## Joshua Tree National Park



# PETS in the PARKY

While pets are allowed in the park, their activities are restricted. They must be on a leash at all times and can not be more than 100 feet from a road, picnic area, or campground; they are prohibited from trails, and they must never be left unattended—not even in a vehicle.

### REGULATIONS

36CFR 2.15 (b)(2) Pets must be restrained on a leash that does not exceed six feet in length, or otherwise be physically confined at all times.

36CFR 1.5 (f) Pets are prohibited on trails and beyond 100 feet from roads and campgrounds.

**36CFR 2.15 (b)(3)** Leaving a pet unattended and tied to an object is prohibited.

## RATIONALLE

**LEASHED DOGS** Even leashed dogs have the potential for substantial negative effects on wildlife. Dogs are members of the family, Canidae, that includes wolves, coyotes, and foxes. Along with the family Felidae (lions, bobcats), Canidae species are first order predators and as such exert stress upon prey species. Prey animals are acutely aware of the presence of hunting canids. They become more alert and often take escape measuresrunning, freezing, burrowing, climbing, flying, or hiding-when they sense hunting canids nearby.

DOGS AND PEOPLE—Some people do not like to encounter a dog, even a leashed dog (P. T. Corkery, San Francisco Examiner, March 28, 2003). Some non-dog owners are made uncomfortable, even frightened, when a strange dog comes close, barks, or shows aggression. Since dog owners consider close contact with their dog to be a pleasant experience, they may think that everyone enjoys this too and not be sensitive to the experience of other park visitors. (Chester, 2003).

**DOG FECES** Dog feces has a high nitrogen content and can negatively affect soils, watersheds, and plants; it is unsightly and negatively affects the experience of park visitors. Yet, dog owners frequently ignore requirements to "scoop up" after their pets.

#### **DISEASE AND PARASITE**

TRANSMISSION BY DOGS Dogs can transmit a number of pathogens to humans and wildlife via feces, through blood-sucking insects, or directly to other species. Toxocaria can cause blindness in children. Parvovirus affects other canines, and was the source for wolf-pup mortality in Glacier National Park in the early 1990s. Muscle cysts (Sarcocystis spp.) affects ungulates such as deer and bighorn sheep. Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that affects the kidneys and urinary tract of most mammal species. Parasites, such as ticks, keds, tapeworms, and fleas are well-known problems in dogs that can be passed to other animals, including humans.

#### STUDIES SHOW:

R. A. McArthur et al. (1982 – see C. Sime 1999) conducted human disturbance trials in which a person approached a group of bighorn sheep: alone from a road, from the road accompanied by a leashed dog, and from a ridge away from the road. The strongest reaction (milling, fleeing) occurred when the sheep saw a human with a leashed dog. There was no evidence of habituation in repeated trials. McArthur et al. (1982)

REFERENCES: Carolyn A. Sime, Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society, "Domestic Dogs in Wildlife Habitats" Chapter 8, September, 1999. Tom Chester "Effects of Dogs on Wildlife. 2003.

# Pet Friendly CRAGS CLIFFS WITHIN 100 FEET OF THE ROAD

CLIFF AREA OF PARK

Roadside Rock Poetry Rock Milepost

Tower 1—East Face Tower 2—East Face

Tower 3

Intersection Rock—North Face Intersection Rock - South Face

Old Woman—East Face Chimney Rock—East face

Echo Cove Rocks Ryan Campground Manure Pile

Grotto Rock Cavern Rock

Castle Rock—North Face Castle Rock—South Face

Bovine Dome

Stirrup Towers—West Side

Hodgepodge Rock—North Face Hodgepodge Rock—Southwest Face

Group Camp 8 Wall

Africa Face

Clump Canyon—Northeast Face Clump Canyon—Southwest Face

Center Crag Billboard Buttress

Bilbo Buttress

Short Wall Chipped Wall

End Loop Area

Lost Horse

Real Hidden Valley

Real Hidden Valley Real Hidden Valley

Real Hidden Valley

Hidden Valley Hidden Valley

Hidden Valley Hidden Valley

Echo Rocks Ryan CG

Ryan CG Sheep's Pass

Sheep's Pass Belle CG

Belle CG

White Tank CG

Stirrup Tank Indian Cove Indian Cove

Indian Cove Indian Cove

Indian Cove Indian Cove Indian Cove

Indian Cove

Indian Cove Indian Cove

Indian Cove Indian Cove

