



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

2300-26977

MAY 15 1997

OFFICE OF
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Mr. Roger G. Kennedy, Director
U.S. Department of Interior
National Park Service
P. O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Director Kennedy:

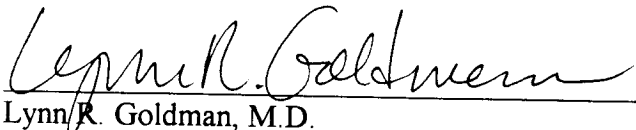
In response to your letter of March 25, 1997, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be happy to become a member of the Federal Interagency Committee for Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW) joining the seventeen Federal Agencies that have signed the 1994 Memorandum of Understanding that created the Committee.

The EPA recognizes the importance of interagency cooperation in managing broad environmental concerns, and it is apparent that the FICMNEW is dealing with one such concern. We are supporting good land stewardship practices through several of our Partnership programs, and our risk management and risk assessment programs are addressing whole ecosystem issues. The goals of the Committee are in line with our interest in sustainable, healthy ecosystems, and we support public education to increase awareness of the complex issues of management of noxious and exotic weeds. I have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding for EPA to join the Federal native Plant Conservation Committee in conjunction with the work of the Beneficial Landscaping Task Group, and this work is closely related to the issues of control of exotic species of plants.

I appreciate the invitation and will support the continued involvement of Anne Leslie from the Office of Pesticide Programs as the representative of EPA to the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Supplemental Signature Page for Memorandum of Understanding for the Establishment of A
Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds.

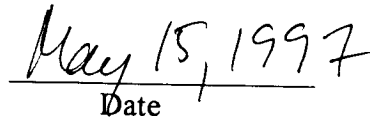


Lynn R. Goldman, M.D.

Assistant Administrator

Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency



Date