was most dense in the plots in the Tomales Point grasslands, it was found that the butterfly's nectar sources tend to be denser in dunes and areas grazed by cattle, when compared to grasslands that are not grazed by cattle (Adams, Smick and Lewis 2009).

We recommend that prescribed burn plots be studied for beneficial effects to increase nectar sources and wildflower density for Myrtle's silverspot butterfly on Tomales Point. Regular fire in a small, rotating schedule every 5-years might best imitate cultural fires which were a stimulus to wildflowers and nectar sources.

Again, we support Alternative B due to beneficial effects to rare plants, as stated in the EA at 36: "The benefits to rare plants under alternative B support the desired conditions for native plant communities."

Tribal Coordination

After a long hiatus, we are pleased to see the return of Tribal input and management to the Tomales Point planning area. We support Tribal coordination of tule elk management, the incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), and educational and interpretive programs developed with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, as well as with Tribes that are not yet federally recognized, within the framework of park non-impairment mandates. Care for culturally significant plants, as well as the return of cultural fire to the area will be a positive advancement in management. We look forward to a time when Tribal cultural expertise informs management and returns to the Tomales Point area. We support this Desired Condition (EA at 21):

Desired Condition: Tribal resources and values as they relate to native plant and animal communities are protected and preserved.

- Comply with all laws, statues, and Executive Orders regarding Tribal resources protection and be respectful of tribal sovereignty.
- Continue the partnership with the FIGR under the General Agreement including collaboration in natural resource management activities that support the health and vitality of plant and animal communities within the planning area.
- Coordinate with the tribe to incorporate TEK into planning, management and stewardship activities.
- Provide opportunities for interpretation, education, and community engagement to the public with enhanced consultation with the FIGR while meeting goals and objectives of the General Agreement.
- Maintain confidentiality of Tribal resources and TEK to the extent permitted by law and consistent with the General Agreement.
- Coordinate with the Tribe to identify and prioritize natural resources within the planning area in need of preservation and/or protection measures.
- In partnership with the Tribe, monitor Tule Elk and other culturally significant plant and animal species.

We support the NPS working with local Tribes, both federally recognized and not yet federally recognized, in developing management guidelines using Traditional Ecological Knowledge, cultural fire management to create a burn mosaics, management for healthy thriving elk herds, and cultural management of coastal prairies and plants that are important for Tribal use.

Prescribed Fire

We support the use of small research burns associated with efforts to restore native species richness and density and community response by plant species of special concern, as well as response of host plant for Myrtle's silverspot butterfly. We also support expanding prescribed burning to increase habitat and

forage for tule elk, based on the result of pilot project burning. Creating a patch-mosaic of coyote brush, other shrubs, and coastal prairie should be a goal.

Pierce Ranch

The EA at 62 states that the Pierce Ranch is a core interpretive historic site:

The current use of the Pierce Ranch is as an interpretive site of ranch history and the region's historically significant dairy industry. The site is open to the public for self-guided tours with interpretive signage, and the main ranch house is in use

as an NPS residence.

The National Park Service proposes to change zoning in Tomales Point, and we support this:

The Wilderness Zone would remain consistent with the wilderness zone designated in the 1980 GMP. The zoning for non-wilderness areas between the elk fence and the wilderness boundary would be amended from the 1980 GMP designated "Special Use-Pastoral Zone" to Scenic Landscape Zone.

The Pierce Ranch provides an excellent opportunity for visitors to learn about historic ranching and dairying in the region, while surrounded by designated Wilderness, and therefore we support a Scenic Landscape Zone.

Conclusion

California habitats before European contact had natural and cultural disturbance regimes such as tule elk grazing and Indigenous fire management. We support Alternative B, with the many benefits to park resources as stated in the EA:

The cumulative impacts of broader elk grazing range and prescribed burns would promote a natural disturbance regime at Tomales Point. (EA at 37)

and,

Benefits to native vegetation communities, improved invasive species management, and potential adjustments to monitoring activities would be expected as cumulative impacts of alternative B. (Id.)

We thank the NPS for proposing an excellent restoration plan for Tomales Point.

Please keep Western Watersheds Project informed of all further substantive stages in this and related NEPA processes and documents by contacting me at lcunningham@westernwatersheds.org.

Sincerely, Laura Cunningham

California Director

Western Watersheds Project

102551 Cedar Canyon Rd.

Cima CA 9232

Correspondence ID: 6318

Dear Park Service, I have been a long time supporter of removing the elk fence that prevents the pierce point herd from moving freely.

I support your alternative plan B of removing this fence.

Thank you

Jeanine Starritt

Correspondence ID: 6319

Please take steps to free the Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore by removing the elk fence and water tanks and temporary water systems as noted in Plan B. Removal of water structures by non-motorized means, MRA for removal of tanks, troughs, and the fence is necessary for protecting the area and its wildlife. And eliminating grazing by cattle as the agreement when the ashore was established required. Please eliminate herbicides and the PG&E power line to restore the Wilderness to a wilderness state.

Thank you for your consideration of doing the best thing for the rare elk in your care.

Correspondence ID: 6322

I think it is imperative that you remove the fencing and water tanks using nonmotorized equipment. Also, the cattle should not be able to graze this land. The Tule Elk need to have their habitat preserved.

Regards,

Margaret

Correspondence ID: 6323

I support Alternative B of your proposed Tomales Point Area Plan.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Correspondence ID: 6324

Please take down the fence and let these Elk run free!! I totally support alternative plan B

Correspondence ID: 6326

I am writing to express my immense disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk - an integral ecological and historical component of the park - have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. The many violations of the ranches are unacceptable and the park should have put an end (like as promised) to these ridiculous, unsustainable, destructive operations many years ago. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C.

ALTERNATIVE B!!!!!!!!!!

Correspondence ID: 6327

I am sending this to express my disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C.

Correspondence ID: 6328

The best option is Alternative B. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered. Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles. Therefore, they should be done by non-motorized means.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness and should be removed from the Wilderness. Explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and the preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6329

Free tule elk in the philip burton wilderness

Correspondence ID: 6330

I am writing to express my immense disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk - an integral ecological and historical component of the park - have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's

native wildlife. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C.

Correspondence ID: 6331

June 4, 2024

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent Craig Kenkel and Outreach Coordinator Melanie Gunn
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Sent via email: melanie_gunn@nps.gov

Dear Superintendent Kenkel and Outreach Coordinator Gunn:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan (Plan) and Environmental Assessment (EA). This comment letter is submitted by Defenders of Wildlife (Defenders) on behalf of its 2.1 million members and supporters in the U.S., including 316,000 in California.

Defenders is a national conservation organization founded in 1947 and dedicated to the protection of all native species of plants and animals in their natural communities. To this end, we employ science, public education and participation, media, legislative advocacy, litigation and proactive on-the-ground solutions in order to impede the accelerating rate of extinction of species, associated loss of biological diversity and habitat alteration and destruction.

Based on Defenders' mission, our interest in and comments on the Plan and EA are focused on native species and their habitats.

Background Information on Tomales Point Area Plan

The Plan area is comprised of 2,900-acres where the National Park Service (NPS) proposes to update the management guidance for the Tomales Point portion of the Point Reyes National Seashore, including management of the tule elk (*Cervus canadensis nannodes*). The enabling legislation stated the Point Reyes National Seashore was "Established for public benefit, recreation, and inspiration, Point Reyes National Seashore preserves a rugged and wild coastal peninsula and surrounding waters, connecting native ecosystems, enduring human history, and interpretive, scientific, and educational opportunities."

Approximately 85 percent (2,465 acres) of the Plan area is within the Phillip Burton Wilderness Area. The Plan area is also within the ancestral territory of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, a sovereign nation and federally recognized Indian Tribe, with which the NPS entered into a General Agreement for Government-to-Government Partnership in 2021 for management and stewardship of resources within the Seashore.

The stated purpose of the Plan is to "establish the management direction at Tomales Point for protecting natural resources, preserving cultural resources that include Tribal resources and values, preserving wilderness character, and improving visitor experiences." Management of tule elk will be a key component of the final Plan, which were native to the Plan area and a large portion of the Central Valley of California prior to European settlement, after which they were extirpated due to unregulated

subsistence hunting, livestock grazing and loss of habitat. They were reintroduced to Point Reyes National Seashore in 1978 by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Management of the tule elk herd, population monitoring and removal of the existing 3-mile long tule elk barrier fence in the southern portion of the Plan area are among the goals and objectives. This was necessitated, in part, by two periods of historic drought that adversely impacted habitat for the tule elk and its carrying capacity.

Management of resources within the Plan area will include, but will not be limited to, achieving desired conditions for 1) preservation of ecological function and connectivity, 2) preservation of native species including threatened and endangered species, 3) management of invasive/non-native species, and 4) preservation of wilderness character.

Comments

Defenders comments on the Plan and EA are as follows:

1. Alternatives: We strongly support Alternative B, the Preferred Alternative, because it provides for an unconfined tule elk herd and implementation of actions to preserve and restore habitat for a diversity of native species within the Plan area. This alternative most closely aligns with the NPS mission to protect natural resources, preserve cultural and Tribal resources and preserve wilderness character.

In contrast, Alternative A (No Action) would continue current management and leave current issues impacting resources unresolved, including 1) continuing to manage tule elk in a confined herd by retaining the existing tule elk barrier fence, 2) retaining existing supplemental water sources and mineral supplements, 3) limited management of invasive plants and 4) maintain existing tule elk herd monitoring activities. Emergency supplemental actions for tule elk (providing additional water and mineral supplements) would be discontinued, and the system of water tanks and troughs would be removed.

Alternative C would 1) retain the existing tule elk barrier fence, 2) control the tule elk herd population through artificial methods, including by lethal means, 3) enhancement of natural springs and seeps and 4) actions to preserve resources. This alternative would result in some improvements in the conditions of the resources within the Plan area, but leave unresolved the issue of confining the tule elk herd by retaining the existing barrier fence.

2. PG&E Infrastructure: Under the proposed Operation and Maintenance Plan for management of the existing Pacific Gas and Electric infrastructure, NPS will explore alternates to providing electricity at the Pierce Ranch complex, including potential microgrid or undergrounding opportunities.

Defenders recommends development and implementation of an alternative that provides electricity to the Pierce Ranch with an on-site photo-voltaic solar facility and battery storage system so that the existing overhead distribution system can be eliminated.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, Defenders urges the NPS to adopt Alternative B, and reject Alternatives A and C in its final decision for management of the Tomales Point area. Please contact me if you would like to discuss our comments or have any questions we may be able to answer.

Sincerely,

Jeff Aardahl

Senior California Representative

jaardahl@defenders.org

Correspondence ID: 6332

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 6333

Protect all parks and open land on precious Mother Earth!

Correspondence ID: 6334

Please protect all natural areas, land and water, to ensure the integrity of the natural area!

Correspondence ID: 6335

I wish to express my immense disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. I am horrified by the lack of empathy and protections for the land and animals in the park. Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly oppose the proposed Alternatives A and C.

Correspondence ID: 6336

Please remove the fencing and set the native tule elk free on the land where they have lived for a millennia. Eliminate all cattle grazing and the troughs from this land to restore to it's natural splendor by also eliminating PG&E power lines. This is sacred land that should be treated as such without the use of herbicides and a place where fires can burn as they should.

Thank you!!

Correspondence ID: 6337

I fully support "Alternative B" of the plan, which would bring down the 8-foot fence and allow the elk to roam freely enough to find water and food sources, even during times of drought.

Correspondence ID: 6338

Thank you for the opportunity to help save my National Park and its wildlife. The wild Elk desire more freedom; for God's sake, they live in a National Park. Why does the park service cater to cattle at the expense of wildlife in the park?

Most importantly, I want the NPS to adopt "preferred alternative," ALTERNATIVE B, which will remove a fence that has confined the elk to one small part of the Seashore. This fence prevents the herd from migrating to find water and food sources during droughts that have led to severe die-offs.

The fence was originally installed to prevent elk from competing with cattle for forage on private cattle ranches that lease about 1/3 of the total Seashore area.

My support of Alternative B has several positive aspects that will lead to including:

- Removal of the 3-mile elk-fence
- Improving habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk
- Coordination and co-management of the area's natural and cultural resources with Tribal partners
- Upgraded visitor amenities including improvements to trails and restrooms

Correspondence ID: 6339

The Earth is warming rapidly and with over 8 billion people the Earth is becoming crowded with humans. The land and animals you save now may save humans in the future. No one is going to want to live in a rat warren of nothing but buildings. Humans need wide open spaces with light, greenery and creatures - just like the incomparable Tule Elk. Those elk are rare and precious. They need land and if some farms have to be sacrificed, so be it. Those elk are nowhere, but in Marin County and are priceless.

Please plan no fences for them and a great deal more land. Thus far, we have treated them abominably. Be enlightened and think of the future children and citizens who will be enriched by catching glimpses of them while enjoying the greenery in Marin! Thanks.

Correspondence ID: 6341

“ I am writing to express my immense disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk - an integral ecological and historical component of the park - have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C. “

Correspondence ID: 6342

We must protect our natural ecosystems, we need them to save the planet and save ourselves.

Correspondence ID: 6343

June 4, 2024

Tomales Bay Foundation comments on

Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment

Tomales Bay Foundation (TBF) endorses the initiatives to regulate Visitor Capacity and Visitor Use Management as stated on page 12 in the action alternatives “B” and “C” of the Environmental Assessment for the Tomales Point Area Plan (Plan):

"A new location-based reservation system would be established for authorized Tomales Bay beach camping locations within the planning area to improve visitor wayfinding and to protect natural and cultural resources. This would be incorporated into the current reservation system to require use of specific assigned locations or other similar options."

This protection of natural and cultural resources as well as quality of visitor experience will require limiting day and overnight use of specified beaches so their "carrying capacity" by park visitors is not exceeded, i.e. "the level of use that a recreation resource can receive without suffering negative impacts to its environmental elements or the visitor experience." These carrying capacity limits can be assessed by surveys of visitor experiences and consultation with best practices, guides and boat rental operators. These limits should be adjusted in the future based on subsequent surveys of visitor experience and assessment by NPS of impacts to natural and cultural resources.

Our common goal is to protect water and natural resource quality within the context of increasing recreational use of Tomales Bay. During a recent tour of Tomales Bay beaches our board members noted on some beaches within the Plan area very limited space for camping sites above the high tide lines and that patches of beachside coastal scrub were being used for depositing human waste. Therefore, we suggest re-evaluation of permitted camping on beaches without pit toilets and no camping on beaches where camping is impractical.

At all beaches closed to camping in the planning area (Duck Beach, Avalis Beach, Jacks Beach, Pelican Point, Laird's Landing, Sacramento Landing, and Duck Cove), NPS should erect small signs to be placed at the water's edge, and another sign back where camping takes place that reminds visitors that overnight camping is not allowed.

Closures of overnight camping on beaches must be enforced with regular patrols by NPS especially during periods of high use in summer and winter Dungeness crab season. For instance, Jack's Beach in the Plan area has unpermitted camping that has resulted in ad-hoc toilets, large fire rings, tables, chairs, cooking utensils, trash, and human waste. These impacts have affected indigenous Miwok archeological resources such as middens, and they have obvious natural resource impacts.

Thank you for considering these points for implementing the action alternatives to the Plan. The TBF and NPS both share the vision of protecting these precious places and working together we can facilitate increased visitor activity while keeping environmental harm to a minimum.

Sincerely, Tom Gaman, President

and the Board of the Tomales Bay Foundation

www.tomalesbayfoundation.org

Correspondence ID: 6344

I support free roaming elk.

Correspondence ID: 6346

Please preserve these wild spaces, and allow what Nature has blessed this area with, to roam and live freely;.

It should be your most important duty, you are charged to do this on behalf of the American people.

Thank you for doing the right thing, and removing these fences that have exacerbated a painful die-off of these majestic creatures.

Sincerely, Mary Jo Leach Florence, OR

Correspondence ID: 6347

The Tule Elk need to be able to roam free. It's terrible that some have died because they couldn't access food and water. These native animals have more right to be on this land than do the cows belonging to profit making dairies. This land should be used by corporations. Free the tule elk.

Sincerely, Jan Jones

Correspondence ID: 6348

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) Environmental Assessment

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for the opportunity to make public comments for the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) Environmental Assessment. This TPAP final decision will have significant material impacts for all areas of Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) and the West Marin community, not just the defined Tomales Point planning area. Therefore, it is essential that the final TPAP recognizes the environmental, scenic, socioeconomic, environmental justice, and cultural impacts for areas within and adjacent to Tomales Point and PRNS.

Alternative C is the best option for enabling the National Park Service to fulfil its mandates across the entirety of PRNS as it will best enable NPS staff to fulfill PRNS' stated management objectives in all zones. It would be a grievous error to not conduct a full Environmental Impact Study that carefully examines the obvious and serious impacts that will occur in all areas of PRNS because of the discreet planning actions for the Tomales Point Area. It is clearly evident that PRNS is one ecosystem. To not effectively examine the real and definite environmental impacts that a major management strategy change in Tomales Point (the removal of the elk fence) will cause in other PRNS areas, specifically the adjacent Ranchland Zone, is a dereliction of duty in safeguarding the environmental and cultural integrity of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Alternative C best supports a thriving PRNS that meets the intended outcomes for all NPS-defined goals for the established zoning areas of PRNS. In summary, Alternative C will best protect the environmental and cultural and historic resources in land areas adjacent to Tomales Point and it will ensure a well-managed and thriving Tule Elk herd. Furthermore, Alternative C will help preserve critical Park resources, improve visitor experiences to Tomales Point and continue critically important partnership with Native Tribe ecological and traditional management and preservation activities within this area. Alternative C could be further improved to advance the maintenance of environmental and cultural elements of Tomales Point and the rest of PRNS. Active management of the Tule Elk herd supports the environmental maintenance of the TPAP planning area. Due to the historical changes in vegetation type and availability over the past 50 years (see page 17 of PRNS 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan) in the Tomales Point Area since the introduction of elk, it would seem necessary to study and continually assess every few years the carrying capacity of the Tule Elk herd in the TPAP planning area. This will support an elk stocking rate that is more in balance with the land carrying capacity given the more frequent drought cycles influenced by a rapidly changing climate.

Alternative A and Alternative B, if chosen, will result in deleterious effects to PRNS. The ineffective implementation of the management and maintenance plan for the existing Tomales Point Tule Elk herd by NPS has caused horrific consequences to these animals. A more rigorous assessment for strengthening the management approach for overall elk herd health is clearly necessary. Simply removing a fence will not solve for NPS' ineffective management of Tule Elk in a confined zone, even if the zone is bigger than before. The NPS should learn important lessons for how to effectively manage Tule Elk herds in California from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. This engagement with CDFW should occur through the public confines of a proper Environmental Impact Study and subsequent drafting of a Tomales Point management plan that outlines the specific management practices that PRNS staff must implement to ensure elk herd health in the Tomales Point Area. Furthermore, the management of Tule Elk at PRNS has fueled a false dichotomy between NPS-zoned and managed Wilderness and Ranchland areas, resulting in enmity and harassment of farmers and ranchers for simply operating in a federally designated ranching zone. The TPAP Environmental Assessment preferred option is, therefore, insufficient to protect PRNS natural and cultural resources throughout PRNS.

The Environmental Assessment's Appendix B outlines a series of topics dismissed from detailed environmental analysis. The re-introduction of elk herds to the northern area of the Ranchland Zone and the expected consequential demise of dairy farming and cattle ranching in this area as a long-term consequence of that management decision will very likely augment wildfire risk in the area. Elk are ineffective in slowing the encroachment of coastal woody shrubs. Therefore, as grasslands fade over time due to lack of cattle grazing, like they have in Tomales Point, the risk of severe wildfire in PRNS will increase. This will clearly result in risk to human health and safety for both park visitors, inhabitants, and surrounding communities and should be analyzed in an Environmental Impact Study (EIS).

The removal of the elk fence will most definitely have serious socioeconomic impacts on existing dairy and beef ranching businesses operating in the Ranchland Zone. It is completely false to state that the Drakes Beach herds have been found to have no significant impact historic ranching operations (TPAP EA B-4). At least one farming operation has observed negative financial harm ranging from tens of thousands to over one-hundred thousand dollars per year in the form of increased feed costs due to the forage competition and off-farm feed "stealing" by the Drake's Beach elk herd. The fact that NPS staff are unaware of this reality is evidence that the socioeconomic impacts of the Tomales Point Area Plan on PRNS ranches must be analyzed in an EIS.

The Environmental Assessment claims that "the TPAP would not...negatively impact minority populations". This is false. The introduction of ever-increasing populations of Tule Elk to the ranchland zones will lead to both sudden and slow exits of farmers from PRNS. As these farms shut down, farm laborers, who predominately are racial minorities will lose their housing and livelihoods. Families will be forced to move out of the region, putting negative pressure on local public schools, which have large populations of racial minorities. This in turn will impact resource allocation for rural West Marin schools resulting in more disadvantaged conditions for racial minority youth in this region. The environmental justice chain effects of this preferred decision by NPS are very serious. Further analysis must be pursued to understand these effects through a proper EIS.

Finally, the decisions being made by NPS staff through the TPAP Environmental Assessment are putting PRNS ranchers and dairy farmers at an impossible position in their negotiations for 20-year leases or relocation opportunities paired with just compensation. By releasing the Tomales Point elk herd into the Ranchland Zone it will further exacerbate tenuous farming conditions and make it a fait accompli that the ranches will eventually be forced out of business due to poor farm economics caused from forage competition between cattle and elk. NPS' prolonged (indefinite) lease negotiations with ranch operators

have resulted in the loss of dairy farms in PRNS and continues to negatively impact the few remaining farms today. The TPAP Environmental Assessment preferred option endangers the livelihoods of farmers in the Ranchland Zone. NPS staff could show good faith in the negotiations of the lease terms with PRNS farmers by choosing a TPAP preferred option that supports, rather than undermines, these important negotiations while also fulfilling their obligations to the General Management Plan Record of Decision. This is a critical decision for the future of the West Marin food and farming community!

Correspondence ID: 6349

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6350

I am writing to express my immense disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk - an integral ecological and historical component of the park - have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C.

Correspondence ID: 6352

Dewar Sirs,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Management Plan.

I support Alternative B for the following reasons:

*Removal of the fence will provide elk with greater access to forage and water. Problems with drought and lack of food in the past has given us proof that these wild animals really need more room to roam and forage.

*Allowing these elk to travel more will promote better genetic diversity.

* I highly approve of any work to remove non-native invasive species.

* I feel that Alternative B will allow Best Management Practices to be used to minimize impact to existing wildlife.

* I also feel strongly that wildlife friendly fencing should be used to ensure safe wildlife passage while keeping cows out of the planning area.

Other potential developments such as expanded parking, a new trail and even a campground have been mentioned in the plan. All these developments have significant potential impacts on the ecosystem and wildlife. Any future developments aside from the removal of the existing fence should be carefully evaluated and analyzed in the future.

Sincerely, David Wimpfheimer

Correspondence ID: 6353

I support removing the Tomales Point elk fence allowing the herd to access water and to roam in a more natural manner. I also support the judicious management of the land in cooperation of with the local Native tribe to give the elk the best environment in which to live.

Thank you.

Ruth Harris

Correspondence ID: 6354

Dear National Park Service,

Please consider freeing the rare Tule Elk by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point.

Thank you for your consideration,

Karen Anderson

Correspondence ID: 6355

I would like to see the tule elk allowed out of their fenced in area and given water and food if necessary. Alternative PlanB favored by Wildcare and the Marin Humane Society I favor also. It is inhumane to leave the elk to starve to death fenced into their allotted area.

Please help.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely Nancy Dunbar

Correspondence ID: 6356

With every passing year, the environmental health of the West Coast becomes more dire.

Correspondence ID: 6357

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence.

It has been well documented that the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park.

I believe Point Reyes National Park should be home to the iconic Tule Elk, not a leased land for cows, cattle and any other commercial use.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point.

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's currently confined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 6358

Remove all fencing and restore Pt. Reyes for the elk. Discontinue dairy ranching on this public land.

Correspondence ID: 6359

I believe the best option is Alternative B, the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness makes the most sense. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Correspondence ID: 6360

I SUPPORT YOUR PLAN TO TAKE DOWN THE ELK FENCE

Correspondence ID: 6361

Please take fence down and allow the Tule Elk to roam freely.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6362

The best option is the NPS preferred option, Alternative B. Removing structures in the Wilderness and the fence outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Water structures built unlawfully in the Wilderness should be removed through non-invasive means. The structures are small, easily removable without the use of motor vehicles.

Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered, such as Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Ecologically, there are a few points which needs to be addressed, such as grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants

Secondly, the use herbicides in the Wilderness should be stopped. Herbicides contain chemicals which harm more than the invasive species but also natural, local biodiversity, but also the things which eat any of them.

Lastly, this concerns the removal of the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 6363

I support removing the fence around the Tule Elk. They are wild animals that will not harm the dairy cows. If for some reason they cannot be together, then the dairy cows should leave. It is public land, Tule Elk are public, the cows are private. Please, please, allow the Tule Elk have free range.

Correspondence ID: 6364

Dear Park Service:

I am a long time Pt. Reyes enthusiast. I urge you to allow the tule elk to thrive in the National Seashore. They have lost much of their habitat and need a healthy home. The elk fence is not beneficial to them, please remove it.

Paul Belz

Correspondence ID: 6366

I am writing to express my immense disapproval of the current management plan of the tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, the elk - an integral ecological and historical component of the park - have been subject to unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. It is extremely disturbing that the park service has consistently chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C.

Correspondence ID: 6367

The easiest and best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is key. Also, please consider some additional changes to Alternative B.

Alternatives A and C must be opposed since they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Removal of the unlawful water structures in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and do not require the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Cattle grazing should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Do NOT use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6369

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Removal of water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be done by non-motorized means. The structures are small and could easily be removed without the use of motor vehicles.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6370

I support alternative B, including the removal of the elk enclosure fence. I also support the decision not to consider a PRNS-wide management plan for Tule Elk, as more study should be done once they are no longer artificially enclosed.

United States law requires the park service to conserve the wildlife with its units, and specifically to administer PRNS "without impairment of its natural values".

Enclosing the elk, and especially in an area with insufficient forage and water impairs the park's natural value as a habitat for elk, and results in loss of wildlife that otherwise would have thrived. The elk fence must be removed to bring PRNS policy into conformance with its legal obligations as a unit of the national park system.

To ensure Tomales Point maintains its wilderness character, the elk enclosure fence should be replaced with wildlife friendly fencing per federal regulations, such that the elk can safely enter and exit the area while excluding domestic cattle.

In addition PRNS should increase its efforts to remove invasive plant species in Tomales point area, including non-natives grasses, thistles, and mustard.

Correspondence ID: 6371

I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd.

Correspondence ID: 6374

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 6378

I am a lifelong resident of Marin and am now in my 70s. I have had the luxury of exploring, hiking and enjoying all of Marin since my early childhood. The Point Reyes peninsula is my second home. I always found it strange that the tule elk should be stuck behind a fence in the middle of nowhere, in one of the most expansive, beautiful parts of the world ...all for the sake of the ranchers.

Why bother reintroducing them if you are going to keep them captive?

Lease, take down the fence!!

Thank you,

Emeigh and family

Correspondence ID: 6380

I have been following the Tule Elk situation for a few years now. It's difficult for me to understand why the fence has not been removed so they have free range of the park. I understand that Alternative B is the preferred option. This plan includes removal of some structures and the fence just outside the wilderness area. The best way to remove these structures which are small and further protect the parks habitat is by using non motorized means. In order to protect native plants and animals in the park, it would be best to incorporate a MRA or "Minimum Requirements Analysis" for larger structures. The grazing of cattle should be phased out. They were never meant to be allowed to graze in this park which causes further destruction to the habitat. In order to allow better distribution of Tule Elk and native plants its best not to use herbicides. Its better for the health of the park to let nature take over and "do its thing".

I urge you to do what is best for the Tule Elk and the park and start helping things get better instead of hindering the situation Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6384

Marin Audubon Society

P.O. Box 599 1 MILL VALLEY, CA 94942-0599 MARINAUDUBON.ORG

June 4, 2024

Tomales Point Area Plan

Acting Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: COMMENTS ON TOMALES POINT AREA PLAN and ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Dear Acting Superintendent:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment. Marin Audubon's analysis finds that the impacts of removing the elk-enclosure fence will have many beneficial effects for the Tule elk as well as other wildlife of the Seashore. We therefore strongly support the preferred Alternative B which would remove the fence. Our comments below clarify our support for Alternative B as well as include some questions and concerns about aspects of the Plan.

The EA review focuses on removal of the fence that has confined elk since they were introduced in 1978. The EA clarifies that it only addresses the Tomales Point Peninsula, the project area, and not elsewhere in the Seashore. However, there are a few instances where circumstances elsewhere at the Seashore are mentioned.

The EA also mentions other components of the Alternatives and these include natural resources, new trail erosion and parking lot repair, visitor uses, and wilderness experience. It was clarified at the May 22 public meeting that the other aspects of the Plan have been developed to the program level only and that project designs and analyses will be conducted at a later date.

MAS supports the Plan:

Elk Benefits — allowing natural movement on the landscape, mixing of the herds, and access to additional habitat and forage will result in increased genetic diversity, and healthier herds. In addition, some elk moving away from the Point Will result in reduction or elimination of impacts on Tomales Point habitats such as elimination of trampling of seeps.

Other benefits - Other wildlife will also benefit from the ability to move freely among habitats, genetic diversity will expand, and animals will be healthier without being trapped behind the fence.

Removal of the fence will restore connectivity between Tomales Point and the rest of the Seashore habitats, allowing more natural movement of all wildlife species. All animals now confined will be able to interact with a broader range of

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

native species, enabling them to find new sources of food and water thereby restoring a more natural ecosystem.

Areas of concern:

1. Impacts of elk on ranchers:

Removal of the elk fence could affect the ranchers or ranches if the elk go onto grazing land or leave the seashore boundaries. The EA states that it is not expected this would be a problem. Not noted in the EA is that in the past, some lessees and commenters have complained about elk eating forage and damaging fences.

At the May 22 meeting, when asked what the NPS would do if the elk leave the Seashore boundaries at some time in the future, the response was that they “would be returned to the Park.” However, there is no mention of actions NPS would take for elk that may cause damage on ranchlands.

How decisions on management of the elk are, and will be, made should be discussed. The EA states that the elk would be managed as is the Limantour herd. The Record of Decision for the General Management Plan for Point Reyes Seashore describes the management of the elk at Limantour as including various methods such as monitoring elk behavior and movement, hazing to make the animals move away, and lethal removal.

We would like to have clarified how the NPS determines what actions it 'll take in regard to behaviors of the elk. Would the NPS rely solely on input from ranchers that one or more elk are damaging their fence, or eating forage they want for their cows? How much damage and of what kind would an elk need to do for lethal action to be taken? Are there standards or guidelines the NPS uses for making these decisions?

2. Additional concerns:

Impacts of new trail. The EA states that a new trail would be constructed at a location where the views are good. It does not describe the proposed trail, nor is there an explanation of why it is needed, or what its impacts on habitat and wildlife would be. As stated above, at the May 22 hearing, it was explained that only the elk fence has been analyzed fully, that other components will be developed later. It was explained that the intent of the trail is to provide inclusive access and that it is not intended to be a major project. For the trail and other components of Alternative B (e.g. parking lot and trail

improvements) there should be opportunities in the future to comment on project need, design, location, and potential impacts to habitat and wildlife.

Impacts on endangered butterfly. We are concerned about potential impacts to the western dog violet, the only host plant for the larvae of the endangered Myrtle silver spot butterfly, and to native nectar species, with reduced elk grazing on Tomales Point. Thatch and invasive species may increase with fewer elk grazing which could adversely impact the butterfly and its required host and nectar plant species. We recommend that a monitoring program be established to follow the status of the Myrtle silver spot butterfly and its required host and nectar species. Any on-ground work should be planned to avoid impacts to these species and action should be taken to address declines that are recorded.

Plant impacts. Also, the Point Reyes blennosperma, a federally listed plant species, is growing in the Pierce Ranch overflow parking lot and it could be destroyed with parking lot improvements. Design planning for the parking lot work should avoid impacts to this species.

In conclusion, Marin Audubon strongly supports Alternative B. We thank you for considering and responding to our comments, We request that the additional components of Alternative B receive thorough environmental analysis, in particular the new trail and the parking lot improvements. Please ensure we are on the notification list for the environmental review and any other future notifications.

Thank you for considering our input.

Barbara Salzman

President

Correspondence ID: 6385

I support Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 6386

I fully support Plan B for the tule elk. It is essential that the NPS release the tule elk, dismantle the 8 foot fence.

I am thoroughly disgusted that these animals perished under ALL of our watch! We can do much better!

I ask you to release the animals. Tear down the fence.. Let them roam. hey were here long before us.

Do the right thing. The HUMAN right decision so we don't lose our way.. Thank you for your good decision and collaboration..

Marguerite Moriarty

ICARE

Correspondence ID: 6387

Dear sir.

Some creatures are in our control and our actions have a great impact on their habitats and homes. This world is not only for humans. I have to do my share of the continuity of life. They have no one but us, the true lovers of the earth. Please protect the environment until protectd Elk and others creatures, they also have the right to live.

Special thanks for your efforts and attentions .

With respect

Sincerely yours

Reza Mohammadpour

Correspondence ID: 6388

“Give them (tule elk) land lots of land under starry skies above, don't fence them in.”

Point Reyes National Seashore is no Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP), however, it will be quite a day when tule elk roam freely through Point Reyes Station as elk roam freely in Estes Park, CO right outside of RMNP.

Correspondence ID: 6389

Dear NPS,

Please consider the relative fragility of the Tule Elk. There aren't many of them left! We need to find ways to nurture their existence! They are an iconic California species! Please use Alternative B in your decision which will allow removal of the fence at Point Reyes and the water structure and finally the PG&E power lines! Also, please do not allow cattle at point Reyes! Nor should herbicides be used in Wilderness! Thank you for not involving heavy motorized machinery!

I appreciate your efforts to create a better world for the Tule Elk!

Bonnie

Correspondence ID: 6390

To the National Park Service, Pt. Reyes National Seashore:

I support Alternative B, the NPS proposal to remove the elk fence in the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, and appreciate that NPS will announce a timeline for the fence removal. I trust that this timeline will consider what is best for the herds' thriving. I also support the NPS environmental assessment of the land with best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation in the planning area to minimize immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife.

Thank you, Margaret Lauer

Correspondence ID: 6392

Thank you for what you are doing to better preserve Tomales Point. Our magnificent wildlife will flourish better under your careful efforts. Your cooperation with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will also help bring traditional knowledge to preserve this magnificent elk herd better.

I can only imagine the delight of every one who sees these amazing beasts in our beautiful country. You must be justifiably proud of your hard work as an agency to preserve them for our future.

Thank you again.

Correspondence ID: 6393

- Thank you, National Park Service, for listening to the overwhelming voices of the public to maintain the elk fence along the current borders. Fences are appropriate in leased areas to keep elk and cattle on your leased properties separate.
- Please execute ALTERNATIVE C, MAINTAIN ELK FENCE AND MONITOR Elk Herd.
- When Tomales Point elk population threshold is reached, refer to the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan:

"In 1998, the NPS completed the Tule Elk Management Plan, which recommended retaining the elk fence and managing elk at Tomales Point with "as little population management as possible," and allowed for the establishment of a free-ranging herd. After translocation from Tomales Point and a 6-month disease monitoring quarantine, 28 elk were released to the Limantour area in 1999 as the free-ranging herd."

The southern wilderness area has capacity for additional elk relocation if needed due to over capacity at TP..

- Reduce the planned development of roads and parking areas to preserve the natural plant habitats.
- Limit day use via a counting system set up outside the TPAP border
- FIGR interests lie in the whole PRNS, not limited to TPAP, so please allow their use of management techniques and systems to preserve the dairy and cattle ranches as well as relocate elk to the southern park areas.

Your careful, honest consideration of the responses to this comment period by local residents and engaged public is appreciated vs the form letters sent by litigants in the current NPS lawsuit from their subscribers.

Correspondence ID: 6395

Dear NPS Staff

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I urge you to initiate Alternative B to remove the elk fence to fulfill the primary goal of wilderness preservation under federal regulations.

"Eighty-five percent of the 2,900-acre planning area is part of the Phillip Burton Wilderness, the only federally designated wilderness in the Bay Area. A central objective of the plan is to promote the area's "wilderness character." The environmental assessment states that under the park's preferred approach for managing Tomales Point, "the untrammled, natural, and undeveloped qualities of wilderness character would be meaningfully improved." The park service conducted the environmental assessment to comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act."

I highly recommend that NPS start following the environmental assessments that it conducted stating that ranching does not support the preservation of native grasses or wilderness habitat. Remove the elk fence and move toward ending ranch leases to restore PRNS to achieve the mission of the park. "to preserve and protect the vanishing coastal seashore." The park has fulfilled its commitment to "preserve the historical" nature of ranching history with the Morgan Horse and Pierce Point Ranches. Keeping the public out of 1/3 of the park, especially the most scenic section in the northern beaches and Lighthouse, with barbed wire fences is a tragedy. We can no longer afford to allow Big Ag and Ranch lobbies to dictate profiteering for a few dozen ranchers to the detriment of wildlife, environmental health, and public access by the millions of visitors to the park each year, excluded from 1/3 of our national seashore.

The original environmental assessment/FEIS that NPS sourced for its 2021 ROD stated that cows on park lands are a detriment to water quality and wildlife. NPS has not held ranchers to the terms of the 2021 ROD, as they continued to pollute the park with 11 sites spewing human sewage, ignore requirements and environmental laws for ranch operations. Ranchers continue to ignore terms of their leases as all leased sites have dilapidated, unmaintained buildings, violating lease terms. As dairies close, more

grazing cows are released into the park, continuing to spread Johnes disease that infects wildlife in the park.

Additionally, I support eliminating campsites that infringe on Miwok sacred sites. The Tomales Point Plan needs to prioritize indigenous rights and preservation of wildlife.

Sincerely, Margo Wixsom – 375 Aberdeen Way, Inverness, CA 94937

Correspondence ID: 6396

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 6398

As a United States citizen, I support Point Reyes Tule Elk should be free-roaming managed, just like they were as a natural herd, without fences.

Correspondence ID: 6400

There seems to be discussion about the “historic” nature of the ranches. Why can we not turn the ranches into museums? Logging the CA redwoods was historic, and while mills now serve as museums, logging redwood has long been rejected as being environmentally unsound. So should it be with ranching.

Of course the Tule Elk should be set free. The fence must come down! Visitors to the park will grow to see the elk. No one comes to the park to see the ranches. There are tons of ranches in West Marin proper to drive by. In fact, the same families who lease ranches on the Seashore own ranches in West Marin. They should move their operations across Tomales Bay.

Dr. Martin Griffin spent his final year battling against the polution and destruction the ranchers are causing to PRNS and the GGNRA. Let us honor his memory by tear the fence down.

Correspondence ID: 6402

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental assessment I believe that the best plan offered is Alternative B. Alternatives A and C would damage the wilderness aspects of this area and cause harm to Tule elk.

I would like to suggest additional changes to Alternative B:

1. Removal of fences and water tanks should be done by non-motorized means to preserve the wilderness character of this area.
2. Grazing cattle should not be allowed. They degrade the landscape and cattle were never intended to be present when the seashore was established.
3. Avoid the use of herbicides. Once the Tule elk are allowed to roam they will minimize the growth of invasive plants.
4. Natural fires should be allowed to burn as fire has proven to be an important ally of Wilderness for centuries.

Correspondence ID: 6403

Please adopt Alternative B, which removes structures in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, to free the rare Tule Elk.

Correspondence ID: 6406

I am appalled that there is such a thing to begin with. How cruel and inhumane. Shame on you

Correspondence ID: 6409

I agree with the NPS preferred option — Alternative B. Please tear down the fence and let the elk roam in the wilderness. The Point Reyes National Seashore exists for all Americans, not just the handful of ranchers, and Americans want their wilderness wild. It is time.

Correspondence ID: 6414

I AM IN FAVOR OF REMOVING FENCING AND WHATEVER OTHER MAN-MADE OBSTRUCTIONS IN ORDER TO BENEFIT THE SPECIAL HERD OF TULE ELK IN THIS AREA. WILDLIFE IS DEALING WITH AN UNPRECEDENTED LEVEL OF CLIMATE DISRUPTIONS WHICH WILL ONLY INCREASE IN THE COMING YEARS. RETURNING THE ECOSYSTEM TO AS NATURAL A STATE AS POSSIBLE IS NECESSARY TO GIVE THESE ANIMALS A BETTER CHANCE OF SURVIVAL. IF THIS LAND IS SUBJECT TO DROUGHT, WILDFIRE, OR FLOODING THE ELK WILL NEED MORE ROOM TO ROAM AND FENCING WILL LIMIT THAT.

Correspondence ID: 6415

Tule elk were abundant when Sir Francis Drake sailed into what is now Drake's Bay in 1579. By 1870 they had been hunted to the point of extinction throughout California. Thus their re-introduction in 1978, after 100 years of absence, continued their some 10,000-year history in the area.

After the Park was established in 1962 the public acquired the ranch lands. The owners were offered a lease for a specified term, so that they could continue their operations. It was not the original intent that these leases would continue for ever; had that been so, why was taxpayer money used to purchase the land outright?

Now the National Park Service is about to sign off on a plan to offer 20-year leases, and to permit B & Bs, retail stores and additional livestock. With the accelerating public move away from dairy products, it is questionable whether dairy operations here will be viable in 20 years. I support Preferred Alternative B, which removes the Elk Fence on Tomales Point; an area where I have hiked many times.

By a 90% margin, members of the public responded to a Park Service survey that they preferred the ranches to be phased out in 5 years.

Chris Jones

Correspondence ID: 6416

I support Alternative Plan B at Pt. Reyes National Seashore to eliminate the 3 mile fence and let the tule elk be free roaming to forage and access water.

This is a great first step to let this native species live in their native habitat, which coincides with the National Park Mission statement. The next step, which is exactly 37 years overdue, is eliminate all ranches in the Park, as agreed on and paid for in 1962. Ranches were purchased then and given 25 years to leave. The public overwhelmingly supports removing these cattle and dairy operations.

The tule elk will be instrumental in the restoration of the native landscape which is so degraded by the cattle and dairy operations.

I have personally enjoyed observing tule elk for 43 years throughout their native habitat in California!

Respectfully Submitted,

Stu Phillips

Correspondence ID: 6418

Please allow the native Americans to manage the elk and their habitat. They know what they need to thrive.

Correspondence ID: 6420

It is critical to have free roaming elk populations. The fences are killing them. Take the fences down, and remove the cattle that are poisoning the land and the water. This is public land! Please stop leasing it to private interests to profit from!

Correspondence ID: 6422

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Correspondence ID: 6423

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 6424

Dear Superintendent Kenkel and NPS administration,

I support the Alternative B plan: Unconfined Elk Herd and Removal of the "Elk" Fence!

As a resident of Inverness CA and an observer of both the destruction and die-off caused by this formidable 8 foot fence as well as the destruction of the land and its resources from the continuation of ranching, the fence must come down!

Thank you, Andrea Glass

Correspondence ID: 6425

I visited your beautiful park several years ago but since then I have been concerned with the treatment of your Tule elk population. So, I am very excited to hear that you are getting rid of the lethal fence that prevented elk from roaming freely through the park. I am also pleased to hear that you will be collaborating with local tribal groups going forward. These are both encouraging steps in being better stewards of our national parks. I hope other park managers will follow your lead. At a time of distressing developments in how we treat the planet, from global warming to widespread chemical and plastics pollution, your decision on the elk is giving me hope for the future. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 6426

June 5, 2024

Anne Altman

Acting Superintendent

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes National Seashore

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Subject: Comments on Draft Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Analysis

Dear Acting Superintendent:

We are writing for the Board of Directors and the 21,000-plus members and followers of the Public Lands Conservancy (PLC), a nonprofit organization, dedicated to the protection of public lands and waters for all Americans.

On behalf of followers and members, we commend the park by creating the Draft Tomales Point Area Plan/Environmental Assessment (DTPAP/EA). Overall, the Public Lands Conservancy (PLC) supports ALTERNATIVE B: UNCONFINED ELK HERD, IMPROVED VISITOR AMENITIES, AND EXPLORE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF PIERCE RANCH CORE AREA (NPS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE). This option best meets National Park Service (NPS) applicable laws, specific Point Reyes National Seashore legislation, and 2006 NPS Management Policies.

We believe the longstanding issues at Tomales Point with the elk fence conflict with the conservation of key park resources and is inconsistent with NPS law and policy. As stated in NPS Management Policies 2006, Section 1.4.3, "The fundamental purpose of the national park system, established by the Organic Act and reaffirmed by the General Authorities Act, as amended, begins with a mandate to conserve park resources and values. This mandate is independent of the separate prohibition on impairment and applies all the time with respect to all park resources and values, even when there is no risk that any park resources or values may be impaired. NPS managers must always seek ways to avoid, or to minimize to the greatest extent practicable, adverse impacts on park resources and values." We are therefore in full support of removing the tule elk fence

We are encouraged that the DTPAP/EA does address the long-term future and management of tule elk in the planning area. Reintroduced in 1978 and later in 1999 to the Limantour Area, tule elk are a keystone species critical to ecosystem health. Removing the restrictive fence has long-term positive implications for the health of the park's entire ecosystem. Additionally, the removal of the fence would meet the California State goal to "Reduce the number of confined (Tule elk) herds" (CDFW 2018). We recommend that the herd be adaptively managed with carrying capacity population levels set in broad ranges.

We recommend the Final TPAP/EA needs to set a visitor carrying capacity for the planning area and commit to a Visitor Carrying Capacity Study. For effective management, day-use and overnight visitor-use quotas should be established and a data-based monitoring system should be in place. We have observed visitation already exceeds the visitor carrying capacity that promotes a wilderness experience on weekends, holidays, and summer months. Parking of cars is often seen outside designated parking areas as well as crowding on the Tomales Point Trail.

As directed by the National Parks and Recreation Act, the National Park Service is required to set a visitor-carrying capacity for all areas of a park. Visitation of the park has grown steadily since its inception (and is expected to grow by 2% per year) and setting carrying capacity is a requirement of applicable law and policy. Since the park has not shared any visitor use or capacity data, nor any visitor experience quality data, there is no evidence that the park is not exceeding current capacity, what the visitor capacity of the area is, and whether resources are not being degraded.

We are unsure why the development zone has been expanded, considering the DTPAP/EA indicates no parking expansion or additional visitor amenities except a new restroom. Please provide the area expansion rationale and give the size of the expansion in acres and what the impacts are in the final plan.

We support the continuation of education and interpretive and educational efforts at the historic Pierce Point Ranch. The site is an excellent location for sharing the rich ranching history that once helped to feed the San Francisco Bay Area. We also encourage the development of educational efforts to share the long-term history and use of the area by the Coast Miwok.

We support engaging appropriate Tribal entities to enhance resource knowledge and stewardship efforts. However, we would be remiss if we didn't express our concern about the public statements made by park officials regarding 50-50 cooperative management of the park with a Tribal entity. We believe that Congress has only delegated to the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service the legal authority and responsibility for managing the National Park System units and that authority cannot be redelegated outside NPS. We believe Tribes can be excellent partners and consultation should be conducted with them as applicable law requires. However, as your agreement with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria states "Nothing in this Agreement shall be understood to preempt the Tribe's or NPS's responsibilities under regulation or law." (General Agreement Number GPORE210001PS, 2021).

We want to thank the park staff for their dedication to preserving the National Seashore.

We look forward to the finalization of this planning effort and the tule elk fence being removed.

Sincerely, Tom Baty

President, Public Lands Conservancy

Correspondence ID: 6427

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Correspondence ID: 6428

June 5, 2024

Craig Kenkel, Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Subject: Comments on Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment (TPAP/EA)

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

I offer my comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan as a resident of Point Reyes Station, who is familiar with the Phillip Burton Wilderness, the dairies and ranches in the pastoral zone, and the presence of the elk in both. I have ridden horseback in the southern portion of the Wilderness for 50 years. On horseback I have encountered elk in the Wilderness area south of Limantour and hiked to see the elk out at Tomales Point. As my project in the University of California Environmentalist Certification program at

the park's Education Center in 2014, I studied the location and movement of elk in the Limantour herd. I write as a resident of Point Reyes concerned about the severe wildfire risk of conditions in the park, and the park's failure to take steps to reduce the wildfire risk that was made more severe by conditions left after both the 1995 Vision Fire, where blown embers led to a quickly extinguished fire less than 50 feet from my house, and the 2020 Woodward Fire, when I provided temporary pasture for 11 equines that were advised to evacuate homes south of Olema. I write as someone who has observed the deterioration of historic ranch structures in the Olema Valley as ranches closed, in particular, the Randall House and the Wilkins Ranch, and more recently the Stewart Ranch complex. I write as a member of a community with a severe shortage of affordable housing and with schools facing operational hardship because of a declining number of students. I see and hear of 3rd and 4th generation Seashore ranch and dairy families preparing to simply give up and move away as their operations are affected by free ranging tule elk competing with their cattle for limited forage. I write as a frustrated retired public law lawyer dismayed that NPS management has allowed, or perhaps encouraged, free ranging herds of elk to develop in the pastoral zone and threaten the existing of historic dairies and ranches without prior public review, and to do so while failing to restore the landscape in the Wilderness to reduce the wildfire risk, which would also accommodate the free ranging herd of elk as was proposed in the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan.

Summary of Comments:

The discussion of Alternative A, the “no action” alternative, is incomplete. Since the TPAP proposes to repeal the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan, Alternative A must include a description of current conditions in the southern portion of the Phillip Burton Wilderness where elk were moved pursuant to the 1998 Plan. Alternatives B and C must consider the environmental impact of repealing the 1998 Plan insofar as it serves as a plan for free ranging tule elk in the Wilderness from Limantour south. The park should consider as an additional alternative expanding the role of the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria to include assisting with elk and land management in the southern wilderness using the same tools and Traditional Ecological Knowledge proposed for use in the wilderness at Tomales Point. In addition to providing historic elk habitat, this would reduce the very high wildfire risk in this wildland-urban-interface and restore an historic Native American landscape.

Alternative A:

Alternative A in the TRAP/EA is described as “a continuation of current management at Tomales Point” Alternative A states that the tule elk at Tomales Point “would continue to be managed as a confined herd consistent with the State's original requirements of reintroduction and the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan.” Although the elk that remained at Tomales Point have remained a confined herd, the elk that were moved to the Limantour area in the southern Wilderness were to be and are an unconfined herd. The 2021 General Management Plan Amendment includes plans for managing the Drakes Beach herd, and the elk from the Limantour herd that move into the pastoral zone but repealing the 1998 Plan would leave no management plan for the elk that remain in the southern portion of the Wilderness.

The long-term goal in the 1998 Plan was that the elk moved from Tomales Point would be free ranging over “some 18,000 acres” in the southern wilderness area. The area where the free-ranging herd was to develop is shown in red and labeled the “Proposed Elk Range” in Figure 7 of the 1998 Plan. It is the wilderness area from Limantour south. The park cannot ignore this goal and progress toward it by simply repealing the 1998 Plan even if it is difficult to conduct a census of the Limantour herd in the wilderness area. That difficulty is described in the 2015-2016 Report on Tule Elk Monitory and Management at Point Reyes National Seashore:

“Of the three herds in the park, the Limantour herd is the most difficult to census. . . . The elk occur near road corridors at times, but the primary use areas are in the undeveloped wilderness that must be traveled on foot or by horseback. At this time, census surveys are performed on foot in the roadless wilderness area. The primary bachelor herd is regularly monitored for most of the year within the adjacent pastoral zone, but most of the elk, including the cows and juveniles, are spread across the wilderness area from its northern border to beyond Coast Camp and beyond to the south.”

Although I was unable to locate any more recent monitoring reports, within months of the 2020 Woodward Fire clearing the vegetation along the coastal grasslands and up to Inverness Ridge, while horseback riding in the park, I personally saw a young bull elk at the intersection of the Sky and Baldy Trails. I have also seen a herd of elk at Wildcat Beach and at Glen Camp, both substantially south of Coast Camp.

Having free-ranging elk in the wilderness is beneficial in multiple respects. In discussing Natural Resources, the 1998 Plan recognizes that as grazers, elk “assist in reducing fuel loads in grassland and shrub areas where they feed, decreasing the area's susceptibility to fire effects.” Their presence also creates a more historic wilderness experience for visitors to the area. The park must expand Alternative A to include a description of the free ranging elk in the Limantour/southern wilderness and the benefits of their presence.

Alternatives B & C:

The 2021 General Management Plan Amendment provides a plan for management of the Drakes Beach herd and the elk from Limantour that move into the pastoral zone, but the 2021 GMPA does not provide for management of the Limantour herd that remains in the southern wilderness and outside the 2021 GMPA planning area. Alternatives B and C must be revised to consider the consequences of repealing the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan as it relates to managing the elk in the southern wilderness area, and as discussed below, includes the possibility of moving additional elk from Tomales Point to the wilderness area.

Proposed Additional Alternative:

The 1998 Plan specifically provides for additional elk to be moved from Tomales Point to the southern wilderness “if the trial is determined successful.” The 1998 Plan is a success in that elk have moved into the 18,000 acres deemed suitable in the 1998 Plan for a free-ranging herd. TPAP should include an Alternative that provides for moving additional elk from Tomales Point into the southern wilderness area and expands the role of the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria to manage and to restore the historic landscape in that area just as the FIGR are to do at Tomales Point and in the “Scenic Landscapes” provided for in the 2021 GMPA. The elk moved from Tomales Point would be in a more historically appropriate environment than the pastoral zone and part of the solution to the existing wildfire risk in the wilderness. See the park's 2006 Operational Strategy for the Wildfire Management Plan. It would be an exceptional opportunity to restore an historic Native American working landscape with abundant sources for fresh water and re-create ideal habitat for tule elk.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments during the TPAP/EA planning process.

Judy Teichman

Correspondence ID: 6429

June 5, 2024

Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore

National Park Service

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment Comment

Dear Superintendent,

We are writing on behalf of our clients Jack Gescheidt, Laura Chariton, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund, in response to the announcement dated May 6, 2024, requesting comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. Please visit the following link for a formatted, pdf version of the below comments: <https://perma.cc/C2RS-RP3V>

I. Introduction

We strongly encourage the National Park Service (the Park Service) to implement its preferred alternative, the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) Environmental Assessment's (EA) Alternative B, with certain modifications. The Park Service must remove the Tomales Point elk fence, which prevents the tule elk from gaining access to water and forage south of Tomales Point and has led to the suffering and death of hundreds of elk in recent years. We are strongly opposed to both the no-action Alternative A and Alternative C, involving culling the tule elk, both of which fail to conserve this invaluable native tule elk population.

Certain modifications to the proposed Alternative B are necessary to ensure the protection and long-term survival of the tule elk. In particular, one key modification involves developing a park-wide elk management plan. The EA states that “[t]ule elk that leave the Tomales Point planning area after the fence is removed will be managed in a manner consistent with the Limantour herd, as described in the [2021 General Management Plan Amendment Record of Decision].” [1] This means that elk who travel outside of Tomales Point will be subject to the potential of “aggressive hazing” with beanbag shots and “lethal removal” as part of the Park's plan for elk management and protection of ranchers' interests outside of Tomales Point. [2] This underscores the need for a park-wide tule elk management plan, which the Park Service incorrectly dismissed as being inappropriate until an unspecified future time when more data is available. [3] A park-wide plan must be developed to take into account the potential migration and intermingling of the Tomales Point elk with the other free-ranging herds, without reliance on inhumane management strategies. Protected wildlife should not have to suffer aggressive hazing and be subject to culling to protect the interests of dairy ranchers in a unit of the National Park System. Furthermore, delaying a park-wide elk management plan is particularly concerning given that 1) the Park Service has already waited decades to revise the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan which, by its own terms, should have expired and been replaced in 2008, [4] and 2) the Park Service has already delayed revision of a general management plan, as it pertains to Tomales Point, for over forty years. [5]

II. Interests of the Commenters

Jack Gescheidt, a resident of California since 1996, has been visiting Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore on a regular basis for over twenty-five years. He hikes and runs in Tomales Park and very much enjoys viewing the wildlife and photographing the tule elk who live there. Laura Chariton, a native Californian, has been visiting the Point Reyes National Seashore since 1974. She loves the tule elk and enjoys observing them in their natural state. She is so enamored of the elk that for many years she served as a tule elk docent on behalf of the Park Service, teaching visitors about the biology, ecosystems, and lives of the Tomales Point elk. Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) is a national nonprofit animal protection organization founded in 1979 and headquartered in Cotati, California. ALDF uses education, public outreach, legislation, and litigation to protect the lives, and advance the interests, of animals, including the tule elk who live in Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore.

III. The Park Service Should Move Forward with Most of the Proposed Actions Under Alternative B

It is important that the Park Service promptly proceed with the core plan under Alternative B to remove the elk fence that prevents Tomales Point tule elk from migrating to access forage and water during periods of drought. In 1978, the Park Service erected the eight-foot-tall fence around the Tomales Point peninsula to isolate the reintroduced elk from nearby ranches. The fence traverses the entire width of Tomales Point, preventing the elk from accessing any food or water south of the fence. Since 1986, the Park Service has been on notice that the elk were likely to experience “die-offs or nutritionally related problems” during “periods of drought.” [6] Foreseeably, the inability of elk to access food or water outside of the fenced area has had dire consequences. Starvation and dehydration in drought years have killed off the Tomales Point tule elk in large numbers. As a coalition of scientists explained in their June 2021 letter to the Park Service:

Numbers of tule elk within the [Tomales Point] Reserve have irrupted and crashed four times since their reintroduction in past El Niño - La Niña climate cycles under NPS's minimal intrusion / passive management approach. Most recently, the population crashed from 559 elk in 2012 to 293 elk by 2015. The herd then irrupted to 445 elk in 2019 before crashing again to 293 elk in 2020. These irruptions were the result of elk responding to favorable habitat conditions. The subsequent crashes were the result of the inability of the confined elk to disperse from the Reserve to find more favorable forage. In contrast, the two nearby free-ranging herds remained relatively stable during the 2020 drought: The Limantour herd declined from 164 to 155 elk; and the Drakes Beach herd stabilized and increased by one from 138 to 139 between 2019 and 2020. [7]

As the comparison to the population of free-ranging herds demonstrates, these declines were avoidable consequences of unnatural confinement. And again, in 2021, 25% of the remaining elk (72 elk) died due to a lack of food and water. [8]

Consequently, we write to support the Park Service's proposal to remove the existing elk enclosure fence and construct a new wildlife-friendly fence to prevent cattle from entering the planning area. Removing the fence will allow the herd to stabilize and reduce elk suffering.

We are also highly supportive of the Park Service's plan to remove the twelve elk exclosures from the wilderness zone. These exclosures were established in the winter of 1997-1998 and have never been removed. [9] The exclosures present a number of issues. They have not been maintained in a state of good repair and have become dilapidated, with parts of the fencing falling down in many places. On at least one occasion, Ms. Chariton observed animal bones in the exclosures, indicating that wildlife may have become trapped inside the fencing. Ms. Chariton also witnessed that, during periods of drought, the exclosures prevent the tule elk from accessing forage that is trapped within. This is cruel and torturous to the animals who are starving, yet unable to access food due to human-erected barriers from a decades-old, defunct research project. Moreover, tule elk and other wildlife can trap their legs in fallen-down fencing, which leads to injuries. There is no present need for the exclosures, and they must be removed.

IV. Alternative B Should Be Modified to Include a Park-Wide Elk Plan, Provide Interim Supplemental Water for the Elk and, in the Long-Term, Phase Out Cattle Ranching

1. The TPAP Should Establish a Park-Wide Elk Plan that Forbids Harassment and Killing of Elk

As explained above, there is no good reason for the Park Service to further delay a comprehensive, park-wide plan for management of the tule elk. As the Tomales Point herd migrates, intermixes with other herds, and creates new offspring, there will be the need to holistically look at all the herds together.

Furthermore, the population thresholds referenced by the 2021 General Management Plan Amendment Record of Decision [10] make no sense once the herds become intermingled. A park-wide plan is the best way to adequately address the new reality of elk herds that will interbreed and intermingle – something that should be encouraged for the purpose of promoting genetic variation and the general health of the herds.

The EA explains that “Tule elk that leave the Tomales Point planning area after the fence is removed will be managed in a manner consistent with the Limantour herd, as described in the [2021 General Management Plan Amendment Record of Decision for Point Reyes National Seashore].” [11] That Record of Decision states, for the Limantour herd:

While elk will continue to be present on ranchlands, areas of high elk concentration will be monitored and managed in response to localized resource impacts. In these cases, the graduated management response described [in the document] will be implemented, including standard and aggressive hazing techniques and the potential for lethal removal of individual elk. [12]

These management techniques are cruel and inhumane and are the subject of ongoing federal litigation. [13] The newly freed Tomales Point herd should not be subject to aggressive hazing and so-called “lethal removal” to protect the interests of ranchers whose cattle are polluting the Seashore and harming the wildlife. This illuminates the need for a comprehensive, park-wide plan for the elk, which would account for the potential intermingling of elk herds and should forbid the use of hazing techniques or lethal removal of any elk. In the absence of such a plan, it should be made clear that, if any elk leave the Tomales Point area, they must not be subject to hazing or culling. In particular, it must be made clear that Tomales Point elk that migrate onto areas leased for ranching will not be considered “new elk herds” [14] and will not be subject to the so-called “graduated management response” described in the 2021 General Management Plan Amendment Record of Decision. [15]

If members of the Tomales Point elk herds who stray onto ranch lands must be diverted, the Park Service should, at most, allow for standard hazing techniques to be used, which pose a lower risk to the elk. More aggressive hazing techniques, such as the firing of bean bag shots, should not be permitted as these techniques risk scaring the elk into running into obstacles which can lead to bruising, broken legs, or even death. Lethal removal of tule elk should never be permitted. The Park Service should also notify the public whenever management techniques are used on the elk population. Whenever practicable, such notification should be given in advance of any management, and, in all cases, confirmation that action was taken must be given after the fact. Prior notification is important to ensure public safety during management actions and to keep members of the public and visitors to the Seashore informed as to which management techniques are being utilized for the tule elk herds.

2. The Park Service Should Temporarily Continue Provision of Supplemental Water and Minerals

Under Alternative B, “[e]mergency actions to supplement water and mineral resources for tule elk would be discontinued, and the system of water tanks and troughs would be removed.” [16] We encourage the Park Service to instead consider a more gradual phase-out, allowing the supplemental water program to remain in place for at least two summer-autumn seasons after removal of the fence, and longer if needed to counteract drought conditions. The Tomales Point elk have formed four sub-herds of fenced-in elk—the North herd, the Plateau herd, the White Gulch herd, and the South herd. It will take time for the northernmost sub-herds to realize they can migrate out of the previously fenced area, and supplemental water is still necessary for elk during this transition. This is particularly important as the northernmost sub-herds have been the most drought-stricken during recent droughts.

At the Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment Virtual Public Meeting (the TPAP Public Meeting), the Park Service justified removing supplemental water systems based on a need to protect natural processes and allow them to play out. This indicates that the Park Service believes that the negative impacts from droughts, in particular the deaths of hundreds of elk from starvation and dehydration, is acceptable because it adheres to the Park Service's passive management policy. On the contrary, not only does the Park Service have a duty to protect the tule elk and ensure their survival, but the Park Service created the artificial conditions of a fenced-in herd in the first place. Thus, providing an interim period of supplemental water while the herd transitions to a free-range herd is the humane and necessary choice.

As the EA acknowledges, "in 2012-2013 and 2019-2020, there were two substantial population spikes and declines. Elk numbers decreased from 540 to 286 between 2012–2014 and from 445 to 221 between 2019– 2021. These population losses coincided with significant drought conditions." [17] The EA continues on to make the baseless assertion that "[a] lack of drinking water was not found to be a contributing factor" to the elk deaths but "continued droughts in the area eventually led to the Park Service providing supplemental water and minerals through water troughs and mineral licks to the Tomales Point herd." [18] It should be undisputed that the severe drought conditions caused the elk to die not just from a lack of adequate forage but from a lack of water as well. [19] However, the Park Service failed to even test for dehydration in four out of the six elk necropsies that were completed during the major elk die-offs. [20] Thus, at the very least, given the Park Service's lack of data to support its assertion, dehydration, a logical consequence of drought, cannot be ruled out as a cause of the elk deaths. Furthermore, the very fact that the Park Service provided supplemental water demonstrates that the agency recognized dehydration posed a serious risk to the elk population. Moreover, the Park Service appears to be acknowledging that access to water is an issue for the Tomales Point herd since Alternative C, which involves maintaining the elk fence, also proposes enhancing the capacity of eight naturally occurring water sources. [21]

Since 2015, the Park Service has recognized the need for supplemental water. [22] In 2015, the Park Service acknowledged that "[o]bservations by park staff have confirmed that all but one . . . of the remaining functional water basins . . . have gone completely dry for extended periods over the last two years" and there was a need to develop "a contingency plan for the delivery of supplemental water to Tomales Point tule elk in the event that drought conditions persist or become worse in the future." [23] Despite this, the Park Service did not actually provide supplemental water until 2021. [24] While removing the elk fence is an important step towards ensuring that the Tomales Point elk are able to gain access to adequate water, the Park Service acknowledges that "[i]t is expected that most of the individuals within the Tomales Point tule elk herd would continue to use habitat at Tomales Point." [25] Thus, during the first two summer-autumn seasons after removal of the fence, the TPAP must provide for the maintenance of supplemental water to allow the elk time to adapt to their newly-gained ability to migrate and access other sources. In the case that severe drought conditions persist past these two seasons, the Park Service should maintain supplemental water supplies until such droughts abate.

3. The TPAP Should Include a Plan to Phase Out Cattle Operations

The EA states that "[r]anching operations are excluded from evaluation as they occur outside of the planning area." [26] However, once the Tomales Point tule elk herd becomes a free-range herd, their range will overlap with ranching operations, necessitating the inclusion of ranching operations in the TPAP. To be effective, the TPAP must include a definitive plan for removing cattle operations.

Domesticated cows harm native species, including tule elk, through pollution, disease, and resource competition. Ranching activities have heavily polluted the Point Reyes Seashore, with a recent Park

Service report finding that E. coli exceeded health standards in 31% of the water quality samples collected by the Park Service. [27] Ranches also fence off 28,000 acres—one third of the entire park—from the public and indigenous wildlife, [28] using dangerous barbed-wire fencing that poses a threat to the elk and other animals.

Destructive cattle ranches pose a major threat to the tule elk and must be removed from the Seashore. Commercial ranches are environmentally destructive for-profit operations that place egregious costs on the tule elk and the broader environment at the Seashore. Unlike cows, tule elk are a native species and thus their protection and conservation must be a priority for the Park Service. [29]

So long as cattle ranching is allowed in Point Reyes National Seashore, ranchers must be responsible for fencing in the cows to prevent the spread of Johne's disease from cattle to elk. Johne's disease is a gastrointestinal bacterial infection that spreads through fecal matter and is "contagious, chronic, and usually fatal." [30] Typically, symptoms will not appear until months or years after infection, making it difficult to visually identify infected animals. "For every obvious case of Johne's disease [] among dairy cattle on the farm, 15 to 25 other animals are likely infected." [31]

In the long-term, the only way to truly protect the elk and other endemic species at the Seashore from the impacts of cattle ranching is to phase out ranching entirely and prioritize protection and conservation of wildlife and the environment. During the TPAP Public Meeting the Park Service acknowledged that the Tomales Point tule elk were originally fenced in to protect adjacent agricultural operations and private lands. Removing this fence is only the first step in reversing the decades-long prioritization of cattle ranching interests over the wellbeing of elk and other native wildlife. The Park Service should be fully committed to its wilderness character management policy by creating a plan to entirely phase out cattle ranching at the Seashore.

V. The No-Action Alternative A Allows for Continued Suffering of the Elk During Periods of Drought and Should be Rejected

As discussed above, removal of the elk fence is necessary to ensure that the Tomales Point tule elk population does not continue to suffer during recurring climate-change induced droughts. Furthermore, removal of the fence is vital to ensure the genetic viability of the herd. All Point Reyes tule elk are descendants of the ten original elk brought to the Seashore in 1978, and genetic diversity within the elk herds has been a concern since the 1998 Elk Management Plan was originally published, if not earlier. At that time, the Park Service acknowledged that reductions in population size result in "genetic bottlenecks" that threaten the diversity of the herds and the herds' long-term survival. [32] The 1998 plan included recommendations from scientists to periodically introduce "female tule elk from other locations into the Point Reyes herd to maintain genetic diversity by increasing gene flow." [33] However, this has never happened, and the problem has only worsened over time. Genetic bottlenecks continue to be exacerbated during drought conditions and due to the presence of the elk fence preventing migration to adequate sources of forage and water. Removing the fence would allow the Tomales Point elk to interact with free-ranging elk herds, thus encouraging genetic diversity.

VI. The Park Service's Alternative C, Involving Lethal Removal of Elk, is Abhorrent Because it Promotes the Use of an Inhumane Tactic to Solve a Problem Created by the Park Service in the First Place

The Park Service should not move forward with its Alternative C, which would involve killing the elk on an annual basis to artificially keep the population level low. [34] To begin, solving the problem of elk suffering and dying due to inadequate food and water should not involve the killing of those very elk. In 1976, Congress declared the need for "the restoration and conservation of a Tule elk population in California," and required the Secretary of the Interior to "develop a plan for Tule elk restoration and

conservation, including habitat management,” and to make land “reasonably available for the preservation and grazing of Tule elk.” [35] The Park Service cannot now ignore Congress's directive to restore and conserve this elk population by killing animals that are artificially contained within Tomales Point just because such action would make management of the elk population easier. Moreover, choosing Alternative C would require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, due to the context and intensity of the ecological and cultural effects of culling the tule elk herd, described herein. [36]

The Park Service considered and rejected control of the elk population via lethal removal back in 1998. In its 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan, the Park Service noted that the public was very much opposed to reducing the population by killing the elk and that “[t]he preferred technique to limit growth is immunocontraception, which allows treated individuals to breed after contraception is stopped.” [37] Accordingly, the Park Service stated that although “[d]ifferent methods of population control could be used” for the Tomales Point herd, “contraception and relocation [were] preferred.” [38] While the Park Service now claims that contraception is too difficult to implement, [39] this should still be the preferred method of elk herd management if the fence is not removed. The public is even more invested in the health of the elk herd than they were in 1998, as demonstrated by the enormous public support for the removal of the elk fence during the comments on the TPAP scoping newsletter. Thus, lethal removal of elk is untenable and contrary to the public interest. While the Park Service claims that contraception will be less effective since it only lasts for 1 or 2 years, [40] this is actually preferable since, as the Park Service acknowledged in 1998, it allows elk breeding to resume in the future. We are generally opposed to any artificial management of the elk population, but, if the Park Service must move forward with such management, it should choose contraceptive options over lethal removal.

Even translocation would be preferable over lethal removal of elk. The Park Service cites CDFW as disallowing translocation of elk into and out of the Seashore due to concerns about the spread of Johne's disease. [41] However, elk could easily be tested for Johne's disease [42] before being translocated. Furthermore, introduction of tule elk from other locations (and vice versa) is an important manner of encouraging genetic diversity among the herds and was actually recommended by the Park Service's own scientific advisory panel back in 1993. The panel's 1993 report to the Park Service recommended adding “2-3 female elk [to the Tomales Point population] every elk generation to maintain genetic variation” and stressed that “[t]he first addition of new elk should be made as soon as possible.” [43] While there are animal welfare concerns with translocating wild animals and removing individual elk from their herds, such an option is preferable to killing the animals.

The EA also proposes the use of a prescribed fire regime under Alternative C. [44] Prescribed burns should not be allowed to occur while the elk are fenced in and is yet another reason for the Park Service to move forward with Alternative B and to take the fence down. Allowing the free movement of elk is essential if prescribed burns are to be conducted safely. Furthermore, the Park Service has stated that the use of prescribed fire “would be planned and coordinated with FIGR [the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria].” [45] FIGR should lead any prescribed burns and any use of prescribed fire must ensure that there is no risk of harm to the tule elk, whom the Park Service have acknowledged are “a species of cultural significance to FIGR.” [46]

VII. Timing of Next Steps

We understand, based on the government's argument in front of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the information provided in the TPAP Public Meeting, that the Park Service plans on having a final decision available in August of this year. [47] Such a decision must include an accelerated timeline for removal of the elk fence. The Tomales Point elk currently face the threat of recurring droughts due to

climate change, where they will once again face starvation and dehydration if the elk fence continues to prevent their ability to migrate to access other sources of food and water. Thus, a final decision must include plans to remove the elk fence before November 1, 2024. The TPAP, and the associated GMP amendment, must clearly set out this timeline. Any further delays risk significant harm to this vulnerable population that has already suffered and lost hundreds of its members in recent years.

The Park Service can ensure prompt removal of the fence and minimize environmental impacts of fence removal by leveraging existing infrastructure. For example, some or all of the existing fence posts could be used for the new wildlife-friendly fencing. The Park Service could also utilize volunteer help to facilitate prompt removal of the existing elk fence.

VIII. Conclusion

We are highly supportive of the Park Service's adoption of its preferred Alternative B, with the modifications discussed herein. As described above, the Park Service should reject Alternative A and Alternative C. Fencing in the Tomales Point tule elk has resulted in numerous problems for the elk and has ultimately caused the inhumane suffering and death of confined wild animals. Continued fencing will only allow these problems to persist, due to recurring droughts and climate change. Removing the fence, and doing so quickly, will address unstable population drops, starvation, genetic isolation, disease, and unnecessary suffering, while restoring some of the historical and cultural identity of the area as it existed before commercial ranching operations. Furthermore, while the Park Service may attempt to manage potential conflicts between elk and ranches, the ultimate solution is to remove the ranches entirely from the Seashore. Commercial industry that harms wildlife and the environment, damages historical sites, and promotes disease has no place in the Seashore. Finally, the Park Service must take affirmative measures to provide supplemental water and protect the elk from dehydration for at least two summer-autumn seasons following the removal of the fence, if not longer.

In considering the public comments on this EA, the Park Service should also reference previous comments submitted by the Harvard Law School Animal Law & Policy Clinic to the Park Service on September 25, 2023, and May 9, 2022, as well as plaintiffs' briefing, declarations, and exhibits associated with *Gescheidt et al v. Haaland et al*, Docket No. 4:21-cv-04734 (N.D. Cal.) (a case to which the Park Service is a party), including those cited within the above comments. The Park Service should also reference the large volume of comments, submitted as part of the TPAP scoping process, which discuss the negative impact that cows from ranches have upon the tule elk and supported the Park Service's proposed plan to remove the elk fence. Because the Park Service has prevented submission of attachments, we expect these documents, all of which are within the Park Service's possession, to form part of the administrative record for this proceeding.

Sincerely, Rebecca Garverman

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[1] NPS, Point Reyes National Seashore: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment 13 (2024) (hereinafter “EA”) available at <https://perma.cc/LMR7-7ZTC>.

[2] NPS, General Management Plan Amendment Record of Decision 36–7 (2021) (hereinafter “GMPA ROD”).

[3] EA at A-1.

[4] NPS, Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment 1998 1 (1998) (hereinafter “1998 Plan”) (explaining that the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan was intended to guide the management of tule elk at the Seashore for the next five to ten years).

[5] Since the 2021 general management plan amendment for Point Reyes National Seashore specifically excluded Tomales Point, the general management plan for Tomales Point has not been updated since it was first prepared in 1980. See generally, NPS, General Management Plan Point Reyes National Seashore/California (1980).

[6] Peter John Patrick Gogan, Ecology of the Tule Elk Range, Point Reyes National Seashore 321 (Apr. 25, 1986) (Ph.D. dissertation, University of California, Berkeley).

[7] Letter from Reginald H. Barrett, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor Wildlife Mgmt., Env't Sci., Poly', and Mgmt., Univ. CA, Berkeley, et al., to Deb Haaland, Sec'y Interior & Shawn Bengé, Deputy Dir., Operations, National Park Service (June 24, 2021).

[8] See Statement from Superintendent Craig Kenkel on Upcoming Planning for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore, NPS (Dec. 14, 2021) <https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/news/newsreleases-20211214-statement-from-superintendent-on-upcoming-planning-for-tomales-point.htm>.

[9] EA at 49.

[10] GMPA ROD at 36–7.

[11] EA at 13.

[12] GMPA ROD at 37.

[13] Resource Renewal Institute et al v. NPS, Docket No. 3:22-cv-00145 (N.D. Cal. Jan 10, 2022).

[14] GMPA ROD at 36.

[15] Id. at 37.

[16] EA at 10.

[17] EA at 41.

[18] Id.

[19] See Amy Allen Decl., Exhibit F, ¶ 8. ECF No. 8-8, Gescheidt v. Haaland, No. 4:21-cv-04734-HSG (N.D. Cal. June 24, 2021).

[20] See id .¶ 4 (explaining that “[o]f the six fully complete reports, only two were checked for dehydration (brain sodium level). One of those two showed severe dehydration (600 times the normal level of sodium in the brain tissue).”).

[21] EA at 15.

[22] Exhibit 11, ECF No. 16-11, *Gescheidt v. Haaland*, No. 4:21-cv-04734-HSG (N.D. Cal. July 14, 2021).

[23] Id. at 1.

[24] Unprecedented Drought Prompts Point Reyes National Seashore to Provide Supplemental Water for Tule Elk at Tomales Point, NPS (June 11, 2021), <https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/news/newsreleases-20210611-water-for-tomales-point-tule-elk.htm>.

[25] EA at 43.

[26] Id. at 5.

[27] Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Point Reyes National Seashore, NPS 35 (Oct. 2023), <https://perma.cc/GJX5-BEXX>.

[28] See General Management Plan Amendment: Final Environmental Impact Statement ii (Sept. 2020).

[29] See EA at 6 (Explaining desired conditions for the Seashore, including that “[p]opulations and extent of invasive, non-native species are limited such that they do not, or only minimally, affect ecosystem processes and/or function” while “[n]ative plant and animal communities persist and thrive.” (emphasis added)).

[30] NVAP Reference Guide: Johnes's Disease (Control and Eradication), USDA (Mar. 20, 2024) <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/reference-guide/control-eradication/johnes#:~:text=Diagnosis,the most accurate diagnostic test.>

[31] Id.

[32] 1998 Plan at 39.

[33] Id.

[34] EA at 15, 52.

[35] 16 U.S.C. §§ 673d–e, g.

[36] According to the new regulations promulgated under the National Environmental Policy Act, which will take effect on July 1, 2024, “[a]gencies should consider the characteristics of the geographic area, such as proximity to unique or sensitive resources” and “[t]he degree to which the action may adversely affect unique characteristics of the geographic area such as historic or cultural resources, parks, Tribal sacred sites . . . [or] ecologically critical areas.” National Environmental

Correspondence ID: 6430

I support your "proposed action" to remove the elk fence at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. Thank you for this dramatic policy shift. This is "Alternative B" and freeing the Tule elk to access the much larger, entire park.

Correspondence ID: 6433

June 5, 2024

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment - Support for Alternative B

Dear Acting Superintendent Altman:

I write in strong support for the Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore.

I am a regular visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore for more than 20 years. The Seashore is an incredible resource and one of the main reasons that I still live in California. I believe that the Park should be managed to preserve and enhance its wildness and its wildlife for the benefit of the public at large.

The long-term confinement of the Tomales herd has been devastating to the herd and to the ecological health of Tomales Point. It is critical that the Park Service act now to remove the fence that confines the Tomales herd, restore elk and other wildlife habitat throughout the Seashore, and prioritize wildlife over agricultural operations. Alternative B is an important step in that direction—and is the humane thing to do—including because it will:

1. **Improve the Health of the Tule Elk Herd:** As an endemic species, the tule elk should be able to engage in natural movement and foraging behaviors unimpeded by the 3 miles of artificial 8 foot elk fencing. Removing the elk fence will restore their ability to roam freely and find sufficient food and water sources throughout the National Seashore, and minimize the risk of the types of massive, horrifying die-offs suffered by the Tomales herd during recent droughts.
2. **Improve Genetic Diversity for the Seashore's Tule Elk:** The current confined conditions increase the risk of inbreeding depression and reduce genetic diversity for this unique herd. Providing access to a larger range helps maintain gene flow and genetic variability of the free-ranging tule elk herds of the Point Reyes peninsula.
3. **Improve the Ecological Health of Tomales Point:** Confinement of Tomales Point elk herd to a small area of the National Seashore has led to overgrazing, habitat degradation, and mass die-offs of elk during historic drought years. Allowing elk to roam beyond the planning area will improve ecological function and processes at Tomales Point.
4. **Respect and Account for the Cultural Significance of the Tule Elk:** The tule elk holds great cultural and spiritual importance for the Coast Miwok peoples, who are indigenous to this region. Alternative B provides opportunities for further consultation and coordination with Tribal partners, building on opportunities such as employing prescribed fire and incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge to steward natural and cultural resources at Tomales Point.
5. **Greatly Improve the Visitor Experience:** Like me, many visitors come to Point Reyes to view wildlife in their natural state. Removing the elk fence and permitting the tule elk to roam free will create more opportunities for visitors to observe and appreciate these magnificent animals in an open, natural setting.

I urge you to move forward with your preferred alternative—Alternative B—and remove the elk fence at Tomales Point immediately. This decision aligns with the mission of the National Park Service to enhance

the character of the Phillip Burton Wilderness and is mandated by the Park's very purpose of saving and preserving a portion of the nation's diminishing seashore for the public benefit "without impairment of its natural values" and in a manner that is "supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6.

Sincerely, Michael Leperi

Correspondence ID: 6434

I support your "proposed action," Alternative B, which would remove the elk fence at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve and free the Tule elk to access the much larger, entire park.

Correspondence ID: 6437

I believe Alternative B is the best choice as removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice, but I do have several concerns about the process. Water structures unlawfully built in the Wilderness must be removed without using motor vehicles. These structures are small and don't require motor vehicles to get rid of them. The NPS must include the Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) as a part of the analysis of Alternative B to remove tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence as the EA is inadequate as to how their removal would take place. Grazing of cattle must not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established. Herbicides must not be used in the Wilderness. When the cattle are gone, and the fence is removed, the Tule elk would be better distributed and would mitigate against the expansion of invasive plants. Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than manager-ignited fire creating artificial conditions as too frequent use of manager-ignited fire favors non-native invasive plants. The PG&E power line must be removed as it is not Wilderness. Please explicitly state in Alternative B that the PG&E power line will be removed. Overall, the Tule elk should be in a true wilderness habitat.

Correspondence ID: 6438

Thank you for preparing a Tomales Point Area Plan that better protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. I strongly support Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

The Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

The plan to remove the fence and allow Tule elk to naturally roam in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point as they previously did for centuries is a good one, but Alternative B still needs several adjustments for the Tomales Point Area Plan to meet the strict requirements of the Wilderness Act and to ensure that any future actions will improve, and not degrade, wilderness character.

Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.

Remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.

Correspondence ID: 6439

Please protect the Tule Elk population on Point Reyes. The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. However, some other changes to Alternative B ought to be considered.

Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place. The NPS must include the MRA as a part of the analysis of Alternative B.

I also believe the following should be done:

Eliminate grazing by cattle.

Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness.

Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape.

Remove the PG&E power line.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 6440

Dear the national park service,

I support your plan to remove the elk fence at Tomales Point. As for why the fence should be removed, I've written in multiple letters to the editor in the past how it is ridiculous that the elk at Tomales Point have had to have food and water brought to them cause they're not a free ranging herd who can get access to those things always elsewhere. Bringing food and water to them using taxpayer dollars when this is NOT a permanent solution with the permanent solution being the elk should be free ranging. All the water systems that were installed temporarily during the drought should also be removed given the clear alternative should be the elk should be allowed by free ranging to find food and water themselves. California Department of Fish and Wildlife I'd like to note does NOT support confined herds and wants that minimized as possible, and it only makes sense therefore that Point Reyes National Seashore follows in this same direction. In 1993, the Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore concluded, "The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point. [The National Park

Service] and [California Department of Fish and Game] should develop a long-range management plan with the goal of achieving a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population subjected to a minimum of management intervention." People don't go to Point Reyes to see cattle, they go there to see native wildlife like the Tule Elk. As a tourist who'd be visiting Point Reyes with my own money, if I wanted to travel there to go see cattle I can just stay in Humboldt and save myself the trip for that one. It's time the park service becomes more hands off with the tule elk and stop confining them in areas we have to sustain for them rather the elk doing it themselves. Thank you for this opportunity in allowing me to comment.

Sincerely, John Marchwick

Correspondence ID: 6441

I support the elk roaming freely. Who are we as humans to take freedom from animals? The fencing is cruel and should be removed immediately. Thank you for your time.

Correspondence ID: 6442

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. I endorse Alternative B, which involves removing the barrier that limits the tule elk. This will result in stronger elk populations at the Seashore. I also encourage initiatives to consult and collaborate with tribal partners, as well as the incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge into management strategies.

Lastly, I want to express my support for the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 6443

FREE TULE ELK! Have some respect for wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 6445

When I visit Point Reyes and other national parks, I want to see wildlife and natural scenery. Tule elk are an important part of the landscape and should be freed by removing the elk fence on Tomales Point. The elk should be allowed to roam free and forage in the park--not fenced or treated as problem animals.

I support Alternative B but with some changes: cattle grazing and herbicides should not be allowed. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.

Allow natural fires to burn and remove the PG&E power line.

Correspondence ID: 6446

Prioritize the wellbeing of wildlife over private business interests. I am in full support of "Alternative B" of the plan, which would bring down the 8-foot fence and allow the elk to roam freely enough to find water and food sources, even during times of drought. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6447

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Your leadership to help create a Tomales Point Area Plan that serves and protects natural and cultural resources and considers a new management direction for the park's confined elk herd. Please employ

your authority and expertise to move forward with Alternative B, removing the elk fence and allowing an unconfined elk herd. This alternative will free the tule elk, allow them to roam naturally, and best preserve the wilderness character of 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

As you and your Colleagues know well, the Tomales Point elk fence has caused large, periodic die-offs of elk during drought conditions, required emergency intervention to provide water sources to trapped animals, and reduced the elk's genetic viability by keeping this populous herd separate from other elk in the park. Point Reyes deserves a management plan that lets elk roam free and behave naturally within the national park.

Responsible, inclusive planning is excitingly evident in the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. The management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for tule elk and endangered butterflies is work to build an educated, livable, inclusive future.

Thank you for the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for protecting wildlife, the magnificent elk, and vital native plants for future generations.

Correspondence ID: 6448

I vote for Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 6449

Please help protect the elk

Correspondence ID: 6450

What ever actions are taken, I think the priority should be the natural resources. Elk should be unfenced but the water troughs NOT removed unless they are unusable. There may be another drought soon. I would hope the Elk population will not get excessive. I honor the historic value of the cattle farms and feel they could be grandfathered in but with NO growth. The size of area and number of animals should be no larger than current. Yes, control visitor numbers. We have all seen what happens when it is uncontrolled. McClures is being eroded by it may be contributed by too many people and I have seen cattel there.

There is good reason that we are seeing return of wildlife to Pacific and Marin coast. We honor this native land and rejoice that it is not covered in housing developments.

Correspondence ID: 6451

I support alternative B. Please vote to free the elk to roam.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 6452

I'm writing to urge you to please adopt alternative B in order to better protect the Tule elk. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6453

I am concerned about the movement to remove the dairies from the Pt. Reyes Peninsula. I support the idea that ranches and public recreation can co-exist. I am not for or against the elk, but, I am very concerned that if the cows go, there will be an extreme fire risk because of the ungrazed tall dry grass. We have to mow our steep hillside and rake it, because it's not big enough to graze. We think the cows

along with the elk do a great job reducing the risk of wildfire. We would hate to see wildfires on the grassy hillsides of the Pt. Reyes Peninsula when cows and elk can graze it naturally.

Correspondence ID: 6454

I am a local, who grew up on a dairy ranch and has lived in West Marin since 1973. As a local, I sincerely hope my opinion will carry more weight than those from the petition mills at the Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club, etc. I hope you'll filter the comments for those which were "copy and pasted."

I am solidly in favor of preserving the ranches.

Please honor the National Park Service's historic commitment to keep the Point Reyes Peninsula a working environment and preserve the ranches at Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 6456

Plan B all the way! Protecting the majestic tule elk and improving their ability to access water will only improve the ability of the public to enjoy this national gem. When it comes to public land, the interests of ranchers should never come before the interests of native wildlife and the general public. Culling the elk population and keeping them at the edge of dying of thirst during the dry season is cruel and inhumane. Plan B lets nature be nature, and all of us benefit as a result.

Correspondence ID: 6457

I support the ELK!

Correspondence ID: 6458

June 5th, 2024

Craig Kenkel
Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Subject: Comments on Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment (TPAP/EA)

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

The Marin Conservation League (MCL) was established in 1934 to preserve, protect and enhance the natural assets of Marin County in a changing environment. We appreciate that many of our scoping comments for the Tomales Point Area Plan were responded to in the current Environmental Assessment. We have the following comments to consider as you complete the Finding of Significant Impact (FONSI). Overall, the TPAP does a good job of describing the purpose and need for the proposed action and the three alternatives considered, and analyzing the potential environmental consequences of the alternatives within the TPAP planning boundary. We have concerns, however, that the EA does not adequately address conditions and potential impacts, particularly of Alternative B, outside the planning boundary, as assured by NPS staff.

We offer the following comments, first, as they apply to the interior of the planning area, and, second, as they apply outside the planning area.

COMMENTS ON CONDITIONS AND EFFECTS INSIDE THE PLANNING BOUNDARY

1) The vegetation (available forage) should be monitored in the areas frequented by elk to verify that there is sufficient forage to sustain the elk herds within Tomales Point and in the other areas frequented

by tule elk. This is especially important because climate change is resulting in changes in vegetation. Under Alternative B, it is important because there will be a change in the density of elk in certain areas as individuals or groups wander away from Tomales Point after the elk fence is removed.

2) Conditions may change after the removal of the elk fence such that fewer tule elk may graze the Tomales Point area. The FONSI should monitor to determine potential decline in the abundance of the following: larval food plant of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly (*Speyeria zerene myrtleae*), nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly, and rare plants. The western dog violet (*Viola adunca*) is the only larval food plant of the federally endangered Myrtle silverspot butterfly. The nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly are: coastal sand verbena (*Abronia latifolia*), beach aster (*Erigeron glaucus*), gumweed (*Grindelia* sp.), curlyleaf monardella (*Monardella undulata*), and mule's ears (*Wyethia* sp.). Rare plants identified in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment are: Point Reyes rock cress (*Arabis blepharophylla* ssp. *macrantha*), Point Reyes blennosperma (*Blennosperma nanum* var. *robustus*), coastal spineflower (*Chorizanthe cuspidata* var. *villosa*), Franciscan thistle (*Cirsium andrewsii*), coast fritillary (*Fritillaria lanceolata* var. *tristulis*), harlequin lotus (*Hosackia gracilis*), perennial goldfields (*Lasenthia californica* ssp. *macrantha*), and San Francisco owl's clover (*Triphysaria floribunda*).

On the assumption that there might be fewer tule elk in Tomales Point, thatch and non-native grasses may increase and, as a result, the abundance of native species including the western dog violet, the nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly, and rare plant species may decline because they are not adapted to grow in areas with thatch and a high density of non-native grasses. Since there is a potential for the western dog violet, the nectar plants of the Myrtle silverspot butterfly, and rare plants to decline, these species should be monitored including the Myrtle silverspot butterfly itself.

3) The Point Reyes blennosperma grows in the overflow parking lot at Pierce Ranch. This overflow lot is on the other side of Pierce Point Road (as it goes to the McClures Beach Trailhead Parking Lot) from the parking lot for the Tomales Point Trailhead. A row of Monterey cypress grows in front (west) of the overflow parking lot. If the overflow parking lot is paved, it will destroy the habitat of the Point Reyes blennosperma that grow there. The lot should remain in a condition that allows the Point Reyes blennosperma to continue to grow there.

4) California meconella (*Meconella californica*), is not classified by the California Native Plant Society, and has not been assigned a rare plant rank, but is known from as few as two populations in Marin County and occurs on Tomales Point within the plan area. Although not a designated rare plant, because it only occurs in two populations in Marin County and is a component of Marin's biodiversity, it should be monitored along with the other rare plant species that occur on Tomales Point to ensure that any change in the numbers of tule elk do not adversely affect its population.

5) The FONSI should identify the details about the differences between the current fence, which has allowed elk to move out through breaches, and the future fence. How, and where, will the wildlife friendly fence will be constructed with the intent of precluding cattle from entering while allowing other wildlife free passage?

6) The FONSI should include more specifics on how the park will ensure the preservation of the wilderness character in the wilderness areas, that is 85% of the Tomales Point Area. NPS Director's Order #41: Wilderness Stewardship and the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(b)), policy directs that "each agency administering any area designated as wilderness shall be responsible for preserving [its] wilderness character." The DTPAP/EA should direct the park to conduct a wilderness character assessment and then monitor the baseline characteristics identified.

7) The Environmental Analysis and FONSI needs to set a visitor-carrying capacity as directed by the National Parks and Recreation Act. The National Park Service is required to set a visitor-carrying capacity, and should for all areas of a park for the planning area and should be based on a set of desired conditions for this specific planning area, and identify scientific indicators, standards and threshold. Tomales Bay beaches may be exceeding wilderness capacity and damaging coastal ecology. Carrying Capacity investigations should include:

a. Day-use and overnight visitor-use quotas should be established, and a monitoring system put in place. The visitor capacity needs to promote a wilderness experience even on weekends, holidays, and summer months.

b. Car parking, which is often seen outside designated parking areas.

c. Mitigating for crowded conditions on the Tomales Point Trail.

8) The Environmental Analysis and FONSI needs to address the long-term monitoring of outstanding resource values, including for the marine systems adjacent to the planning area but within the Seashore. Long-term monitoring programs to ensure management actions and visitor use are not adversely affecting wilderness should be established. The Seashore was created to protect a wild coastal sanctuary, and the NPS needs to be committed to a science program that ensures its preservation.

COMMENTS ON CONDITIONS AND EFFECTS OUTSIDE THE PLANNING BOUNDARY

1) The FONSI must provide adequate analysis of potential impacts on ranching operations adjacent to the planning area. Numerous statements in the TPAP clearly acknowledge that the proposed action could affect ranching operations outside planning area. At the same time, the EA acknowledges that the Tomales Point herd has been established for so many years behind the fence, their migration into adjacent ranch lands cannot be predicted and therefore, the potential effects are unknown. The FONSI should respond to the following issues.

2) Provide evidence supported by citations to published research or documented data used to conclude that "Neither the Limantour nor the Drakes Beach herds have been found to significantly impact historic ranching operations." This citation is used in the EA to assume no significant impact and therefore dismiss the need for socioeconomic analysis in the EA.

3) The EA should also acknowledge anecdotal claims of adverse impacts to ranch operations that counter this conclusion. This analysis is particularly important under a future scenario of extended droughts, diminished forage, or other effects due to climate change, as these conditions may exacerbate competition for resources between elk and cattle. In the event of future conflicts between tule elk and domestic cattle, the FONSI should consider whether the economic viability or cultural landscape of the ranches would be adversely impacted.

4) Include any data and documentation that describes past experience of ranch operations with large, concentrated herds of axis and fallow deer herds and, currently with elk: for example, documentation that competition for forage between cattle and elk, has been theoretically nonexistent; documentation that bulk forage is not in short supply throughout the year to cattle and elk; that nutrients (protein and digestible carbohydrates) are in short supply for cattle during fall and winter and that cattle are supplemented with hay and grain for many months regardless of the presence of elk. Elk do not have access to this supplemental cattle feed.

5) The analysis should describe how the tule elk currently enter fenced cow pastures, and how frequently. Do they enter through damaged fences, jump the fences, walk through the fences, or go between the barbed wires of the fences to enter cow pastures.

6) Identify the Park Service's long-term plan for management of the Tomales Point herd, both in the planning area and outside. It would be helpful to summarize relevant information from the GMPA EIS ROD that outlines management of elk on ranches, in that these are the methods the Park Service will use to manage the Tomales Point herd as needed. The public should not have to search the GMPA EIS and ROD to find this information.

7) Finally, a rigorous plan should be included in the FONSI for monitoring the Tomales Point elk population as it becomes a free-ranging herd and migrates outside the fence line onto adjacent ranches – its behaviors and interactions with cattle and ranch infrastructure. The monitoring plan should set a timeframe, performance criteria, and thresholds for triggering elk management actions.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments during the TPAP/EA planning process, and we look forward to continuing MCL's long interest in the Park Service as it tackles the many complex issues on Point Reyes National Seashore.

Sincerely,

Nona Dennis

President

Correspondence ID: 6460

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments, as follows:

- I strongly encourage you to select Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk. In particular, remove the PG&E power line. The power line is a structure or installation, which infringes on the undeveloped character of the Wilderness, and should be removed from the Wilderness. Urge the Park Service to explicitly state that the PG&E power line will be removed under Alternative B and its preferred action.
- The NPS must include the Minimum Requirements Analysis (MRA) as a part of the analysis of Alternative B. MRA is needed for removal of tanks, troughs, exclosures, and the fence. The EA is inadequate without a discussion of how the water tanks, troughs, exclosures, and fence removal would take place.
- Why are motorized vehicles always the first choice to remove structures in the Wilderness? Water structures are small and could very easily be removed the old fashioned way: by non-motorized means.
- Eliminate grazing by cattle. The cattle should not be allowed in Point Reyes or the Wilderness anymore as per the original agreement when the seashore was established.
- Don't use herbicides in the Wilderness. Removing cattle and the fence would allow for better distribution of Tule elk and would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants.
- Allow natural fires to burn and shape the wilderness landscape rather than using manager-ignited fire to create artificial conditions. Too-frequent use of manager-ignited fire has the tendency to favor non-native invasive plants.

Correspondence ID: 6461

Please remove the fence at Tomales Point within the Philip Burton Wilderness.

Please save the Tule Elk from dying.

The fate of native Tule elk, the smallest and rarest elk subspecies in North America—which are endemic to California— is at stake.

Without being able to roam freely, they die without proper water and food.

If alternative B is adopted, the fence is removed and Tule elk are allowed to roam naturally in the Wilderness and across Tomales Point, as they previously did for centuries, the benefit will not only be better distribution of Tule elk but in the rising temperature climate environment the Tule elk would mitigate against expansion of invasive plants and thereby help with fire prevention naturally.

The best option is Alternative B, which is the NPS preferred option. Removal of structures in the Wilderness and the fence just outside of the Wilderness is the right choice. Alternatives A and C should be opposed as they degrade the Wilderness and endanger rare Tule elk.

Please save our Tule elk.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6462

Please begin to take action to implement prompt protections for the only National Seashore on the U.S. west coast. All invasive cattle on PRNS lands should be removed or expropriated and sold within two years. Proceeds of cattle sales would be used only to remove and clean-up farm and ranch facilities and restore waterways and lands to a natural state. Formerly low-income families, now living on PRNS lands, may be employed in the restoration process and remain housed on the ranches for up to five years.

Make all of PRNS a joy to behold, not an embarrassment. We have already paid enough to the interlopers.

Correspondence ID: 6463

Our lands and animals are our priceless heritage and history. Losing any animal including the Tule Elk fractures our already fragile ecosystem. Please do right by the Elk and the lands they must roam!

Correspondence ID: 6464

The Tule herd has suffered from man made confinement for way too long. The domestic animals nearby are favored over the Tule herd. The imbalance has stressed the deer and environment. I am asking for the dismantle of the fence so that the herd and native animals can freely move to water and other resources.

Correspondence ID: 6465

Please remove the fencing that artificially confines a herd of tule elk to Tomales Point at the park's northern end, causing large elk die-offs during drought.

I urge you to move forward with the management plan for Tomales Point that would collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, harnessing cultural resources while enhancing habitat for the elk and for endangered butterflies.

Thank you for your work.

Nicole A. Amador, Ph.D.

Correspondence ID: 6469

I am so thrilled to finally see the Point Reyes NPS finally advocating for the Tule Elk- The Elk are rare and should actually be considered endangered, and it should be your top priority to care for and protect them. As a 3rd generation Californian, and a very regular PRNS visitor, I applaud you for planning to take down the fence. I am vehemently opposed to any culling of any Elk whatsoever. Give the Elk a chance to find forage and water and survive, increase their herds, and we can take all this a step at a time.

The ranchers have all been paid for their land decades ago and are now only a blight on an otherwise incredible wilderness area. They pollute the waterways, the cows trample and destroy the land, and they are the source of the problem between the ranchers and the Elk. The Elk were in Point Reyes in prodigious numbers well before the ranchers set foot on the land. It is rightfully the Elks land. The ranchers are squatters and a monetary drain on taxpayers. They all have other ranches in other places to return to, so I don't feel an ounce of sympathy for them- they've had a sweet ride for far too long on the backs of taxpayers, and it's time for them to go and return Point Reyes to the National Park that it is supposed to be.

Thank you for doing the right thing- take down the fence!!!!

Laura Phillips

Correspondence ID: 6470

I am writing to express my appreciation and support of "Alternative B," the proposed plan to remove the fence at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. Thank you very much.

Correspondence ID: 6471

I favor Plan B which will take down the fence and allow the elk full access to their natural habitat.

Joan Wager

Correspondence ID: 6472

I support Alternative B. Please remove the 8ft tule elk fence! It would also be wise to leave the fence posts in place, cut them as needed to a lower height, and install a WILDLIFE FRIENDLY fence to keep the cattle out of Tomales Point. A huge portion of the fencing at PRNS is not wildlife friendly, in fact much of it is the opposite.

Please install wildlife friendly fences throughout the entire park, it is your responsibility as the managers of the park unit. The people want the ranching operations removed from our park. The removal of the fence is just the beginning, activists will not rest until the entire park is returned to wild lands. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6473

Regarding the Tule Elk herd at Pt. Reyes. I fully support Alternative B. Please (finally!) bring down the 8-foot fence and allow the elk to roam freely enough to find water and food sources, a critically important measure to allow for survival during times of drought.

This is a national park. As such, the health of the wildlife residents should be considered ahead of agricultural interests-a group that has in no way kept their end of the bargain, allowing structures to fall into major disrepair, and have been effectively freeloading on the tax payers' dime for far too long, all at the expense of free ranging wildlife. Please do the right thing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jody Gibney

Sausalito

Correspondence ID: 6478

I support Alternative B as the most humane treatment of the tule elk at Tomales Point.

Correspondence ID: 6479

I would like to add my voice in support of Alternative B which would remove the fence which currently prevents the Tule Elk from moving around the area seeking food and water. It is cruel and inhumane to allow these elk to starve and become dehydrated, leading to illness and ultimately a terrible death.

NPS needs to adopt Alternative B and allow the elk free access to available food and water resources.

Thank you

Jane Myers

Correspondence ID: 6481

I support plan B. Release the herd. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6482

I would like to express my wholehearted disapproval of the current management plan of the incredible tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore, specifically in the Tomales Point Area. For decades, those poor elk - an integral ecological and historical component of the park - have been subject to completely unacceptable conditions perpetuated by the park service. I find it extremely disturbing that the park service has continuously chosen to prioritize the profits of a handful of private cattle operations destroying the land over the wellbeing of the landscape's native wildlife. We will not wait any longer for the park to start prioritizing the protection and preservation of one of the country's most unique and biodiverse landscapes... Remove the elk fence now!

I strongly support the implementation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Alternative B (Unconfined Elk Herd) and strongly reject the proposed Alternatives A and C.

Thank you, and please do the right thing!

Correspondence ID: 6483

I have followed this issue for a long time and hate to hear so many Tule elk are dying because of the fence.

Please take a strong stand and remove the fencing. The elk are free-roaming herd animals and don't stand a chance with the fencing.

Correspondence ID: 6484

Dear NPS,

In the Tomales Point Management Plan, you identified three alternatives for management of the Tule elk herds in the Galdent Gate National Recreation Area. The best of the options is Alternative B. This alternative removes the confining elk fence, replacing it with wildlife-friendly fencing so that the free-ranging herds are able to mix and increase genetic variability. This option also improves habitat and forage and lessens the vulnerability the elk currently have to drought and overgrazing.

NPS should have the viability of the elk and other wildlife and plant species as the highest priority, not preservation of dairy cattle and the ranches. Visitor experience would not be negatively impacted by

allowing elk to range, and features within this option provide additional improvements including parking, restrooms and trails.

I urge you to select Alternative B, which protects and improves the elk environment while improving visitor experience.

Sincerely, Nancy Emerson

Correspondence ID: 6485

Hello,

I have written at this time to provide you with my comments regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan for the Tule elk herd.

First let me state that I greatly appreciate the generation of a plan which better protects the natural resources and cultural resources of the area, as well as one which offers a new direction for management of the Point Reyes National Seashore elk herd, which is currently and has been for quite some time unconscionably confined. Such an alternative plan is long overdue.

I strongly support a free-roaming elk herd and, therefore, I strongly support the National Park Service's preferred "Alternative B" to remove the fence and free the park's largest herd of Tule elk. Fences and confined animals have no place in national park units. Such a plan enhances habitat for the Tule elk and endangered butterflies. It also affords better control of invasive plants, and best preserves the wilderness character of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point.

I also support the Park Service's proposed collaboration with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate Tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge into the future management of Tomales Point. I support the management plan's elements of highlighting Tribal history and cultural resources and using prescribed fire and research burns to enhance habitat for Tule elk and endangered butterflies. Finally, I support the proposals to control invasive plants and otherwise better protect natural and cultural resources.

This is great news and I applaud you for selecting this alternative. Nice work!

In addition, please officially rescind the current regulation in the General Management Plan allowing killing ("culling") of elk in the other two herds since herds may intermingle when the fence is removed. I oppose all lethal "management" of any wild animals in our national parks.

Finally, the Seashore's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until private cattle operations are removed because they expose elk to fecal bacteria in soil, streams, and ponds, and manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease. The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease. Private cattle operations have no business in our national parks; they need to GO!

Correspondence ID: 6486

Comments offered by Julie Rossotti and H Ranch on the Tomales Point Draft EA

On behalf of H Ranch and Julie Rossotti, we wish to go on record with our opposition to the National Park Service's Draft Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment (the "draft EA") and its anticipated support for Alternative B.

H Ranch has been operating at Point Reyes for over 100 years and has contributed significantly to the historic and pastoral landscape that is integral to the region. H Ranch is in close proximity to the Tomales Point and would be significantly impacted by the removal of the Tomales Elk Fence.

The draft EA is devoid of any analysis of the impact of the Tomales Point Elk Fence removal on nearby ranches. With the removal of the elk fence, it is highly likely that elk will migrate south to adjacent ranches and beyond. These elk will compete with cattle for available forage. And it is highly likely that elk numbers will increase accordingly because of access to greater forage and water resources (which previously has been the limiting factor in elk population). There is no direct nor indirect analysis of these impacts. Even more important, we are struck by the complete absence of any proposed mitigation measures offered in the draft EA that protect existing ranches if elk overtake these areas. Concentration of elk on nearby ranches could dramatically push cattle out of the area, consuming available forage. Where is the analysis of how these ranches will be protected if significant elk competition occurs?

We support (and incorporate) the comments of Mr. Kevin Lunny filed today in response to Tomales Point Draft EA. We support his detailed examination of past and current elk management issues at Point Reyes.

And as Mr. Lunny points out, earlier NPS analyses of the removal of the Tomales Point Elk Fence are at odds with the current statements in the draft EA. The NPS change in position has no supporting rationale. NPS' earlier concerns have somehow vanished. The Agency's conclusions make no sense and fly in the face of previous analysis.

The Draft EA is legally deficient and must be rejected. NPS must go back to the drawing board and provide detailed analysis of the impacts of the Tomales Fence removal on nearby ranchers and what, if any, mitigation measures will be provided (and guaranteed) to Point Reyes ranchers. If such mitigation is not possible (and guaranteed), the Tomales Fence cannot be taken down.

Correspondence ID: 6487

I support a free-roaming elk herd. Also, a collaborative management plan. Please work towards this. Thank you.

Karen Milstein

Correspondence ID: 6488

WildCare has advocated for the humane treatment of the captive herd of Tule Elk on Tomales Point for many years. We appreciate the Park Service's ongoing work to improve conditions for these animals, and we strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B, which includes removing the fence to give the Tule Elk in the Tomales Point herd the opportunity to leave the Point and move into areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water.

More than 4,500 WildCare constituents have signed WildCare's petition in support of Alternative B and removing the fence. Most also commented on their support through the NPS comment form. These animal advocates and we agree that removing the fence that has confined this elk herd since 1978 and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

WildCare and our constituents strongly support the Tomales Point Area Plan's Alternative B.

Correspondence ID: 6489

NPS:

As a respectful reminder to you, and to inform the general public:

In 1993, the Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore concluded, "The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve ... removal of the fence across Tomales Point. [The National Park Service] and [California Department of Fish and Game] should develop a long-range management plan with the goal of achieving a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population subjected to a minimum of management intervention."

https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/upload/planning_tule_elk_report_scientific_advisory_panel_1993.pdf

I strongly support Alternative B. The NPS has known since 1993 this Scientific Committee recommended to re-established free-ranging native, e.g., remove the NPS/tenant rancher imposed 8' fence which has confined our native Tule Elk to an area without sufficient water source and forage during drought years, and we lost 50% of the confined herd due to poor, inhuman management by NPS personnel in the last few years.

Remove the 8' fence and REMOVE all tenant cattle ranching, both Dairy and Beef, from our public lands in PRNS and GGNRA.

It is time for the NPS to step in the right direction for the sake of protecting our public lands for future generations.

Kelli Petersen

Correspondence ID: 6490

As a resident of Marin County, I strongly support Alternative B developed as part of the Tomales Point Area Environmental Assessment. Removal of the elk fence, thereby allowing the elk to find sufficient water and food, is the only humane way to allow these animals to live in their native habitat.

Ellen Carroll

Correspondence ID: 6491

Thank you for reading through all public comments received!

I support removal of the elk fence. I suggest leaving the supplement water until more observation of their behavior has been conducted. We don't know how the elk will respond when the fence comes down.

I support the collaboration of NPS and FIGR in co-stewarding these lands. I feel strongly that tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge be prioritized. Prescribed/cultural burns should be part of the restoration plan. I am curious how sacred sites will be managed.

This is a high visitation area and traffic control needs to be better managed. A permit system is something to consider. I know NPS is understaffed but this would be a great spot for there to be more of a rangers presence. More public education about the Coast Miwok should also be considered.

Thank you again for your time, devotion, and care.

Correspondence ID: 6493

Both ELK and COWS are essential for grazing the grass on the Pt Reyes Peninsula in order to prevent tall dry grass becoming a huge fire hazard. The ranches and COWS are doing a great service to the public, as well as providing local food and

employment, and housing.

Correspondence ID: 6494

I do not agree with fencing in the elk at the park. I have been opposed to this policy since its inception. The cruelty that resulted when the elk died from lack of water is appalling. Cattle have long been a problem in public lands. Why do non native cattle ever have preferential treatment over native wildlife? I find it deeply disturbing especially since cattle and livestock cause so much damage to wild lands. Take down that damn fence.

Correspondence ID: 6495

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new proposed management measures to protect the tule elk of the Point Reyes National Seashore. I support Alternative B that removes the fence confining the elk. Doing so will help lead to healthier populations in the Seashore. I also strongly support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners, incorporating traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

In addition, I support the phase-out of cattle operations in the National Seashore and the return of this land to wildlife and public use.

Correspondence ID: 6496

Please seriously consider the welfare of the animals which are in your care. Animals have brains much like ours, with sophisticated processing systems and real feelings. They are not inferior creatures. Humans are the only beings that torture, maim and kill for pleasure. The so-called animals don't do such horrible things. That really makes animals superior to humans. Seriously consider how you treat God's creatures. They deserve a good life. Do not consider yourselves superior. It is their land.

Correspondence ID: 6497

The Tule Elk are a cherished gem of West Marin. It is absolutely critical to the local ecosystem—and the local economy—that we preserve and protect this important species. Please go with Alternative B for your management of this area and remove the fencing that is so harmful to the local ecosystem.

Correspondence ID: 6498

June 5, 2024

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment - Support for Alternative B

Dear Acting Superintendent Altman:

We, the undersigned 40 environmental organizations, are writing to express our strong support for Alternative B in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Tomales Point Area of Point Reyes National Seashore. We thank the National Park Service (NPS) for its care and efforts in this proposal to improve the management of the Seashore.

Two historic droughts during the last decade have adversely affected habitat conditions for tule elk confined to Tomales Point. Since their reintroduction to the Seashore in 1978 hundreds of elk within the Reserve have suffered and died. With a changing climate, the NPS must act to minimize adverse impacts on park resources and values.

The undersigned groups believe the NPS preferred alternative—Alternative B—establishes the appropriate management direction at Tomales Point for the following reasons:

1. Ecological Benefits to Tomales Point: Confinement of Tomales Point elk herd to a small area of the National Seashore has led to overgrazing, degradation of habitat, and mass die-offs of elk during historic drought years. Allowing elk to roam beyond the planning area will improve ecological function and processes at Tomales Point.
2. Improvement to Elk Herd Health: As an endemic species, the tule elk should be able to express their natural movement and foraging behaviors unimpeded by the 3 miles of artificial 8 ft elk fencing. Removing the elk fence restores their ability to roam freely and find sufficient food and water sources throughout the National Seashore.
3. Genetic Diversity: The current confined conditions increase the risk of inbreeding depression and reduce genetic diversity for this unique herd. Providing access to a larger range helps maintain gene flow and genetic variability of the free-ranging tule elk herds of the Point Reyes peninsula.
4. Cultural Significance: The tule elk holds great cultural and spiritual importance for the Coast Miwok peoples, who are indigenous to this region. Alternative B provides opportunities for further consultation and coordination with Tribal partners, building on opportunities such as employing prescribed fire and incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge to steward natural and cultural resources at Tomales Point.
5. Visitor Experience: Many visitors come to Point Reyes to view wildlife in their natural state. The removal of the elk fence and permitting the tule elk to roam free creates more opportunities for visitors to observe and appreciate these magnificent animals in an open, natural setting.

We urge you to move forward with your preferred alternative—Alternative B—and remove the elk fence at Tomales Point immediately. This decision aligns with the mission of the National Park Service to enhance the character of the Phillip Burton Wilderness and preserve the natural and cultural resources of Point Reyes National Seashore for present and future generations.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chance Cutrano

Director of Programs

Resource Renewal Institute

Submitting on behalf of the following signatories:

Neal Desai

Senior Program Director

National Parks Conservation Association

Ashley Eagle-Gibbs

Executive Director

Environmental Action Committee of West Marin

Martha Kreeger

SF Bay Chapter Chair

Sierra Club

Jeff Miller

Senior Conservation Advocate

Center for Biological Diversity

Erik Molvar

Executive Director

Western Watersheds Project

Beth Pratt

Regional Executive Director

National Wildlife Federation

Tara Thornton

Director of Institutional Engagement

Endangered Species Coalition

Philip Francis

Chair

Coalition to Protect America's National Parks

Megan Isadore

Executive Director

River Otter Ecology Project

Camilla Fox

Executive Director

Project Coyote

Todd Steiner

Executive Director

Turtle Island Restoration Network

David Parsons

Board Member

The Rewilding Institute

Alison Hermance

Director of Communications

WildCare

Johnnie Carlson

Associate Director

Planning and Conservation League

Jeff Ruch

Pacific Director

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER)

Thomas Wheeler

Executive Director

Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)

Emily Roberson

Native Plant Conservation Campaign Director

California Native Plant Society

Michael J. Painter

Coordinator

Californians for Western Wilderness

Nancy Graalman

Director

Defense of Place

Michael Warburton

Director

Public Trust Alliance

Tom Baty

President

Public Lands Conservancy

Amelia Wilson

President

Regional Parks Association

Matthew Polvorosa Kline

Founder and Director

Mission Rewild

Miyoko Schinner

Founder and President

Rancho Campasi3n

Daniel Dietrich

Director

Conservation Kids

Diane Gentile

Co-founder

Aqus Community Foundation

Natalie Ahwesh

Director of State Affairs

Animal Wellness Action

Brooks Fahy

Executive Director

Predator Defense

Kimberly Baker

Executive Director

Klamath Forest Alliance

Lisa Ownes Viani

Director

Raptors Are The Solution

Drew Feldmann

Conservation Chair

San Bernadino Valley Audubon Society

Lisa Robertson

President

Wyoming Untrapped

Wendal Reed

President

Antelope Valley Conservancy

Robin Buff

President

Northwest Arkansas Audubon Society

Daniel Dietrich

Owner

Point Reyes Safaris

Sebastian Kennerknect

Owner

Cat Expeditions

Sheila Newenham

Chief Explorer

Exploring Nature Photography

Sandra Lee

Owner

Sandra Lee Photography

Derick Carss

Art Director

Before It Gets Dark

Read the formatted sign-on letter here: Read the sign-on letter:

<https://tinyurl.com/PtReyesElkFenceSignOn2024>

Correspondence ID: 6499

SUPPORT FOR PLAN B AND BEYOND

I would like to thank the NPS for the steps taken so far in further protecting the tule elk and the rest of the environment at Point Reyes Nation Seashore.

Given the fragility of this precious coastal prairie, I would like to assert that NPS could continue to offer greater protections beyond Plan B:

1. The coastal prairie is so fragile that immediate action for recovery and mitigation is needed. A timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, and specifically the removal of the elk fence, would answer the collective concern of all stakeholders.

2. Coastal prairie/ wetland damage or loss should be identified within the planning area and a restoration plan should be finalized along with a timeline.

3. The surrounding counties are populated with many willing volunteers. Identifying future opportunities for volunteers, and/or new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species as well as other assistance to restore and maintain the seashore is an important component of protecting the land.

4. Environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point is an additional part of the public learning, engaging, and participating in ongoing stewardship.

5. Minimizing the impact to wildlife is of utmost importance. The Final Environmental Assessment should highlight NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc.

Please add my voice to the increasing numbers of Californians and all Americans that want to preserve national treasures like coastal prairie habitat and elk for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,

Zorina Kibrick

Correspondence ID: 6500

Stop all the insanity . Implement minimum Income . And use CSSD. 2x Condorcet Cloneproof voting to meet UDHR. 21.3 .

Correspondence ID: 6501

SUPPORT FOR PLAN B AND MORE

Thank you for the steps taken so far in further protecting the tule elk and the rest of the environment at Point Reyes Nation Seashore.

Given the fragility and rarity of coastal prairie, I assert that NPS should continue to offer greater protections beyond Plan B:

1. The coastal prairie is so fragile that immediate action for recovery and mitigation is needed. A timeline for the actions proposed in Alternative B, and specifically the removal of the elk fence, would answer the collective concern of all stakeholders.
2. Coastal prairie/ wetland damage or loss should be identified within the planning area and a restoration plan should be finalized along with a timeline.
3. The surrounding counties are populated with many willing volunteers. Identifying future opportunities for volunteers, and/or new ways that the public can participate in the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process to help contain the spread of invasive species as well as other assistance to restore and maintain the seashore is an important component of protecting the land.
4. Environmental education programming for interpreting the natural and cultural history of the planning area, including the ecological, cultural and historical significance of tule elk at Tomales Point is an additional part of the public learning, engaging, and participating in ongoing stewardship.
5. Minimizing the impact to wildlife is of utmost importance. The Final Environmental Assessment should highlight NPS best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation actions to occur prior, during, and after construction associated with foreseen parking reconfiguration, visitor facilities, utility work, etc.

Please add my voice to the increasing numbers of Californians and all Americans that want to preserve national treasures like coastal prairie habitat and elk for future generations. Although I was initially a supporter of potential mixed use of our national lands include our national parks, this simple conflict of interest that's manifested for years at Point Reyes has made it clear that mixed use is problematic at best, and more realistically, manifests a failure of the NPS's mandate to protect our public lands.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,

Jonathan Drew Kibrick

Correspondence ID: 6502

6/5/2024

Tomales Point Area Plan
c/o Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE Comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Acting Superintendent Altman,

The Resource Renewal Institute (RRI) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Tomales Point Area Plan. We commend the National Park Service (NPS) for its thoughtful development of this plan and for addressing many of the issues and alternatives we proposed in RRI's scoping comments submitted on September 25, 2023.

We are pleased to see that Preferred Alternative B includes several key provisions that align with our previous recommendations:

1. Removal of the 3-mile elk fence to allow the Tomales Point tule elk herd to seek new forage and water sources during times of drought or resource scarcity. This will enable more natural population dynamics and reduce the chances of large die-offs seen in recent years with the confined herd. Allowing free movement of the elk is critical to prevent the boom-and-bust cycles that have led to past population crashes.
2. Improved habitat connectivity for the Seashore's tule elk herds to support greater genetic diversity necessary for the long-term health, resilience and survival of the tule elk populations.
3. Furtherance of co-stewardship and coordination with tribal partners, notably the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, in the planning and stewardship of the area's natural and cultural resources.
4. Provision for new interpretive signage and educational programming to be developed in coordination with and presented in partnership with tribal partners. This will enhance public understanding and appreciation of the area's rich cultural history and ecological significance.
5. Use of prescribed fire and incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge to protect and steward native plant communities and enhance habitat for tule elk and other wildlife. This implements RRI's recommendation that the NPS partner with indigenous communities in the management of Tomales Point.

6. Upgrading of visitor amenities such as parking areas, restrooms, and trails - including improvements to the Tomales Point and McClures Beach trails and a new accessible trail at the historic Pierce Point Ranch. These enhancements will improve the visitor experience while protecting sensitive resources.

7. Refinement of the boat-in campsite reservation policies for beaches along Tomales Bay, in consultation with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, to better protect important natural and cultural resources in these areas.

8. Preservation and maintenance of the overall wilderness character of the Phillip Burton Wilderness through the removal of human-made structures and installations.

To further strengthen the Preferred Alternative, we suggest the NPS consider the following in finalizing the plan:

1. Provide a general timeline for implementation of the various actions proposed in Alternative B, including an approximate timeline for the phased removal of the elk fence. A clear schedule will help set expectations and track progress.

2. Identify specific sites within the planning area where native coastal prairies or wetlands have been degraded or lost due to past human activities, posing a threat to the Natural Quality of wilderness character. Include actions to assess interpretable trends and restore these habitats in alignment with the principles described in "Keeping It Wild 2: An Updated Interagency Strategy to Monitor Trends in Wilderness Character Across the National Wilderness Preservation System."

3. Explore opportunities for expanded volunteer involvement and community participation in natural resource stewardship activities, such as training and volunteer days focused on invasive plant identification and removal to support the park's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, as noted in the "2020 Vision: Interagency stewardship priorities for America's National Wilderness Preservation System."

4. Expand interpretive wayside exhibits and educational programming in key visitor areas to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the ecological, cultural, and historical significance of the tule elk and the greater Tomales Point area in alignment with NPS's 2023 Wilderness Interpretation and Education Strategy. Partnering with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria on this programming, as we recommended in our scoping comments, is of utmost importance.

5. Ensure the Final EA fully captures all best management practices (BMPs) and mitigation measures that will be implemented before, during and after construction activities associated with parking lot reconfigurations, facility improvements, utility work, etc. This will ensure that immediate and long-term impacts to wildlife and other resources will be minimized.

RRI believes Alternative B charts a positive course for the future of the Tomales Point Area that will promote the long-term conservation of the tule elk herds, protect and restore native habitats, enhance co-stewardship with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and other tribes, and improve public access and education, while preserving the enduring wilderness character of this special place. We appreciate the NPS's careful consideration of our scoping comments in the development of this Environmental Assessment. RRI looks forward to assisting with plan implementation however we can in the coming years.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chance Cutrano
Director of Programs
Resource Renewal Institute
8 Bolinas Rd, Suite 3A
Fairfax, CA 94930

Correspondence ID: 6503

Please allow the Tule Elk to graze and find food and water. Any failure to do so is a death sentence and beyond cruel. There is too much of that in the world right now and we need to lead with kindness if there's any hope for this world left. I support local ranches but think it's a terrible precedent to think that support of small farms means a slow, painful and preventable death in another living creature.

Correspondence ID: 6504

Free the rule elk.

Correspondence ID: 6505

I am writing in support of the Tule Elk population, and taking the fence down. These animals natural migration has been inhibited long enough, hopefully this will be one step in the right direction of preventing unnecessary suffering and premature death. There may as well not be elk herds at Point Reyes, if they must be held captive in unnatural holding environments. I live in Wallowa county, of NE Oregon, where thousands upon thousands of elk call home and peacefully cohabitate with cattle herds and ranchers. There is no excuse for these Tule elk to continue down a road of poor conservation which will ultimately lead the the population's demise.

Thank you.

A concerned citizen and environmentalist

Correspondence ID: 6506

I appreciate this opportunity to publicly comment. I am completely in support of the Tule Elk herds to be free from the ranch related fencing at the Point Reyes National Seashore, which has been their home for millenia, so that they can access water, food, and engage in a more natural range for procreation of their species. I understand that the blocked access to water and food sources in this curtailed habitat range has been perilous to them, and hundreds have died over the ten years or so that the fence was first built.

Thank you, Susan Shepanek

Wisconsin

Correspondence ID: 6507

Free the Tule Elk by taking down the fence. They have the right to access food and water from 71,000 acres of national park land. Lets restore the health of the elk and eco system

Correspondence ID: 6510

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the National Park Service (NPS), Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, May, 2024.

I support the (NPS) Preferred Alternative B to remove the Elk Exclusion Fence. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

I support the phase-out of agriculture in the Point Reyes National Seashore. I support the return of this land to public use and to native flora, native fauna, and their habitats.

The Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) Mission Statement reports that “OEPC serves as a leader in resource stewardship and the sustainable and equitable management of the Department's resources. We foster partnerships to enhance resource use and protection as well as to expand public access to safe and clean lands under the Department's jurisdiction. We strive to continually improve environmental policies and procedures to increase management effectiveness and efficiency.”

The removal of the elk confining fence is a first step to good resource stewardship. There needs to be a plan to move agriculture out of the Point Reyes National Seashore and restore sustainable ecosystems and biodiversity in the land and water degraded by agriculture. I suggest a botanical inventory and an insect inventory of the land and water in the planning area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Correspondence ID: 6511

June 5, 2024

Tomales Point Area Plan
Acting Superintendent Altman
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Via National Park Service Planning, Environmental and Public Comment Website:
<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

Re: Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

Dear Acting Superintendent Altman,

Since its founding in 1971, the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) has worked to protect the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of coastal Marin County, California. We are deeply committed advocates for wildlife, public access, and responsible stewardship of public lands and waters in Marin County.

Based in Point Reyes Station, California, our members are inextricably connected to Point Reyes National Seashore (Seashore). We partner with the Seashore and the County of Marin Environmental Health Services in collecting and testing beach water quality samples at Drakes Estero and Drakes Beach. We fully engaged in the 2021 General Management Plan Amendment public process and have commented extensively on its elk management plan. We support the National Park Service (NPS) mandate and responsibility to protect natural resources; preserve historical, and cultural resources and wilderness character; and improve visitor experience. We appreciate NPS' consideration of our prior comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan's scoping. We submit these comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment (EA).

We generally support Alternative B, which is also the NPS Preferred Alternative: Unconfined elk herd, improved visitor amenities, and exploration of adaptive reuse of Pierce Ranch core area. Alternative B most closely adheres to several fundamental principles for the management of National Park resources. Alternative B is the alternative most consistent with the

(1) Point Reyes National Seashore enabling legislation,

(2) Phillip Burton Wilderness Area,

- (3) science-based management requirements, and
- (4) interagency cooperation.

We propose additional suggested revisions and comments for consideration in the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and errata (final decision) to address gaps in the EA:

- (1) NPS should provide additional information on planned methods of elk management;
- (2) provide additional information on the planned use and implementation of “wildlife-friendly” fences;
- (3) provide additional clarity in the EA, that before additional development actions are taken at Tomales Point, there will be additional analysis and public comment opportunities;
- (4) it would be helpful to add a discussion to the EA related to existing data related to human or visitor carrying capacity;
- (5) we generally support moving to a location-specific overnight camping reservation system;
- (6) NPS should monitor human interaction with wilderness for impact and exploitation while supporting accessibility; and
- (7) preserve, enhance, and restore habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife within the planning area and limit pesticide usage.

As a general point, we appreciate that NPS continues to consider local tribal resources and Traditional Ecological Knowledge through cooperation and consultation with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, a sovereign nation and federally recognized Indian Tribe. However, we also recognize the value and importance of seeking feedback on the Tomales Point Area Plan public process from non-federally recognized tribes. We encourage NPS to invite collaboration and input from non-federally recognized tribes in developing the plan, especially related to cultural resources.

First, Alternative B is consistent with the Point Reyes National Seashore Enabling Legislation. The Act seeks to “save and preserve, for the purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped.” 16 U.S.C.A. § 459(c). This is reinforced by “the Organic Act and reaffirmed by the General Authorities Act...[which mandate that] managers must always seek ways to avoid, or to minimize to the greatest extent practicable, adverse impacts on park resources and values.” National Park Service, Management Policies § 1.4.3 at 10 (2006). Currently, the primary adverse impacts on the Tomales Point tule elk are caused by confinement behind the elk fence. With warming temperatures increasing drought severity statewide, action must be taken to protect the herds on Tomales Point and the rare and endangered plant species by relieving the grazing pressure on the existing vegetation. Removal of the elk fence would reduce the need for water system infrastructure in undeveloped areas and not require active management of the elk population through lethal removal. The construction and maintenance of artificial water systems conflict with the goal of minimizing human impacts on park resources and values. Further, active management of the tule elk population potentially involves an intrusive and continuous commitment of limited resources to diminish the natural character of Tomales Point. Removal of the fence is the action most compatible with the NPS mission and the purpose of the Seashore.

Second, Alternative B is most consistent with the Wilderness Act governing the Phillip Burton Wilderness Area. As designated by the Wilderness Act, the Phillip Burton Wilderness Area is to be managed “without impairment of its natural values...as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area.” Public

Law 94-544 § 4(a). “Wilderness” itself is defined within the Wilderness Act as “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.” 16 U.S.C.A. § 1131(c). In Tomales Point, it is questionable whether the maintenance of the elk fence has fulfilled the intent of the Wilderness Act. Management policies require that the “wilderness character is...preserved.” National Park Service, Management Policies § 6.3.1 at 80 (2006). The elk fence has arguably manipulated the tule elk population to their detriment and has compromised the character of the wilderness. The natural movement and foraging behaviors of the tule elk have been impeded to the detriment of the wilderness area. The installation of artificial water systems because of confinement is also contrary to the law and policy governing the management of wilderness areas. Removal of the elk fence and restored tule elk access to the full Seashore habitat would more closely comply with the Wilderness Act governing the wilderness area.

Third, Alternative B is consistent with science-based management requirements. Management of the wilderness area and the tule elk reserve must be “enhanced by the availability and utilization of a broad program of the highest quality science and information.” 54 U.S.C.A. §§ 100102; 100501; 100702. Further, NPS is required to “take such measures as are necessary to ensure the full and proper utilization of the results of scientific study for...management decisions.” 54 U.S.C.A. § 100706. This is also reflected in management policy through the “responsibility...to use science to improve wilderness management.” National Park Service, Management Policies § 6.3.6.1 at 82 (2006).

When deciding how to manage the elk in Tomales Point, ample scientific studies detail the consequences of confinement behind the elk fence. In 1993, a scientific advisory committee recommended the “removal of the fence across Tomales Point” to achieve “the long-term goal...[of] the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands.” Dale R. McCullough et al., Final Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of tule elk on Point Reyes National Seashore at 30, 32-34 (1993); See also National Park Service, Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment Public Scoping Newsletter at 4 (2023). By 1998, the tule elk in Tomales Point faced dire circumstances due to overpopulation, the spread of Johne’s disease, and had the lowest genetic variation for their species in the state. National Park Service, Point Reyes National Seashore tule elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment at 13-14, 38-41 (1998). An identified cause of these conditions was the “fencing of elk on the peninsula of Tomales Point.” *Id.* at 39.

While the National Park Service decided to maintain the elk fence in 1998, it was recognized that “limitation to Tomales Point is a historical artifact of...reintroduction” and that “[t]ule [e]lk at Point Reyes are a component of the original native fauna and do not pose an immediate threat to life or property” so if the tule elk “are to remain as part of the Seashore’s fauna and ecological processes, they should eventually become free-ranging throughout most of the Seashore’s natural zones.” *Id.* at 40-41. Twenty years later, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife determined the primary threat to the confined tule elk population in Tomales Point continues to be isolation created by the elk fence. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Elk Conservation and Management Plan at 51-52, 454 (2018). It should also be noted that the free-ranging elk in the Seashore did not suffer the significant population loss that the confined elk in Tomales Point endured during the 2007-2009 and 2012-2014 drought conditions. *Id.* at 464-463. Had the confined tule elk in Tomales Point been able to access other areas of the Seashore, it is unlikely that population collapse, and other observed harms would have occurred.

These findings over the past three decades should be considered part of the “highest quality science and information” available for review for management decisions. Each of these studies was led and conducted by experts in their field. Furthermore, these experts conducted these studies for or on behalf of state and federal decision-makers regarding how to manage the tule elk population in Tomales Point.

These studies have consistently identified and observed the harms caused by the Tomales Point elk fence on the tule elk population. When considering any management decision regarding the tule elk in Tomales Point, NPS should adhere to policies that require findings from these studies to be utilized when deciding what action to take. 54 U.S.C.A. §§ 100702; 100706. Any decision that maintains the elk fence in its current form or otherwise confines the elk to Tomales Point would not adhere to science-based management requirements. Therefore, we support the elk fence removal based on current science and management policies.

Fourth, Alternative B is consistent with interagency cooperation policies. Current management policies encourage NPS to engage with non-federal agency partners when “carrying out wilderness preservation mandates” and to “achieve consistency in wilderness management objectives.” National Park Service, Management Policies §§ 6.3.2; 6.3.3 at 80-81 (2006). This kind of interagency cooperation is necessary for Seashore as a whole, and specifically significant for the management of the tule elk in Tomales Point. Consistent with current management policy, it was previously recommended in 1993 that NPS collaborate with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the management of the tule elk in Tomales Point. Dale R. McCullough et al., Final Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore at 34 (1993).

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife created a management plan for tule elk which includes recommendations on how to achieve specific goals for management of the tule elk at Tomales Point. Cal. Fish & G. Code § 3952; California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Elk Conservation and Management Plan at 30, 34-35, 38-39, 45, 52, 201, 451-481 (2018). A management goal of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is to “reduce the number of confined herds and the frequency for removing excess animals.” Id. at 28, 454-455. Alternative B is consistent with NPS management policy regarding interagency cooperation, because it aligns well with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife goals.

We propose the following specific suggested revisions and comments for incorporation into the final decision including addressing gaps and improving clarity.

First, NPS should provide additional information on planned methods of tule elk management. As addressed in our comments on the General Ranch Management Plan Amendment, we reiterate that we do not support population control that includes lethal removal (culling) or hazing. While Alternative B excludes lethal removal, it does not sufficiently eliminate the use of hazing. We aim to ensure that the tule elk are not limited by these or other management actions that would impair their ability to freely access the rest of the Seashore. Practices that disrupt the natural behavior of wildlife are incompatible with the duty of NPS to reduce negative impacts on park resources. The final decision on the Tomales Point Area Plan should include detailed information regarding the planned control methods that would be used on the Tomales Point tule elk.

Second, NPS should provide additional information on the planned use and implementation of “wildlife-friendly” fences to exclude cattle. We support the planned use of “wildlife-friendly” fences. NPS indicated in the EA that the purpose of this new fence is to prevent cattle from entering the planning area. We urge NPS to provide additional information on the final decision for the construction of this fence as NPS has not always complied with the requirements for wildlife-friendly fencing at Point Reyes, including fencing installed as part of the recent Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Improvement Project.

In light of the transmission of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in North American cattle herds, we urge NPS to address HPAI in the Tomales Point Area Plan by including a plan to monitor the disease. The rapid transmission of HPAI in livestock could lead to the further evolution and spread of the virus in mammals, including wild animals. Already, HPAI infections have been reported in two mountain lions in

Mono County and one bobcat in Butte County. The limited genetic diversity of the tule elk population on Tomales Point makes the elk especially vulnerable to any illness. We suggest that cattle herds in Tomales Point be monitored and tested periodically.

Third, NPS should provide additional clarity in the EA, that before additional development actions are taken at Tomales Point, there will be additional analysis and public comment opportunities. While this was discussed at the May 22nd informational webinar, it is unclear in the EA that additional site-specific and cumulative impacts analyses will be conducted before additional development actions are taken in the Tomales Point area. For instance, additional analysis is needed before developing additional trails, parking, camping infrastructure, and bathroom facilities. The existing EA contains insufficient analysis to move forward with these types of development projects in the Tomales Point area.

NPS should include some analysis in the EA and implement a supplemental or site-specific plan/analysis for any project it plans to conduct to best manage and protect the natural resources in Tomales Point. There should also be a public comment period related to the review of additional development projects at the Point.

Fourth, it would be helpful to add a discussion to the EA related to existing data related to human or visitor carrying capacity, what data gaps exist, and how to address those gaps. The National Park and Recreation Act of 1978 established a statutory requirement for general management plans that includes a measured visitor carrying capacity. A complete general management plan must “indicat[e]...types and general intensities of development (including visitor circulation and transportation patterns, systems, and modes) associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and anticipated costs” and “identification of and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities for all areas of the system unit.” 54 U.S.C. § 100502. This relates to existing usage and the development of camping, hiking, parking, bathrooms, and other development changes. Visitor carrying capacity data should be collected for different times of year. Page 12 of the EA discusses that “visitation methods should remain within capacity limits, as current use is below capacity.” Point Reyes National Seashore Tomales Point Area Plan and Environmental Assessment (2024). However, it is not clear what data this is based on.

Related to any new development, there should be additional analysis related to each of these areas in the EA (or a discussion of how additional analysis and a public process will be conducted before any development) to ensure the least environmentally impactful option(s) are implemented.

Appendix A discusses that NPS considered initiating a visitor-carrying capacity study but ultimately excluded this alternative from the EA. This data would help to inform management decisions and should be included in the EA. It is important to both have baseline data and a plan for monitoring visitation including what types of metrics or collection methods will be used. Although Alternative B does not include new development of trails or structures within the wilderness zone, the development of parking, trails, or bathrooms will have an impact even if it is not in the wilderness area.

Fifth, we support moving to a location-specific overnight camping reservation system. Related to several factors, we support a more specific reservation system, denoting specific beach locations. We also support developing an analysis around day-use beach visitation impacts. We agree with NPS that this will help to preserve cultural resources and limit environmental impacts. Since the current system does not specify a location to camp, this can lead to reservation-less camping (making locations hard to enforce), safety concerns based on limited tidal knowledge and NPS vague knowledge of camper location, as well as potential higher concentration of impacts in sensitive areas. With a location-based system, it will be

possible to more easily avoid camper impacts on sensitive cultural and natural resources. It should also make enforcement of reservations simpler.

Also related to the visitor carrying capacity and limiting impacts, the number of total overnight camping permit reservations should remain the same (total number of campers). This was unclear in the EA. We also seek an explanation of what metrics or methods are used to monitor the number of daytime and overnight visitors to Tomales Point.

To ensure the long-term ecological success of Tomales Point, it is essential that NPS effectively manage and control visitor usage throughout the year.

Sixth, NPS should monitor human interaction with wilderness for impact and exploitation while also supporting accessibility. While we support fully accessible public access to the Point Reyes National Seashore, we note that a primary goal of wilderness is the conservation of natural resources. To preserve the character of the unique wilderness in Tomales Point, we encourage NPS to implement the least intrusive methods possible in the planned expansion of more accessible public access to the park. This includes the construction of access ramps and walkways that are permeable to water.

Seventh, NPS should preserve, enhance, and restore habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife within the planning area and limit pesticide usage. This plan includes some discussion on climate-related impacts on vegetation, wildlife, and habitat. This analysis could be bolstered, better addressing how the park plans for the resiliency of threatened and endangered species that rely on the wilderness and find themselves at a greater risk from climate change and visitation. Also, monitoring of vegetation communities is mentioned in the EA, but specifics could be added. We also support limiting impacts on sensitive habitat areas like wetlands.

We support effective actions to prevent non-native animal and plant species from entering the wilderness area, thwarting negative impacts on the already threatened native vegetation and species. We also encourage only very limited pesticide usage.

In conclusion, we generally support Alternative B, due to its multiple benefits and the need to remove the elk fence, with the incorporation of revisions to address our additional concerns. Thank you for the consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Ashley Eagle-Gibbs, Esq., Executive Director

Environmental Action Committee of West Marin

cc: Via Electronic Mail

Melanie Gunn, Outreach Coordinator, Point Reyes National Seashore

Brannon Ketcham, Management Assistant, Point Reyes National Seashore

Correspondence ID: 6512

Hello,

I am submitting my comments in full support of the wild elk at the Point Reyes Tomales Point Area.

1) I support the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan and its Environmental Assessment, to remove the 8-foot-tall fence of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point

Reyes National Seashore. Yes, please release this largest of the park's 3 herds of Tule elk from their fenced confinement.

2) a. Fences do not belong in Point Reyes or in any other national park unit. Fences alter animal behavior, sometimes subtly, sometime fatally. Fences can affect the natural migrations, foraging and mating of wildlife. Fences can cut or otherwise injure — and even kill — animals who attempt to cross between them or jump over them.

b. An additional 300 miles of barbed and straight wire fences should also be removed; they do not belong in this national park, or any other. Many of them, including recently installed fences are not even wildlife friendly. All cattle fences should be removed.

c. In addition all the cattle fences restrict the public's access to 28,000 acres of Point Reyes — which is 1/3rd the entire park — have been fenced off for these private businesses which have no place in a national park.

2) Please officially rescind the current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan which allows shooting elk to death in the other two herds as population control measures. Because with the Reserve fence gone, the park's three herds may intermingle, as they should for herd health. I oppose ALL lethal “management” of ANY wild animals at Point Reyes.

3) The NPS' Environmental Assessment for Tomales Point (viewable [HERE](#)) recommends removing the current water tanks and troughs (aka, supplemental water) from the Reserve — but this action should be delayed for at least two years from the date of the fence removal. Drought conditions may return and more elk might die of thirst, especially in the northernmost herds at Tomales Point, so supplemental water may be needed again. It is both efficient and economical to leave the tanks and troughs in place should the need arise to refill them. Over a few years time, they can be removed, once all the Reserve's elk have learned they can now, with the fence removed, move naturally to additional water sources in times of drought

4) The park's Tule elk cannot be free, healthy, and safe until all the private cattle operations are removed. Cattle operations expose elk to numerous hazards, including massive amounts of fecal bacteria from cattle which contaminate the soil, streams, and ponds. Manure-borne cattle diseases, including Johne's disease, infect many of the cattle on the park's ranches and can infect elk.

5) The NPS itself cites a 1979 study that found half of the park's dairy ranches were infected with Johne's disease. Cows-for-profit are the source of the disease problem, not wild elk. Ranchers often blame the park's elk for infecting their cows with Johne's, a “wasting” disease, despite their thousands of cows, crowded together, being the breeding ground for this and other ungulate diseases, which are common in cattle operations.

The park's private cattle have infected the park's wild elk, not the other way around. Ranchers then blame the victimized elk, when it is their filthy, crowded businesses (which exploit cows too) that are responsible for bringing Johne's disease to the Point Reyes peninsula — and infecting the Tule elk herds — in the first place.

I am a native Bay Area resident and have always loved the beauty of the North Bay with its green hills. It saddens me that the native elk have been treated poorly for so many years and are dying as a result of the cattle ranching there. Although I believe that the ranchers have a right to their livelihood, I do not feel that it is there at the Point Reyes Tomales Point area. The land, flora, and fauna there should not be

exploited and damaged like it is now and has been. This needs to stop now. Please remove the fencing and allow the Tule elk full access of this land and freedom to roam wherever they want.

Thank you very much for considering mine and the public's comments on this important issue.

Sincerely, Rachel Loui

Correspondence ID: 6513

Dear Sir/Madam,

In your document, "Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment," Alternative B is the only sensible option.

Elk are migratory creatures, and it is inhumane and unnatural to confine such mammals within a small fenced area. Despite your document's reference to a "historical drought," I think the numerous elk deaths caused by confining them to this region were predictable. This is because the Tomales Point Elk Fence confines the elk to high ground above the region's nearby perennial fresh water sources, such as Abbotts lagoon and the spring which feeds it.

Thank you for proposing this action to remove the elk fence. Personally, I think it is long past due, but I still welcome your decision.

Of course, this action should be just the start of a process of "re-wilding," to make this National Park (PRNS) more like a national park. Please, as part of your duty to manage PRNS, start making decisions and acting upon how to dismantle the massive "loafing barns" at I Ranch and J Ranch, and to restore the "developed" spring that those businesses use, back to a more natural state which would allow wildlife to benefit from it.

Correspondence ID: 6514

Tomales Point Area Plan
% Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Rd.
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Submitted via NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment site:
<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=136861>

June 5, 2024

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment

Dear Superintendent,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute opinions and suggestions during this May-June 2024 public comment period on the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) for the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore.

As you may be aware, the two signatories on this letter, In Defense of Animals and The TreeSpirit Project, have, for almost four years — since August of 2020 — been active on the frontlines of the ongoing, concerted citizen and organizational activism to free the Tule and oust the polluting cattle operations from Point Reyes National Seashore.

We are thrilled that the National Park Service has initiated a NEPA process to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence and free the Tule elk trapped within to a much larger portion of the Seashore. Once the elk are freed from the Reserve, what remains is the issue of the polluting dairy and beef ranch operations which, by their very nature, are in continuous violation of national park regulations for land degradation, water contamination and the harassment and harm of wild animals in the park.

Implement Alternative B

We the undersigned support the immediate implementation of the National Park Service's recommended Alternative B of the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP), which is to remove the 8-foot-tall woven wire barrier fencing of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. This will free the park's current largest herd of elk trapped inside the fenced Reserve, so they can roam freely throughout the rest of the Seashore. (Confining them defies NPS policies for wild animals inside national park units.)

Remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence. With These Modifications.

Immediately following the removal of the 3-mile-long woven-wire fencing, the modifications below should follow as soon as possible — but NOT delay fence removal which should and can be immediate, even without other action.

Our recommended modifications:

1. After removing all approximately 3 miles of existing woven-wire fencing, saw the existing 8-foot-tall posts approximately in half, to a height of 4 feet.
2. String two (2) straight (non-barbed) wires to the shortened 4-foot posts:

The lower wire should be 18" from the ground.

The upper wire should be 38" from the ground.

These 2 straight wires, without additional wires, would deter cows from crossing and grazing north across the current Reserve boundary, yet allow all elk, deer and all wild animals, and human park visitors too, to pass through the fenceline easily and unharmed.

This will create a wildlife-friendly, wildlife-permeable barrier that all wild animals will be able to pass through the wires with ease and without danger of injury, while preventing cows from roaming north into the Reserve.

This is a stopgap measure while negotiations and pressure to remove all the park's cattle operations continue. All cattle and active beef and dairy businesses must be entirely removed from the park as soon as possible.

Remove all cattle operations from the Seashore

Although the TPAP as written excludes ranching areas from consideration, once the woven wire fence is removed, the distinction blurs between the Tomales Point area of the TPAP, and the ranching area to the south of Tomales Point, governed by the General Management Plan. Elk currently trapped in the Reserve will inevitably access more ranchlands, and also intermingle with the other two elk herds.

Therefore:

1. All beef and dairy cows and cattle operations must be removed from the park as soon as possible. All beef and dairy operations must cease permanently, not be transferred to any other owners, leasers, operators or stakeholders. Cattle operations are all in violation of numerous statutes governing activities

in a national park unit. For one, the National Park Service's 1916 Organic Act, which prioritizes wildlife and no impairment of "natural resources," not protections or favors for polluting commercial businesses — including all the park's beef and dairy operations.

Cattle ranches are also in ongoing violation of the park's 1962 enabling legislation, The Point Reyes National Seashore Act, which provides for:

"...the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area..."

2. Remove the park's additional hundreds of miles of cattle fences as soon as possible. These fences which define ranch properties are an active threat to wild animals, and humans too. They alter wildlife movement which is supposed to be as unrestricted as possible inside a national park unit. The mishmash of existing fence types includes the animal hazard of wires that are strung too low to the ground for wildlife to pass under, or strung too high off the ground for animals to pass over. Other wire fences are barbed and/or rusted and pose injury hazards to the park's wildlife.

3. Cattle operations are currently, as they have been for decades, the leading source of Point Reyes land degradation, water contamination, and air pollution (as methane emissions from cows). They are in violation of county, state, and federal clean water regulations, with high levels of fecal indicator bacteria exceeding health standards by up to 300x. This was demonstrated in recent years by surface water testing, first by independent parties, and then by the National Park Service.

The massive manure output of ranches, putting aside the human sewage system failures, creates measurable, ongoing water quality violations. No amount of monitoring will solve the problem of water and soil and atmospheric pollution by cattle operations; only removing the source of the problem — cattle ranches — will.

Elk Water Tanks & Troughs

The supplemental water tanks and troughs should not be removed as the TPAP recommends. Instead, they should be left in place for 2 additional years after removal of the elk fence. If drought conditions recur, the tanks and troughs can be recharged with water to save elk lives during this transitional phase. Only after the Reserve's northernmost herds are able to move miles south to reach adequate water and forage during drought conditions, should the supplemental water systems be removed, but not before 2027.

Remove All 12 Vegetation Study Enclosures

Remove all of the 100-ft-square vegetation studies infrastructure including fencing and posts. They are in various states of disrepair and are currently hazards for elk, deer and other animals who might become trapped or get cut by them.

Controlled And Cultural Burns Are Unnatural

This is a national park unit, not a private property to be managed like a backyard garden. Wilderness areas and national parklands do not need to be "tended" by humans. Instead, they should be left alone, not manipulated and controlled like gardens. Wildlands rich and flourishing with abundant wild animals have existed for tens of thousands of years, long before the arrival of ANY humans.

Abolish All Elk Culling, Shooting, and Killing Policies

When the Reserve fence is dismantled, that herd will be able to more readily mix with the Limantour area and Drake's Beach area herds. Thus NO elk should be subject to the "culling" and shooting (killing)

policies which are currently in effect for these other two herds. The distinctions between them will become blurred and increasingly fluid and meaningless, as is natural.

This and every national park is mandated to prioritize the free movement and natural, unmanipulated behavior of all its wild animals. Any interference must be kept to the absolute minimum.

A policy that allows shooting elk for reproducing beyond arbitrary non-scientific, so-called “carrying capacities” — which exist only to benefit ranch operations — is a direct contradiction of the National Park Service mandate and, once again, the park's enabling legislation.

Remove the private cattle operations and their cows — but not any wild animals — because cattle operations are the sole source and cause of all wildlife-business conflicts at Point Reyes.

Sincerely,

Lisa Levinson
Campaigns Director
In Defense of Animals
415-448-0048
215-620-2130 (cell)
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Jack Gescheidt
Founder
The TreeSpirit Project
San Rafael, CA
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Correspondence ID: 6515

It is paramount that land systems be restored to their natural order.

This means removing the fence (using the least amount of machinery required to do so)

In order to allow the Elk to roam.

Cattle should NOT be allowed to graze on or even near National Park land. EVER.

Its my opinion that, given the wildly unpredictable weather the earth is experiencing, that the water troughs could stay in place as their removal may cause too much disruption to the land and also they may be beneficial as drought conditions continue

Fences should never be erected in areas of nature preservation

Correspondence ID: 6516

Please add my input as support for “Alternative B” with regards to the Point Reyes Park Plan. As you likely hear so often from so many, it is long past time to regard the park as property held in as much a wild condition as can be managed. It is time to also phase out the multiple destructive, restrictive, and pollutive ranches within the park property. The permanent termination of their tenancies are long overdue and should not be a weighing factor in delay of the fence removal.

Please do not forestall any longer and get that fence down. Handouts and special treatment for unappreciative and subsidized farming needs to end and the sooner the better for the public at large.

Correspondence ID: 6518

Dear National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore Superintendent,

As a local resident, I appreciate the opportunity to provide my input on the Point Reyes National Seashore's

Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment, as follows:

- I strongly support Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment. I support free-roaming tule elk herd(s) within the entirety of the Point Reyes National Seashore. I want to see the removal of the tule elk enclosure fencing. Fencing to keep the Tomales Point tule elk confined to just a portion of the Tomales Point Area and the Point Reyes National Seashore, which are public lands, is not acceptable to me. I also strongly support the removal of all tule elk enclosures that currently exist.
- I was saddened and horrified at the dire conditions and tragic, lethal consequences that resulted from the confining of the tule elk during earlier drought conditions in an area that lacked sufficient natural water sources, food and nutrients for the tule elk. It is absolutely unacceptable that these tule elk deaths happened. I want a management plan in place for Tomales Point Area and the Point Reyes National Seashore that honors our native elk species with visible action; any plan must allow the tule elk to be free-roaming, with plenty of space and access to natural forage/food, nutrients and water and plenty of space for the tule elk to engage in the full scope of their natural behaviors.
- I also want to see the fencing removed because I am concerned about the genetic strength and longevity of the tule elk population as a whole. The tule elk confined behind the fencing are not able to establish a genetically robust gene pool. I am concerned that the large number of deaths of the tule elk behind the fencing (more than 150 perished) that occurred several years ago during drought conditions has created even more of a genetic bottleneck for those elk. Keeping the tule elk behind fencing unacceptably weakens the genetic diversity of this herd by preventing them from interacting with other tule elk outside of the Tomales Point Area.
- I strongly support a collaborative management plan for the tule elk and the Tomales Point Area as a whole with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. We all — humans, wildlife, and nature alike — will benefit from tribal views, wisdom, knowledge and stewardship.
- I note that the TPAP Environmental Assessment references “the construction of a new wildlife-friendly fence to prevent cattle from entering the planning area.” (p.13.) I am hopeful that this referenced fence truly is limited in scope and allows the utmost space of our wildland for the tule elk. I also am hopeful this referenced fence is humane not only to the tule elk, but also to the cattle. I do oppose the construction of any fencing that may restrict the natural movements and behavior of the tule elk on public land, either currently or in the future.
- I am in favor of management and removal of invasive plant species. However, I am staunchly opposed to the use of any herbicides to manage or remove invasive plants on our public land. For a variety of reasons, it is not acceptable to use poisons/herbicides on our public lands.
- Although I realize that my next comment is outside of the limited scope of this Environmental Assessment, I want to reiterate to the National Park Service that I do not like the idea of continued commercial agricultural operations on public land. All commercial agricultural uses were supposed to have ceased well before now. Ranch leases and commercial agricultural use on this public land operate at the expense of the native tule elk and the health of ecosystem as a whole. This public land should be wild, supporting wildlife for all members of the public; I do not think private individuals should be

allowed to use any part of this public land for their own private use, especially for private commercial agricultural operations.

I have a concern about the degradation of the native ecosystem as a whole in and around where these cattle and dairy operations are allowed to continue. My concerns include: the degradation of the native coastal grasslands; the fecal/bacterial contamination and other pollution of the local waters (creeks, streams, lagoons, etc., including run-off pollution into coastal zones and the ocean) and the land surrounding these local waters, arising from dairy/cattle operations; the physical damage and degradation to the banks and land around these waters; and the spread of invasive weeds. I also am very concerned about the National Park Service's lack of investigation and appropriate, firm responsive action to remedy the fecal/bacterial contamination and pollution of the waters and surrounding land resulting from the dairy and cattle ranches on this public park land.

I want to see the stewards of this public land and its waters managing the park for our native wildlife, for the integrity of the ecosystem as a whole, and for the public as a whole. I do not want to see the use of exclusion fencing on our public land to keep native tule elk confined and away from private ranching operations. I do not want private, for-profit ranches operating on our public land.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Bridget Barron

Correspondence ID: 6519

Removing the fence and re-wilding the Elk is long past due and Alternative B in your document, "Tomales Point Area Plan Environmental Assessment" is what the majority of people want.

Elk are migratory creatures, and it is inhumane and unnatural to confine such mammals within a small fenced area.

It is also time to stop public subsidies of the ranches, a known source of Greenhouse gases, and return the National Park to a more natural state.

Correspondence ID: 6520

Please follow the counsel of the environmental groups and allow the Elk to roam free and remove the dairies. Residents and Visitors want to see wildlife in a National Park, not agriculture. There are cows all over the County but only one stunning Pt Reyes and it is home to the small herd of gorgeous elk which make such an impression.

The fact that the seashore has become polluted by the dairies to the point of being in violation of laws and standards is extremely disheartening.

With the amount of wild land constantly shrinking and the natural health of our lands and waterways in such peril, it is so vitally important to keep Parkland preserved for ecosystems as our lives literally depend on it.

Correspondence ID: 6521

As a resident of Marin County for 54 years. I have seen the evolution of PRNS and the challenges to ranchers, the oyster farm and visitors. In the last 10 years or so I have been more involved with learning the specifics about the various challenges. I did not like to see the oyster farm removed. My experience showed that there were usually more cars at the oyster farm year around than there were at Drake's beach. Improving operations at the oyster farm were not considered. There are still oyster farms in Tomales Bay (an impaired water body - but not because of the oysters.)

I made an effort to learn about the issues when the GMP was initiated. Supporting the alternative to allow longer leases for ranchers so they could get loans that would help them fix up the property and operations was a huge step in the right direction..

Now this Tomales Point Area Plan which, illogically, does not evaluate the impact of turning hundreds of elk loose right next to Tomales Bay State Park and some private homes. It does, however, acknowledge that the adjacent ranch will be impacted, though not to what probable extent.

I support Alternative C since it recognizes the need to keep the elk herd within the carrying capacity of the site, improves visitor experiences and keeps that herd healthier.

I could also support moving some of the Tomales Point herd to the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness where there are natural water sources. The area could be a great opportunity for the FIGR to have a demonstration of native land management.

This proposed action would kill ranching on the Seashore, not improve it. It will have a negative impact on the remaining agriculture in Marin County and possibly Sonoma County. It has been such a positive model of food sources near a metropolitan market.

I am so very disappointed.

Correspondence ID: 6522

Ka molis (Thank you) Point Reyes National Seashore for proposing to remove the elk fence from the Elk Preserve. I am writing to support your recommendation of Alternative B: Unconfined Elk Herd and Pierce Ranch Core Area. The tule elk were not solely “ungulates” for our Támal-ko/Coast Miwok ancestors. Today they are our relatives, contributors to a cycle of life between human, animal and plant relatives, part of our history.

As I commented in the last public comment period, I urge you to make an exception to your recommendation and not “Discontinue provision of supplemental water and minerals for tule elk. Remove all existing, non-historic supplementary water systems.” We are still in climate change with drought and rising temperatures. The tule elk may still need supplemental nutrients and water. The removal of the fence will not change the lack of vegetation or water sources.

As you know the 2018 California Department of Fish and Wildlife Elk Conservation and Management Plan is noteworthy regarding confined tule elk herds. PRNS preferred Alternative B is in alignment with the State's 2018 plan. Goal 1 is to “Reduce the number of confined herds and the frequency for removing excess animals” and Objective 1.1 is “Eliminate one or more confined herds by 2025”.

In Alternative B, the National Park states “Continue to partner with the Tribe for the preservation and protection of significant cultural resources.” I urge you to expand the Park's understanding and scope of “cultural resources” to recognize and address the history of the coves that Támal-ko/Coast Miwok people called home, places such as Pelican Point and White Gulch. These areas were home to Támal-ko/Coast Miwok families. Additionally, Pierce Point was a site for abalone harvest by Támal-ko/Coast Miwok families. The ocean side of Pierce Point was a site for collecting lumber, fallen from ships, used for building homes and barns by Támal-ko/Coast Miwok families. I urge the Park to work with the Alliance for Felix Cove and Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to tell these stories and histories. Visitors, locals, and Indigenous communities are eager to learn of these untold histories.

With Alternative B, the National Park has the opportunity to teach and celebrate how life is interconnected to all things. For thousands of years the life cycles of tule elk and human moved in

synchronicity. A time to burn, to ensure tule elk grazed on nourishing grasses. A time to prepare and teach young hunters. Human, animal, plant and waters—contributed to the ecology of life.

The National Park, if Alternative B is implemented, could realize what the Park was meant to be and do, ensure “the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment” and “provide for the enjoyment of the scenery, natural and historic objects, and wildlife in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

Moving forward with Alternative B means that visitors, local residents and Indigenous communities will be able to experience Tomales Point in its full beauty of vibrant and resilient ecosystems which can foster a harmonious coexistence between humans and our remarkable animal and plant families.

Yes for Alternative B: Unconfined Elk Herd and Pierce Ranch Core Area

Theresa Harlan, Alliance for Felix Cove

Correspondence ID: 6523

The following is my comment on the National Park Service (NPS) proposal to change the current Tule Elk herd management practices by removing the Tomales Point fence, releasing the elk herd into the Seashore, including the historic organic dairies in the pastoral zone. My point of view is drawn from experience as a livestock manager with thirty years of raising sheep on Windrush Farm on the Sonoma/Marin border and so my experience is in herd regulation and pasture carrying capacity, essential to anyone raising animals in Northern California. I oppose Alternative B and recommend Alternative C.

In both the 1993 and 1998 Reports of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on the Pt. Reyes National Seashore population growth is described as a potential problem for the elk herd. In 1978, 2 bulls and 15 cows were released in the Tomales Pt. Reserve, and after a slow start, the population had grown to 465 animals by 1997. The experts agreed that “natural regulation” would limit the population when the carrying capacity was reached and habitat destruction occurred. However, during the drought the Park decided with the deaths of some 200 elk, the public outcry made the scientific regime of natural regulation untenable and began supplying water and feed.

The Pt Reyes NPS is not the only park to struggle with herd density. The National Park Service information on bison herd densities in the North Rim,(NPS Release, September 8, 2017) provides information on the regulation of Bison herd density and the importance of culling by “skilled volunteers” both to maintain the health of the herd but equally important to minimize “increased impacts on park resources such as water, vegetation, soils, archaeological sites, and values and concludes “Reducing the herd size will protect Park resources and values. “

The Alternative B plan finds the Park Service abandoning its policy of “natural regulation” of the herd by opening the Tomales Point fence to broaden the elk range. This tactic leaves the Park little means of protecting Park resources, including the 44 plant species covered by some form of special protective status. In effect, “freeing” the elk also means there is no further way of maintaining vigilance over the health of the elk herd because there will be no way to contain the elk to check their health and progress of diseases like Johnes or to scientifically monitor the herd growth.

Also over the next five to ten years with unlimited range, the herd will grow astronomically, and the NPS will again face culling because the with unchecked population growth, the herd may outgrow the boundaries of the park, bringing a host of other management problems, although admittedly, perhaps 5 to 10 years distant.

In the 1993 report, I found the most interesting recommendation was that the Park begin a public education campaign as they did with Assateague National Seashore wild horse contraception program. "From the first day of the project, the NPS embarked upon a carefully designed and well-implemented educational program designed to keep the public informed....The end result was that a potentially charged project received the full support of the public through an eight-year period. "(page 29) A similarly carefully designed educational program could introduce the public to the practicalities of herd management and culling with eventual acceptance of its necessity.

In sum, as a long-time rancher in the community, I line up on the side of the scientists and the Federal Park Service experts on herd reduction and environmental assessments. The Park must stay on course to manage the elk using science as the guide and maintain the boundaries of the Tomales Point Preserve.

I am available to confirm and expand upon the positions outlined in this comment.

Thank you, Mimi Luebbermann
Windrush Farm

Correspondence ID: 6524

Dear National Park Service in Point Reyes National Seashore,

I support Plan B - the removal of the elk fence and free roaming tule elk. I expect the National Park Service to be an environmental leader and to think more ethically about how it manages wildlife it is charged with protected and preserving. Please take down the fence and make sure the elk have transitional water and mineral sources for the time being as they learn about the fence removal and establish new territories, routes, and the like.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Correspondence ID: 6525

I support the removal of the Tomales Point Fence and the freedom of the Tule Elk herd known as the Tomales Point herd. This fence should have been removed already. There has been too much death and destruction because of this manmade unnatural barrier. It is time for the leases of nearby ranch land to expire and the seashore needs to refocus efforts on rewilding and restoring this precious landscape - the one west coast national seashore. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 6526

It's imperative that we re-establish or Tule Elk herd.. they were here before us.. and we should pay our respects to that.

Correspondence ID: 6528

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I support Alternative B that will remove the fence that confines the tule elk. This will lead to healthier elk populations in the Seashore. I also support efforts to consult and work with Tribal partners and incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into management plans.

Correspondence ID: 6529

Dear Sir/Madam:

Your proposal to remove the fence enclosing Tule elk is the best alternative. But you must go further. Freeing the elk while allowing hazing or limiting herd size to 140 individuals will continue to threaten survival of the species and prioritize the profits of a few ranching families over the health of the land.

Our planet is dying. Please take this first step and then continue to choose alternatives to rewild PRNS. Anything less is a foolish choice.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6530

I am a resident of California and have a strong love for Point Reyes National Seashore and the Tule elk that call it home. I am also a former National Park Service employee. I am 64 years old now and began my interest and support of Tule elk conservation 50 ears ago this year. I have commented on prior management plans proposed for the Seashore.

I am in full support of the preferred option in the current proposed plan. In my opinion, The Park Service has made the right choice this time with a proposal that best meets it's management directives for the benefit of wildlife, their natural habitats, and current and future generation. The fence must come down. It is a travesty that so many Tule elk have died because of it on Park Service lands. This proposal corrects that wrong, and it is about time.

Thank you, Thank you!

Sincerely, Rosamonde Cook

Correspondence ID: 6531

First of all, I support your "Preferred Alternative B" dismantling of the 3 mile fence of the Thule elk reserve at Point Reyes national seashore. I believe that fences do not belong in Point Reyes, especially three-mile long fences, and that they can negatively affect migration patterns, foraging, and mating behaviors.

Next, I respectfully request that the current NPS regulation in the Point Reyes General Management Plan which allows shooting elk to death be rescinded.

Finally, the removal of current water tanks and troughs (supplemental water) should be delayed at least two years from the completion of the fence removal. It will take time for the elk to learn about natural alternative water sources during times of drought after so many years of degraded behavior patterns due to the presence of the fence.

Correspondence ID: 6532

I support the fence being removed and letting the tule elk roam free. I have read about them dying while locked behind the fence because of lack of water and food. I have also read about the many benefits of them being allowed to roam free.

According to a recent article in the Marin IJ, leaving the fence in place could include culling the herd for population control, and why would we do that? "In 1993, a panel of national elk experts told the Park Service that the best way to ensure the health of tule elk was to remove the fence and allow the herds to self-regulate their numbers" (Pacific Sun, June 30-July 6, 2021). In the same article Berkeley wildlife biologist Dale R. McCullough and his panel are quoted as saying, "the captive herds at Tomales Point are perennially 'malnourished (and overstocked with) dead and dying animals.' ...The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve ... removal of the fence across Tomales Point." Also in the same article a quote from the Park Service's 'Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment' concludes, "If they are to remain as part of the Seashores' fauna and ecological processes, they should eventually become free-ranging throughout most of the Seashore's natural zones where conditions

allow.” A last quote from University of California wildlife ecologist McCrea Andrew Cobb says, “the quality of forage outside the fenced reserve is of 'much more high quality.'”

With all of this and so much more, I hope that the fence is removed.

Correspondence ID: 6534

I am writing to comment on the removal of the existing elk fence on the Tomales Point Elk Preserve.

I understand the elk fence will be removed at some point, but I believe a few considerations should be in place before the fence is removed. I think that there should be a elk management plan in place before the numbers have outgrown the area that is theirs. The elk need to have an area that is pleasant for them to reside and eat in. If they out grow the area they are in and move into private lands how will the NPS control the movement? What about the population growth? How will the growth of the elk help the park? When the ranchers leave and the pasturelands become overgrown with invasive plants, and the elk population has grown so much the elk leave the park because there isn't enough food then what? The NPS hasn't really looked into the future of what if's. The elk will over populate their area its not a matter if its a matter of when and what will they decide to do next. Having said that this is what could occur next if you let the ranchers stay undisturbed with the elk behind the fence until they depart or stay. The pending lawsuit should be a tool to use not wait until the lawsuit is over before something is done.

There should be a written management plan in place to protect ranch grazing areas, ranch fences and infrastructure (water and feeding areas). The removal of the elk fence should be done after the settlement of the pending law suit between the NPS and Western Watershed, Center for Biological Diversity, and Renewal Resource Institute. Removing the existing elk fence after the settlement would give all parties time to prepare for the removal.

Correspondence ID: 6535

I would like to express my support for the National Park Service's preferred Alternative B in the Tomales Point Area Plan. Yes, please remove the 8-foot-tall fence at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore and allow the tule elk to roam free. I also want to make it clear that I oppose culling of the tule elk and lethal “management” of ANY wild animals at Point Reyes. I do not visit PRNS to see fences for miles, confined animals, failing structures and fields of mud and manure. I would like to see the protection and preservation of nature and native species to become the priority for the NPS.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment-

Margo Wagner

Correspondence ID: 6537

As a retired federal park ranger I understand the complexities of managing a national seashore for multiple purposes. There are the Indigenous Peoples that claim thousands of years of occupation upon the lands that encompass Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). There is the 20 year general agreement as co-stewards of PRNS entered into between the US Department of the Interior (USDOI) National Park Service (NPS) and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria in 2021z. There are the cattle ranchers that claim their ancestors also occupied PRNS as early as the mid 1800's and continue their livelihoods today via permit leasing agreements within PRNS that were agreed upon when the National seashore was established in the early 1960's when their properties were purchased at that time. There is a family or families of Indigenous Peoples that claim they were expelled from a part of PRNS by the cattle ranchers in the 1950's or worse in the mid-1800's when the State of California murdered Indigenous Peoples deliberately. There are the visitors seeking recreational outdoor experiences and activities along with the

caring public that also have a stake in PRNS. Lastly, there are the Tule Elk, one of three herds, that reside behind fencing on Tomales Point.

The National Park Service(NPS) since it's inception in 1916 has had state entities or others that have been buying out landowners willingly or unwillingly to establish over 400 National parks, National Monuments, National Battlefields, National Historic parks, National Seashores, etc. under their jurisdiction for over a century. It is the sad "nature of the beast" so to speak that the federal government condemns property and/or claims it thru the process of eminent domain. It is a long and complicated process taking years in the making whereby all parties involved are not happy.

Empathizers with the Tule Elk were outraged when the management at PRNS denied water and food for the starving elk during a drought a couple of years past that were fenced in behind a three mile long and eight feet high fence on Tomales Point with no way to reach water or food. The cattle ranchers on the other hand did not want the fence removed to free the Tomales Elk herd fearing they would interfere with their cattle operations by grazing or carrying disease transferable to their cattle. Apparently this dilemma sadly has existed for decades pitting different factions against each other.

It is my hope that these differences can be addressed amicably and that an harmonious PRNS management plan can be agreed upon to satisfy all parties involved moving forward into the next decade.

My General Comments below:

1. At this time I concur and support Alternative "B" along with PRNS to remove the 3 mile long fence on Tomales Point to allow free range of the Tule Elk so they may have access to grazing for food and water within the boundaries of PRNS.
2. It is my understanding that there is other extensive barbed wire fencing within PRNS that is not wildlife friendly. I recommend that volunteers be utilized to make adjustments to this fencing to make it wildlife friendly.
3. I recommend that the cattle operations be phased out over the next 20 years as more droughts will occur as severe climate change occurs in the future making it difficult for cattle operations to survive with reduced forage and possibly shortages of water availability.
4. Our National Parks, Monuments, Seashores, etc. in the USA, DC and its territories are for all peoples to enjoy and therefore not only sovereign Indigenous Peoples but US taxpayers as well having a huge financial stake in most all of our National Parks, etc. should be allowed to make co-stewardship recommendations/agreements with the USDOI/NPS regarding management decisions affecting PRNS. It could be considered discriminatory otherwise.
5. There is the issue of controlling/managing the Tomales Point Tule Elk and the other Tule Elk herd population numbers. No more lethal dispatching unless to humanely alleviate the suffering of an injured or dying Tule Elk or other wildlife in the same situation. Their population numbers must be addressed with HUMANE methods only. The HUMANE Porcine Zona

Pellucida (PZP) fertility treatments vaccine has been used successfully for decades on wild horses by the NPS and the Bureau of Land Management and it is my understanding also on the PRNS Tule Elk in the past. Definitely reinstitute this program by providing the vaccines and utilizing volunteers in partnership with NPS to administer the vaccines via darting.

6. Do not remove the water tanks or troughs as due to climate change deadly drought conditions could return.

In conclusion, in our great nation's past some of our history is ugly, painful, cruel and offensive to some. We must understand that our past occurred in a different time where there was a different belief system. We must move harmoniously beyond those wrongs and move forward together to continue to preserve our nation's history and to protect our National Parks. Many mistakes have been made along the way. Nevertheless, the stories must be told, the good, the bad and the ugly to better understand who we are, who we have been so as not to repeat the mistakes made in the past moving forward and to better understand where we are going. We need to strive to achieve common goals working together to manage PRNS harmoniously considering all parties involved and their livelihoods, their historic pasts and that their stories be told moving forward. All people's opinions need to be heard and those that are feasible incorporated into partnerships, agreements or the management plans for PRNS (to be updated every 5-10 years) ensuring the humane treatment, maintaining the continued genetic diversity and the survival of the Tomales Point Tule Elk, and the other Tule Elk herds for perpetuity and for all generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and for the privilege of taking part in this planning process.

Kate Mabry

Correspondence ID: 6538

I am in favor of the proposed action, Alternative B: the elk fence removed, and no cattle fence built in its place. The elk must be allowed to roam free. Furthermore, I hope the day is soon when rewilding can commence throughout the entire National Seashore. The extractivist use of the Seashore for private commercial gain, which is of very recent vintage in the scheme of human inhabitation of these lands (and only perversely considered "historic") must end. Cattle ranching, whether for dairy or for meat (both are interrelated), is simply destructive to the ecosystem. It has no place being subsidized and supported in the National Seashore. Furthermore, cattle ranching is inherently cruel: to produce milk, a cow must be forcibly and violently impregnated. When her baby is born, that calf is forcibly removed from her immediately -- this is traumatizing for any mammal, for both mother and child. The calves are then kept isolated from their mother and from each other, while their mother's milk is stolen from them and from their mother, and sold on the market. Dairy and meat are not needed for human health, and their production is not only cruel but is unsustainable and harmful to the ecosystem, even in small operations, as is well-understood, despite the lies of those in the industry. So I hope the removal of the elk fence is just a first step, and that the next is removal of the ranches altogether, and that the next is rewilding.

Correspondence ID: 6539

Alternative C is the only acceptable plan. Thanks you!

Correspondence ID: 6540

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan EA

Dear Ms. Gunn,

It is positive to see the NPS propose to remove the elk fence and allow the elk to be truly wild. This is a big improvement over previous proposals and management actions.

That said, I have some concerns and questions about the proposed action:

1- There is no Minimum Requirements Analysis or statement in the EA as to how the water tanks, troughs, pipes, and fence would be removed. This means the EA is inadequate in its analysis of impacts to the Wilderness. Why wasn't one done for public review?

2- After talking with an NPS staff person, Nelanie Gunn (who kindly returned my call), I learned the tanks are 2000-gallon plastic tanks. Most of them that size weigh around 300 pounds, though some weigh more. The US Forest Service has a track record of moving heavy objects in Wilderness. Given the size and weight, this could easily be done with a team of horses dragging empty tanks or even walked out by a group of volunteers. These are the heaviest items. As such, the troughs, fences, and pipes could easily be moved by people out of the Wilderness. There appears to be no need for motorized or even mechanized transport.

3- The use of prescribed fire and herbicides in the Wilderness are trammeling actions inconsistent with Wilderness. In the case of fire, it usually favors non-native invasive annuals (weeds) rather than native plants so its use is suspect in or outside of Wilderness for invasive plant control. Herbicides poison the Wilderness and have negative impacts on non-target species.

Gary Macfarlane

Correspondence ID: 6541

In support of Alternative B:

I strongly encourage the National Park Service (the Park Service) to implement its preferred alternative, the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) Environmental Assessment's (EA) Alternative B,

I urge the NPS to remove the Tomales Point elk fence, which prevents the tule elk from gaining access to water and forage south of Tomales Point and has led to the suffering and death of hundreds of elk in recent years. I am strongly opposed to both the no-action Alternative A and Alternative C, involving culling the tule elk, both of which fail to conserve the native tule elk population.

Sincerely, Sarah Butler

Correspondence ID: 6542

I would like the NPS to follow Alternative B. I would prefer that the Tule elk fence, water tanks and temporary water systems be removed that were installed during the most recent drought. I believe that the Tule elk should be allowed to roam in the Wilderness and Tomales Point as they have in the past.

I oppose alternative A and C.

Please end cattle grazing in Point Reyes and the Wilderness. This would be in line with the original agreement that had been made when the seashore was established.

Also I would recommend that the PG&E powerline be removed.

Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 6543

I support the NPS Alternative B proposed action to remove the elk fence and free the confined elk. I love visiting Point Reyes and enjoying the nature - I was very sad to hear that the rule elk are not able to roam freely and that their survival is in jeopardy due to the fence. It is crucial that we remove this fence and don't let the agricultural lobby stand in the way of doing what is clearly right.

Correspondence ID: 6544

Dear Superintendent,

The proper outcome of the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP) is vital to the survival of the historic ranches situated on the Point Reyes Peninsula. The preferred alternative described in the TPAP draft EA (Draft EA) will likely destroy the dairying and beef cattle ranching on the peninsula.

The elk fence is a major federal action with significant environmental and economic impacts and cannot be removed through an EA, especially if it directly conflicts with a current EIS. If the National Park Service final decision is to remove the fence, a lawsuit by ranchers is likely to prevent removal of the fence.

The Draft EA is fatally flawed.

The Project Area. The recently completed GMPA EIS excluded the Tomales Point Elk Preserve because the GMPA would not affect the Tomales Point elk or other management responsibilities on Tomales Point. Per the GMPA, the elk fence was to remain and could, therefore, be appropriate to exclude Tomales Point as one project area does not affect the other. With the current preferred alternative in the TPAP EA, to remove the elk fence, the clear project area boundaries have been disregarded. The failure to respect the project area boundaries could undermine the recently completed GMPA EIS if not corrected. By excluding consideration of Tomales Point elk effects on ranch lands area in the GMPA EIS, and then excluding

consideration of the of the effects on ranchlands area in the Tomales Point EA, NPS has illegally

avoided disclosure of the significant adverse impacts of fence removal on the ranch lands and ranches. This shell game to shield disclosure of the effects violates NEPA.

Socioeconomics. The expected socioeconomic effects resulting from a federal action is a required impact topic for federal agencies to analyze during an Environmental Assessment (EA). Serious conflicts between tule elk and ranch businesses occur throughout the State of California. Serious economic harm to dairies and beef ranches has been caused by tule elk at Point Reyes as has been well documented for decades. Remarkably, the Draft EA preferred alternative is to release the Tomales Point elk on to the ranch lands and NPS concluded that socioeconomics should be dismissed from further analysis. NPS, in the Draft EA, states that "Neither the Limantour nor the Drakes Beach herds have been found to significantly impact historic ranching operations." This claim was used to justify ignoring the most important adverse effect that could result from this federal action.

The current draft TPAP EA violates the recently completed GMPA. Tule elk management was fully analyzed in a recent, more rigorous NEPA process in the GMPA EIS. A multi-year, multi-million dollar, complete EIS was completed to guide NPS management of the ranch lands. The NPS recognized the seriousness of the adverse impacts caused by tule elk and included provisions to protect ranching from the tule elk. These provisions included a population cap on the Drakes Bay tule elk herd and a rule that no new elk herd will be allowed to establish on the ranch lands. The Tomales Point elk fence removal would directly conflict with the current NPS guidance that resulted from a much more extensive study of the tule elk on ranch lands. The current refusal to consider the socioeconomic effects on ranchers does

not exonerate the NPS from following their newly completed GMPA. NPS must include an honest analysis of socioeconomic impacts, or NPS could simply include the robust, contemporaneous analysis of elk impacts and mitigation measures included in the GMPA. If they do either, the elk fence will need to remain.

The TPAP EA violates NEPA by ignoring the 1998 Elk EA. Federal planning documents can get stale and generally require periodic updates. Agencies are expected to see deficiencies due to changed conditions, changed or new laws, etc. The basic NEPA planning document remains but is updated where necessary. It is never expected that an agency will throw out a valid NEPA planning document and start from scratch. The TPAP EA seems to ignore valid facts and elk management guidance included in the 1998 plan without any justification. NEPA was created to hold an agency accountable to the public. An agency may not always like the requirements imposed by the public process. Therefore, an agency cannot simply omit parts of an active guidance document because it does not like the requirements imposed. The NPS must include the provisions, history, background and requirements of the 1998 Elk Management Plan and EA unless a full analysis is made as to why the exclusion is necessary.

The Project Area:

The "project area" should include all areas to be affected by the federal action. This seems obvious, but it appears that the TPAP misses the point. How can an agency make a decision that affects an area outside the project area? Especially when those effects are well known, have been discussed for decades and are controversial? How can an agency openly ignore the direct and cumulative effects of a proposed action when it knows that it would violate a more robust EIS created recently by the same agency? To do so, NPS needed to ignore scoping comments on the TPAP. The Point Reyes Seashore Ranchers Association scoping letter (Attachment A, PRSRA TPAP EA Scoping Letter) wrote:

"Just as the recent GMPS EIS was carefully limited to within the ranching boundaries, this new Tamales Point Area Plan must be limited to the Tamales Point Area - behind the Tamales Point Fence. There can be no crossover of affects, or spill over effects of this new plan on the ranch lands. All elk impacts to the ranch lands were folly evaluated in the GMPA EIS. The GMPA includes maximum numbers of elk that can be on ranch lands. The Tomales Point Elk herd is not currently on ranch lands. Allowing any of these elk to enter any existing ranch lands within PRNS would be allowing a new herd to be established. This is prohibited by the recent GMPA. It would also create new impacts and risks to ranchers not considered in the recent GMPA EIS."

To consider removing the elk fence as an alternative, NPS must consider the socioeconomic impacts on the ranchers as well as the broader West Marin community. The obvious facts at hand eliminate the fence removal as an option. The area where the TPAP EA expects elk to go from the Tomales Point Area was fully evaluated in the GMPA EIS. NPS must respect the GMPA process, including a recently signed Record of Decision, which clearly prohibits the removal of the elk fence.

The GMPA EIS reads:

"Under alternative F, NPS would not limit the population growth or geographic extent of free- ranging elk in Point Reyes. NPS management of elk would occur only to support other resource protection needs and management goals. Until cessation of ranching operations, NPS would consider limited, non-lethal management measures for elk. Once ranching operations cease, development of new herds in Point Reyes would be allowed to establish. Following the cessation of ranching operations, the elk fence at Tomales Point would be removed, consistent with the removal of other boundary fences in the planning area. "

Even the rejected No-Ranching alternative acknowledged that NPS must wait until all ranching ceases before any new elk herd would be allowed to establish.

Alternative B, the preferred alternative was selected by NPS. It reads:

"Under alternative B, NPS would actively manage the free-ranging elk herds in the Point Reyes portion of the planning area. NPS would manage the herds to remain in Point Reyes, in coordination with CDFW. At Tomales Point, NPS would continue to maintain the elk fence that serves as the northern boundary to the planning area, and any elk that leave the reserve would be returned to the reserve. The elk at Tomales Point would continue to be managed as a fenced population in accordance with the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan/EA. "

The rationale for this NPS about-face in the TPAP EA has not been explained, analyzed, or justified as required by the courts.

Socioeconomics.

The TPAP EA does not address what we believe is the single most important elk management impact topic, socioeconomics. The NPS refusal to consider socioeconomic impacts was based on:

"Those elk that do leave the planning area under alternative B would be managed in a manner similar to the Limantour herd."

Here, NPS acknowledges that the GMPA has set forth management policies that NPS should follow. In the same TPAP draft EA, NPS fails to point out the management policies in the same GMPA that would disallow the elk fence removal. The GMPA prohibits the NPS from allowing a new (Tomales Point) herd to establish in the planning area (ranch land). NPS should not be allowed to cherry-pick GMPA policies to reach a desired outcome. NPS recently analyzed tule elk impacts on ranches in the planning area by way of a full EIS. Elk management directives were made a part of the GMPA EIS. NPS alternatives considered in the TPAP EA cannot disregard the new, well-analyzed management directives in the GMPA. All alternatives must be consistent with the elk management described in the GMPA. Given the recent GMPA, an alternative to remove the elk fence cannot be allowed.

The next reason NPS gave to justify sidestepping its obligation to fully analyze socioeconomic impacts is "Neither the Limantour nor the Drakes Beach herds have been found to significantly impact historic ranching operations."

This is completely wrong. The elk do, in fact, seriously harm the permitted ranch businesses. The dated records (shared below) prove that this excuse used to avoid a socioeconomic analysis is false. Just because NPS refused to manage the elk, pursuant to the 1998 Elk Management Plan, it doesn't mean it is not aware of the serious nature of the adverse impacts to ranchers' livelihoods.

The last reason NPS gave to justify the refusal to look at socioeconomic impacts in the TPAP EA is:

"Under alternative B, the removal of the existing elk fence could affect the cattle ranches on NPS land. Some ranch lessees and commenters have expressed concerns that the elk could impact existing forage for cattle if they travel outside of Tomales Point and begin grazing on ranch/and."

Here, NPS acts as if only some ranchers commented and only some other commenters were concerned about impacts. NPS used the word "could" as if NPS is not clear about the impacts. And NPS limits the

impacts to “forage for cattle”, as if that is the only concern. These are apparent efforts by NPS to downplay the serious, ongoing and potential new elk impacts on seashore ranches.

Serious adverse impacts have been ongoing since NPS stopped managing the elk around 2004. The NPS decision not to follow the guidance in the 1998 plan has resulted in an enormous amount of damage, conflict and attention. NPS acknowledged these adverse impacts in the 1998 Elk EA and in the GMPA EIS. It is simply not credible for NPS in the TPAP EA to deny that these impacts are ongoing and that releasing the elk would hugely exacerbate the problem, probably forcing ranchers out of business. Given the following facts beginning in 1971, the new NPS TPAP EA claims that the current damage to ranches caused by elk and the future damage that would result from the fence removal do not even reach a threshold to consider in the TPAP EA are absurd. The TPAP EA must be revised.

1971: Interagency task force named PRNS as one of four suitable reintroduction sites, after considering a list of 23 possible sites. Sadin writes, “When discussions regarding the possibility of elk reintroduction to Point Reyes began, the biggest concern among locals and park staff was the potential for disrupting peninsula dairy and grazing operations. State Fish and Game officials wanted the reintroduced elk to remain inside an enclosure, because of problems that free-ranging elk had created in the agricultural sector of the Central Valley.” Cites unpublished memoir of Sansing's, at p. 23. Park proposed releasing elk on Tomales Point, to be protected by a fence.

(Attachment B, Watt Timeline)

1998 PRNS Elk EA:

“The Park Service has a responsibility to be a good neighbor to adjacent and nearby landowners. Anticipating the effects of tule elk management strategies on the property or perceptions of neighbors is an important consideration. Any depredations by elk on fences, crops or other property would require mitigation actions to correct or avoid problems. Experience with elk elsewhere in the State in situations similar to Point Reyes, such as Redwood National Park, has shown that

elk can usually be managed to reduce conflicts with neighboring properties.” (Page 13)

“The California Department of Fish and Game as the trustee agency for: the fish and wildlife resources of the State has “concerns about Johne's disease and the management of tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. The possible relocation of animals to areas outside the Seashore raises concerns about the possible spread of Johne's disease. It is the policy of the Tule Elk Interagency Task Force not to relocate infected animals. Because of the prevalence of Johne's disease on the Seashore, elimination of the herd was at one time suggested.” (Page 14)

“Upcoming revisions to the General Management Plan will address the management of the Seashore's pastoral zone. Ranches may close operations over time due to economic reasons, the discretion of the leasee, or at the direction of the National Park Service. If and when ranches close, fencing and other restrictions could be removed, but this plan makes no

effort to hasten this change.” (Page 15)

“Damage to property could occur if elk move outside the Seashore onto private lands and consume crops or damage fences or other property. The Seashore will be ready to recapture or destroy problem animals should these situations arise, or establish partnerships with state and county agencies with the necessary skills and personnel to assist with the recapture. ' The Seashore should be prepared to provide funding for compensating property damage if necessary. It may be possible for the Seashore to modify parts of the habitat to help prevent such occurrences, or construct bairiers to dispersal. Removing the

fence at Tomales Point will be considered if and when ranching ceases, on the adjacent lands. To open the Tomales Point elk range with adjacent lands under ranching could negatively impact both ranching and the elk habitat.” (Page 50)

“Rejected Alternative B: Eliminate Restricted Range through Management Decisions. This alternative describes a process whereby the National Park Service would pursue its tule elk management mission and goals through elimination or reduction of ranching permits using existing authorities. Tule elk at Tomales Point would be allowed to move outside the current elk range to former ranch units within the Seashore. Impacts to Seashore resources and activities such as ranching would likely be the highest under this scenario. While this alternative may represent a low cost, successful short-term strategy, it will probably result in producing problems with conflicting land uses and agriculture. Breach Fence at Tomales Point:

2009, Hegel et al. 2009). NPS managers at Pt. Reyes are strongly encouraged to develop a proactive plan to address this issue.” (Attachment B, Watt Timeline)

2011 2/22/11- Ranchers were asked to document elk impacts and or property damage. Ranchers were asked to work with PRNS on short term approaches to address immediate needs while exploring long term strategies that will both protect park natural resources and support range management activities that help make operations flourish within the Seashore.

Ref: Letter from Cicely A. Muldoon to ranchers, 2/22/11 (Attachment B, Watt Timeline)

2011 Letter from Superintendent Muldoon to Gino Lucchesi and the Point Reyes Seashore Ranchers Association. “We have heard from affected ranchers that this is a financial issue. For the park to consider compensation for damages, it is essential that ranchers notify the park of any impacts to their operations and infrastructure caused by elk so that it can be documented. This documentation is the best tool we will have to account for remediation through existing permits. It is also critical for any future planning efforts. Wildlife technician Tim Bernot (415-464-5194) is the NPS contact for elk issues. We look forward to continuing our work on this together.” (Attachment C, Letter from PRNS)

2012 8/13/12 - PRNS staff began hazing elk off pastoral zone working ranches only to have elk return the next day. It is not healthy for both elk and cattle to be disturbed by chasing/hazing in rancher's pastures at any time. It only alarms them and fences get broken and animals hurt. That is why cattle and elk should not be together.

Ref: Spaletta Family meeting with Gordon White and Devii Rao (Attachment B, Watt Timeline)

2012 Letter from US Senator Dianne Feinstein to DOI Secretary Ken Salazar: Unfortunately, elk from Limantour Wilderness Area now roam the adjacent pastoral zone causing significant adverse impacts to dairy ranches. The elk are damaging fences, eating the managed grazing grasses during dormant periods, and occasionally killing and injuring cattle during rutting season. The elk are also feeding on the forage meant for cattle, forcing one ranch to purchase \$16,800 worth of hay to replace the forage that was consumed by the elk. Aside from lowering the fences in some of the pastures to try to reduce damage by the elk, the Park Service has taken no action to address the impact they are having on the ranches. Members of the ranching community and Marin County Supervisor Steve Kinsey, whose letter I have attached, have asked that the elk can be removed from the ranches. They have been informed by Point Reyes Superintendent Cicely Muldoon that doing so would require an Environmental Impact Report, for which there is presently no funding available.

However, mitigation measures in Point Reyes' 1995 Elk Management Plan include taking corrective actions such as the capture of elk. Additionally, the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) statement issued on the management plan determined that "managing tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore using relocations and scientific techniques is not a major Federal action." Given the FONSI, it is unclear why the Park Service believes it lacks sufficient authorization to return the stray herd back to the Limantour Wilderness Area without further NEPA analysis. (Attachment D, Letter from Dianne Feinstein to Salazar)

2013 8/13/13 -PRNS staff is pursuing an experimental electric fence on Home Ranch PRNS, late this summer to keep elk off Pastoral Zone intended for cattle grazing. (This is a great start to keep elk off Pastoral Zone. By doing this project, PRNS admits that ranchers have been adversely affected by the intruding elk and that NPS is responsible to see that the elk do not adversely affect other permitted uses.) Currently, in addition to forage consumption and property damage, the elk are relying on ranchers' water sources. (Attachment B, Watt Timeline)

2013 Letter from PRSRA to Superintendent Muldoon As you are well aware, the members of our Association have been harmed by the presence of free-ranging tule elk on leased pasturelands in the Seashore's Pastoral Zone ever since they first appeared in 2000. We have participated in numerous meetings with PRNS staff, and have written repeatedly requesting that all encroaching elk be removed, as they are causing substantial damage to our fences, livestock, and livelihoods. Damages sustained by just one ranch start at \$30,000 annually. We are writing today to once again demand that action be taken to resolve the problem that the PRNS has neglected. (Attachment E, Letter from PRSRA to Muldoon)

2013 8/13/13 - PRNS staff stated that free range elk population is growing at 12% a year. These free range elk are affecting working ranches in the PRNS on a daily basis. PRNS staff admitted that elk and cattle cannot coexist for reasons disease transmission and forage competition. Ref: Dave Press-Wildlife Ecologist PRNS 8/13/13 (Attachment B, Watt Timeline)

2014 Letter from CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife to CA Assembly member Marc Levine: Thank you for your January 22, 2014 letter expressing concern over the tule elk in the pastoral zone of Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). Elk causing damage to agricultural property is not new to California, or across the western United States. Under the Department's current relocation guidelines, no elk could be relocated outside of PRNS due to the presence of John's disease; however, elk could be relocated within PRNS to the wilderness area. Again, this question is best addressed to PRNS, However, it has been our experience that relocating adult animals a short distance such as this will not be effective, We would anticipate the elk would quickly return to the pastoral zone where forage conditions are likely to be better. Department staff has discussed with PRNS the potential of relocating yearling elk back to the wilderness area which may help alleviate the situation. Young animals are more likely to incorporate with the existing herd in the wilderness area and may be less likely to return to the pastoral zone. Outside of direct population control, the best long-term solution is fencing that would prohibit the elk from entering the pastoral zone Department staff has provided information on different types of fencing that can be effective barriers to elk movement. (attachment F, Letter from CDFW to Marc Levine)

Given the record, NPS knew of the serious harm caused to ranchers by the unmanaged tule elk and was simply wrong to refuse to analyze socioeconomic impacts of tule elk on the ranches in the TPAP EA. Elk do harm ranch operations and endanger the viability of the ranchers. As we know, the refusal to analyze the socioeconomic impacts should be mooted by the fact that the TPAP does not have the authority to harm resources outside of its planning area. The obvious remedy for this failure is to eliminate any plan

alternative that would remove the elk fence and focus the analysis solely on the Tomales Point Elk Preserve planning area.

The TPAP EA preferred alternative violates the recently completed GMPA.

The recent GMPA EIS updated the 1998 Elk EA and Elk Management Plan for the GMPA project area. NPS did not attempt to make any changes to the plan, or propose any elk management that would have affected the Tomales Point Elk Preserve. The separate planning area designation was respected in that process. The ranchers were not happy with the outcome of the GMPA EIS in many ways. It ratified many of the NPS elk management failures that created the conflicts in the first place. Ranchers were also frustrated by the seemingly illegal bait-and-switch between the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision. One of those changes was an arbitrary increase in the maximum Drakes Beach elk herd size. The lower number was justified by careful analysis within the EIS and there is no justification or support for the surprise increased number included in the Record of Decision. Regardless, NPS made these changes to the existing elk management plan and the GMPA includes the final, updated elk plan for the project area, including all of the ranch lands. Ranchers have openly agreed to work with NPS and to comply with the new elk requirements and restrictions as finalized in the ROD.

The GMPA provides for maximum numbers of elk on the ranch lands. There is a stated maximum number of elk at Drakes Beach and there is a smattering of bull elk elsewhere. The GMPA provides:

“No new elk herds would be allowed to establish in the planning area.” (Executive Summary, page v)

The preferred alternative in the TPAP draft EA includes the removal of the elk fence. This would result in the establishment of a new elk herd in the GMPA planning area. This simply cannot be allowed. The GMPA resulted from a public process with significant civic and scientific participation. To allow this new TPAP EA to undermine the completed GMPA EIS and ROD would seem to make a mockery of NEPA. Especially if NPS tries to overturn the GMPA EIS in the GMPA planning area when NPS, in the draft TPAP EA, openly refused to analyze the damage that would result from interfering with the ranches in the GMPA planning area. The GMPA is replete with an elk management plan for the ranch lands and that plan cannot be arbitrarily changed. The elk fence must remain and be maintained by NPS pursuant to the valid GMPA EIS and ROD. No TPAP plan alternatives that include the fence removal can be allowed.

The TPAP EA violates NEPA by ignoring the 1998 Elk EA

It is understood that federal planning documents can require periodic updating. Portions of plans may become outdated by changed conditions. Often, as is true with the 1998 Elk EA, much of the information can remain quite accurate and relevant and should not be changed. The GMPA EIS made the necessary changes to the 1998 Elk EA and Elk Management Plan for the project area, including all of the ranch land.

A quote from page 13 of the 1998 plan reads:

“The Park Service has a responsibility to be a good neighbor to adjacent and nearby landowners. Anticipating the effects of tule elk management strategies on the property or perceptions of neighbors is an important consideration. Any depredations by elk on fences, crops or other property would require mitigation actions to correct or avoid problems. ”

Although this quote might have been referring to private landowners outside the seashore, it seems appropriate to treat the seashore ranching families similarly. This responsibility would not have expired and would seem to still be relevant. The preferred alternative in the TPAP draft EA seems to ignore such a responsibility.

Page 14:

"Point Reyes National Seashore has undergone significant changes in dairy ranching since its establishment. Originally, all ranches in Point Reyes were owned as private inholdings in the Seashore. During the 1970s and 80s, ranch lands inside the Seashore were purchased by the National Park Service and reservations, leases, or permits were given to former owners. The ranches will likely exist well into the future with the full support and cooperation of the National Park Service."

Removing the elk fence would directly harm the ranchers, completely undermining the above statement from the 1998 Elk EA.

Page 15:

"Upcoming revisions to the General Management Plan will address the management of the Seashore's pastoral zone. Ranches may close operations over time due to economic reasons, the discretion of the leasee, or at the direction of the National Park Service. If and when ranches close, fencing and other restrictions could be removed, but this plan makes no effort to hasten this change. "

The General Management Plan was just updated for the ranch lands. The above quote from the 1998 Elk EA was respected. Within about a year, the TPAP draft EA completely reverses the NPS position. The preferred alternative to remove the elk fence would be a direct NPS effort to hasten the ranches to close.

Conclusion:

The long history of actual experience with negative effects of existing tule elk herds, the analysis by wildlife scientists and managers, and the NPS itself in the GMPA EIS, support the conclusion that removal of the Tomales Point elk fence will have significant negative environmental and economic effects beyond Tomales Point. The Tomales Point Area Plan has ignored these direct and cumulative effects that will extend beyond the fenced area if the fence is removed. If these effects are not disclosed and analyzed in the Tomales Point EA, then the elk fence cannot be removed and the Tomales Point Area Plan must be entirely confined to the project area, just as the GMPA EIS was absolutely confined to its project area. The TPAP draft EA is in complete conflict with the recently completed General Management Plan Amendment. There is no way to allow the removal of the fence and to comply with the already completed planning document for the ranch lands. Given the NPS failure to analyze environmental and economic effects outside

the fenced area, the only legal course is to remove any TPAP EA plan alternative that includes the fence removal and limit the TPAP analysis to the project area. We are also concerned that NPS's timing of this Tomales Point elk decision to remove the fence undermines the ongoing mediation and settlement process in the GMPA litigation.

Correspondence ID: 6545

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

I own a home in Solinas and often hike the Tamales Point Trail. It is always a treat to see the elk, and above are two of my favorite photos.

I was horrified and heartbroken to learn that many had died of thirst some years ago when fences prevented their access to water. Even worse was learning that when people tried to help by filling troughs with water near the fence, they were repelled by the park "service."

I urge you to support the National Park Service's Alternative B in the Tamales Point Area Plan. Removing the fence and allowing the elk to find water and food beyond Tamales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

Correspondence ID: 6547

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

I am writing today to comment on the proposed Tamales Point Area Plan and to applaud the National Park Service's selection of Alternative B. As an ecologist having spent the last several decades working on applied wildlife conservation and restoration projects, I'm well aware of how complex and challenging such planning processes are in practice. I found your Plan reflects impressive and thorough analysis of the relevant factors and plots a sensible, pragmatic, and achievable way forward. As a resident of Inverness and frequent time user and appreciator of the Point Reyes National Seashore, I look forward to the positive changes Alternative B will provide for flora, fauna and visitors to our Seashore.

Below, I'll comment briefly on the Alternatives A and C, followed by suggestions on ways to ensure Alternative B has minimal unforeseen and undesirable consequences.

Alternative A

I believe Alternative A is effectively a non-viable option because the status quo is in clear violation of the Wilderness Act as well as at substantive odds with the State of California's current policy on the management of Tule Elk herds. Because the vast majority of Tamales Point falls inside the Phillip Burton Wilderness, the Wilderness Act demands that such an area retain, "... its primeval character ..." with the "... imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable." The existing elk fence does precisely the opposite, as a glaringly obvious imprint of man's work, with devastating consequences for all wildlife in the region by prohibiting their natural movements throughout the Wilderness Area and the Seashore. Moreover, the fence is in clear violation of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's policy which demands all Tule Elk populations be managed in a free-roaming state, not as the Tamales Point herd is currently being managed.

Alternative C

In addition to these concerns relating to Alternative A, the proposed Alternative C fails to recognize and embrace the current status of the three elk populations at PRNS, their habitat needs, and the importance of gene flow among these populations. Moreover, the 'management' of their numbers by actively shooting individuals is surely contrary to the spirit of the Wilderness Act, the Organic Act, and the Seashore Legislation, to say nothing of public opinion. Under current conditions, it's virtually certain that ending the supplementation of water and mineral licks will increase mortality rates in the

existing elk (and presumably other species as well), and it remains unproven that enhancing natural seeps and springs will in-practice replace these essential resources.

Concerns regarding Alternative B

My primary concern about Alternative B is the construction of a so-called wildlife-friendly fence to replace the existing elk fence. I share the Service's concern about protecting the Wilderness north of the fence from cattle and other human impacts once the elk fence is removed, but in my experience with such management changes, wildlife often do not do what we expect them to do. In this case, they may not immediately notice the difference in fence design, especially as all animals north of the fence - not just elk - will have little or no experience with such design features. The equipment, staff, and noise associated with fence removal and fence building may well cause the herd to avoid the southern area

altogether. Therefore it's quite possible that, despite the best of intentions, immediately constructing a wildlife-friendly fence will continue to impede the movement of wildlife from north to south, undermining a key purpose of the Plan.

I suggest the NPS implement these changes in a stepwise fashion over time, first removing select portions of the Elk Fence and monitoring wildlife movements in both directions. Once it has been determined that key species are moving comfortably across the historic fence line, then if needed, a wildlife-friendly fence can be constructed over time, giving the wildlife ample opportunity to become acclimated to the disturbance and to also learn how to easily pass through the wildlife friendly fence itself.

As the Service is well aware, there have been long-standing and frequent challenges regarding the integrity of the cattle fencing surrounding grazed areas of the Seashore. For Alternative B to be effective as proposed in the Plan - preferably conducted in stepwise and facultative manner as described above - I believe it is essential for the Service to conduct a thorough review of, and immediate repairs to, all existing fencing on all ranches at the northern end of the Seashore. Any cattle escaping to the north will have immediate, devastating, and costly consequences to the Seashore. Trusting the tenant ranchers to recognize and repair such infrastructure - essential to the success of the Plan itself - would be extremely risky given their recent track record.

An added benefit of conducting Alternative B in a stepwise fashion is that the Service may quickly learn that the construction of a large, costly, and unsightly wildlife-friendly fence is in the end, unnecessary. Shoring up existing cattle fences, and maintaining their integrity in the future, might effectively address all the Service's valid concerns surrounding this matter.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Tamales Point Area Plan. Again I commend the Service for selecting Alternative B, ideally with minor improvements as outlined above.

Correspondence ID: 6548

I support the Tule Elk and am shocked at Point Reyes National Seashore's willingness to let the Tule Elk die of neglect. P.R.N.S. has a responsibility to protect this indigenous species.

I read the Silage Report, written by Point Blue. Point Blue does research with the intention to educate ranchers, and to correct the environmentally insensitive practice of ranching.

My father, Harold Gregg, was the first Director of the Marin Conservation League. My father was there when the park was created. He told me that the agricultural zoning in West Marin had been created to protect open space and keep urban sprawl out of the area. The P.R.N.S. is not like the rest of West Marin. The park is already open space. The park does not need ranches to keep the land protected from development.

The Tule Elk and the rancher's cows should not be in competition for water and grazing. The National Park must choose wilderness over ranching.

People want to support the ranchers. The ranchers are part of our history and our collective memory. The men on my father's side of the family drove cattle from Missouri. The women came around the Horn in 1850.

The National Parks are here to remind us of our place in the grand scheme of things. We must be responsible stewards of nature for future generations.

I appreciate the National Park's attempt at including the ranchers, but if it is a choice between the cows and the Tule Elk, it is no contest. The National Park must choose the Elk.

I hope that the Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland will have a clearer vision for the park. I am asking the P.R.N.S to prioritize wilderness and wildlife.

We must respect the Miwok Indians. They must have a place at the table. They were here first. There are many Miwok Indian archeological sites in the park. They built the Miwok Indian Village, and use it for spiritual, cultural, and educational purposes.

2.4 million people visit the park each year.

"Most Memorable was the Park Interpretive Ranger, Lanny Pinola, (Bodega Miwok/Kashia Pomo) who crossed over several years ago. Beloved by thousands of visitors, school children, and shamanic seekers, and his traditional community, Lanny opened the roundhouse door to many who felt the call to learn more about Native culture and spirituality. Lanny talked about the "Weya", (the life force, the all-pervading spirit, the interconnected energy) that emanates from the earthen ground of the Roundhouse, rises up through the Pepperwood Center Pole and soars out to the Creator."

See: Guest Column, Kule Loklo- Defined by Ritual, By John Littleton, Ethnographic Correspondent, 2/11/2010

Correspondence ID: 6549

Please ! Please! Do not compound the error you made years ago by releasing elk from their current confines.

Your job. You have only One Job to do and that is to Manage. The elk you brought into the park years ago are Your responsibility and require Your management.

By releasing the two herds that you already have - you've coped out and handed that responsibility over to the ranchers. Shame on you!

Smacks of the silly notion that one can be "partially pregnant"

At the growth rate of 14% per year average, please advise us as to what management plan you have for the Limantour and Drakes Beach herds. You refer to "minimum populations"
-- Do you have "maximum populations" goals ? If so, how do you plan to achieve that ?

With no limitation to their movement, nor reigns to their necessary and required management, the range elk will, over time, find their way into the private sector of the community destroying yards and gardens and eventually into the village itself interfering w/emergency vehicles, general auto traffic, safety, and causing more chaos than what the village already endures with tourists.

Examples of this already exist in other communities don't they !

As we expect you to know, management is not merely a short term gratification but with insight and imagination, a long term endeavor.

Please continue to do your job by managing the herds now confined so you aren't tempted to release more into the ranch lands .

Also , please create controlling and management plans for the Limantour and Drakes Beach herds.