

ORDER NO. 3190

SIGNATURE DATE: June 22, 1995

**Subject:** Departmental Responsibilities for Weed Control

**Sec. 1 Purpose.** Exotic plant species (weeds) adversely impact 16 million acres of Federal land and are spreading at an accelerating rate each year, irrespective of land boundaries. Exotic weeds adversely affect native plant biodiversity, wildlife habitat, forage, sensitive plant species and recreational uses on public, state and private lands. This Order clarifies the responsibility of the component bureaus and offices of the Department of the Interior to ensure that a coordinated effort occurs throughout the Department to identify, prevent the spread of, and treat exotic weed infestations wherever they occur on lands, in waters or within facilities under the bureaus' jurisdictions, and to work cooperatively with the states, other agencies and groups in this effort.

**Sec. 2 Authority.** This Order is issued under the authority of the Act of October 17, 1968 (P.L. 98-583) and Section 15 of the Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended by Section 1453 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act, P.L. 101-624 (November 28, 1990).

**Sec. 3 Responsibility.** The heads of bureaus and offices are responsible for development of a coordinated weed prevention and management strategy for each bureau within one year of enactment of this Order. These strategies will include the following components: a weed prevention and early detection program; an education and awareness plan; inventories to provide baseline data on weed distribution; provision for exotic weed prevention on public lands if such activities are funded or authorized by the Department of the Interior; an integrated approach to weed detection, prevention and management coordinated across jurisdictional boundaries; and participation in a comprehensive, Department-wide research, monitoring and evaluation program to assist prevention and management efforts.

**Sec. 4 Effective Date.** This Order is effective immediately. Its provisions shall remain in effect until they are converted to the Departmental Manual or until it is amended, superseded or revoked, whichever occurs first. In the absence of the foregoing actions, however, this Order will terminate and be considered obsolete on October 1, 1996.

/s/ Bruce Babbitt  
Secretary of the Interior

SO#3190 6/22/95