



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1.A.2.(NCR-RESS)

MAY 05 2016

Dear Stakeholder:

The National Park Service (NPS) invites you to review and provide comments on an Invasive Plant Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (plan/EA) for 15 national parks in the National Capital Region (NCR), which is based in the greater Washington, D.C. area. National parks within the region face threats from nearly 200 species of damaging, invasive plants. The purpose of the plan/EA is to protect and restore natural and cultural resources in the 15 NCR parks by controlling, containing, or substantially minimizing populations of non-native invasive plant species through targeted treatment. The NPS needs the plan/EA because non-native invasive plant species in the 15 NCR parks disrupt ecosystems, degrade cultural resources, and diminish visitor use and experience. The plan/EA also identifies long-term invasive plant management strategies that would reduce the negative impacts of invasive plants. The plan will provide park managers with the information and tools they need to protect parks' natural ecosystems, restore native plants and help people enjoy these special places.

The 15 parks included in the plan/EA are: Antietam National Battlefield, Catocin Mountain Park, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Greenbelt Park and Baltimore-Washington Parkway, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Monocacy National Battlefield, National Capital Parks – East, National Mall and Memorial Parks, Piscataway and Fort Washington Park, Prince William Forest Park, Rock Creek Park, President's Park, and Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts.

Individuals, government agencies, organizations, and interested parties are encouraged to review the plan/EA online at the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ncr_ipmpea. To review and provide comments, navigate the menu on the left hand side of the page and select "Document List," then "IPMP/EA," and then "Comment on Document." You can also send comments by U.S. mail to:

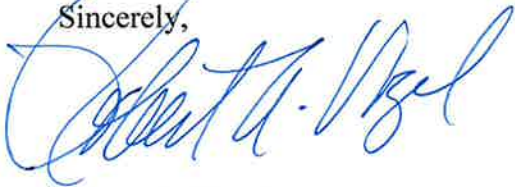
National Park Service
National Capital Region
c/o Mark Frey, Exotic Plant Management Team Liaison
4598 MacArthur Blvd NW
Washington, DC 20007

Comments must be submitted online or post-marked by June 8th. The NPS will review and address all comments on the plan/EA before a final decision is made.

Please be aware that your comments, including personal identifying information such as address, phone number, and e-mail address, may be made publicly available. Requests to withhold such personal identifying information from public release will be considered, but there is no guarantee that personal information will be withheld. For further information, please contact Mark Frey at 202-339-8317 or at <Mark_Frey@nps.gov>.

Thank you for your interest in the National Park Service and this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Vogel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "V".

Robert A. Vogel
Regional Director