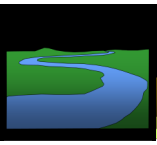
Salvinia *Salvinia molesta*

Priority

National priority	State priority	Previous local	Conservation	Water resources	Agriculture and industry	Community and residential	Feasibility of control	Current extent
								
2.5/5	1.5/5	3.0/.05	5.0/5	5.0/5	3.0/5	4.0/5	2.0/5	3.0/5

Details

Description A floating fern with small, coarsely hairy oval leaves that repel water. As the plant matures, it turns from bright green to brown and bunches into tight rafts. Salvinia does not produce seeds or spores but reproduces and spreads by division.

Distribution Salvinia is widespread and common in most disturbed creek systems in the Barron, Johnstone and Millstream catchments. Salvinia often chokes farm dams and waterways in the summer growing period. It prefers still water and may be seen floating downstream when it is dislodged from backwaters or flushed during floods.

Impacts In ideal conditions a Salvinia plant can double its size in 24hr. It floats on still or slow-moving water and can grow rapidly to cover the entire water surface with a thick mat of vegetation. The mat shades submerged plant life and restricts oxygen exchange, impacting fish and other aquatic organisms.

Key projects Periodic release of biocontrol weevils and spraying of dense infestations in landholders' dams, water supplies and intakes. Protection of regional environmental assets such as Lake Barrine are conducted

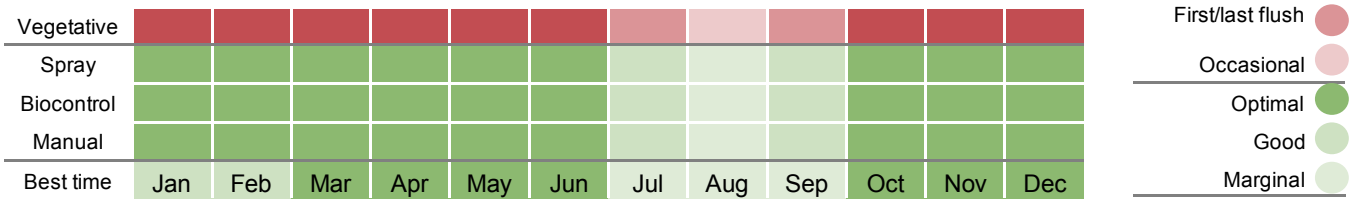
Background

Salvinia is a weed of national significance. It grows in freshwater creeks and wetlands, but may also be found in water features and aquariums. Salvinia is most likely moved by people in association with aquariums or watercraft but may also spread on floodwaters.

Salvinia does not produce seeds or spores but spreads by division of existing plants. It can be challenging to control in waterways so focusing on preventing it establishing in new areas is an important part of reducing its impact on the region.

The Salvinia weevil biocontrol agent is an effective management tool in dense infestations as it assists to keep infestations at a manageable threshold. Weevil activity slows down during the cooler months.

Control calendar



For more information on using this biosecurity action plan fact sheet, and further information on control tools, refer to the Tablelands Biosecurity Plan available at trc.qld.gov.au and customer service centres.

1300 362 242 (24hr Customer Service) info@trc.qld.gov.au www.trc.qld.gov.au

PO Box 573, Atherton QLD 4883 Tablelands Regional Council

Customer Service Centres in Atherton, Herberton, Malanda & Ravenshoe

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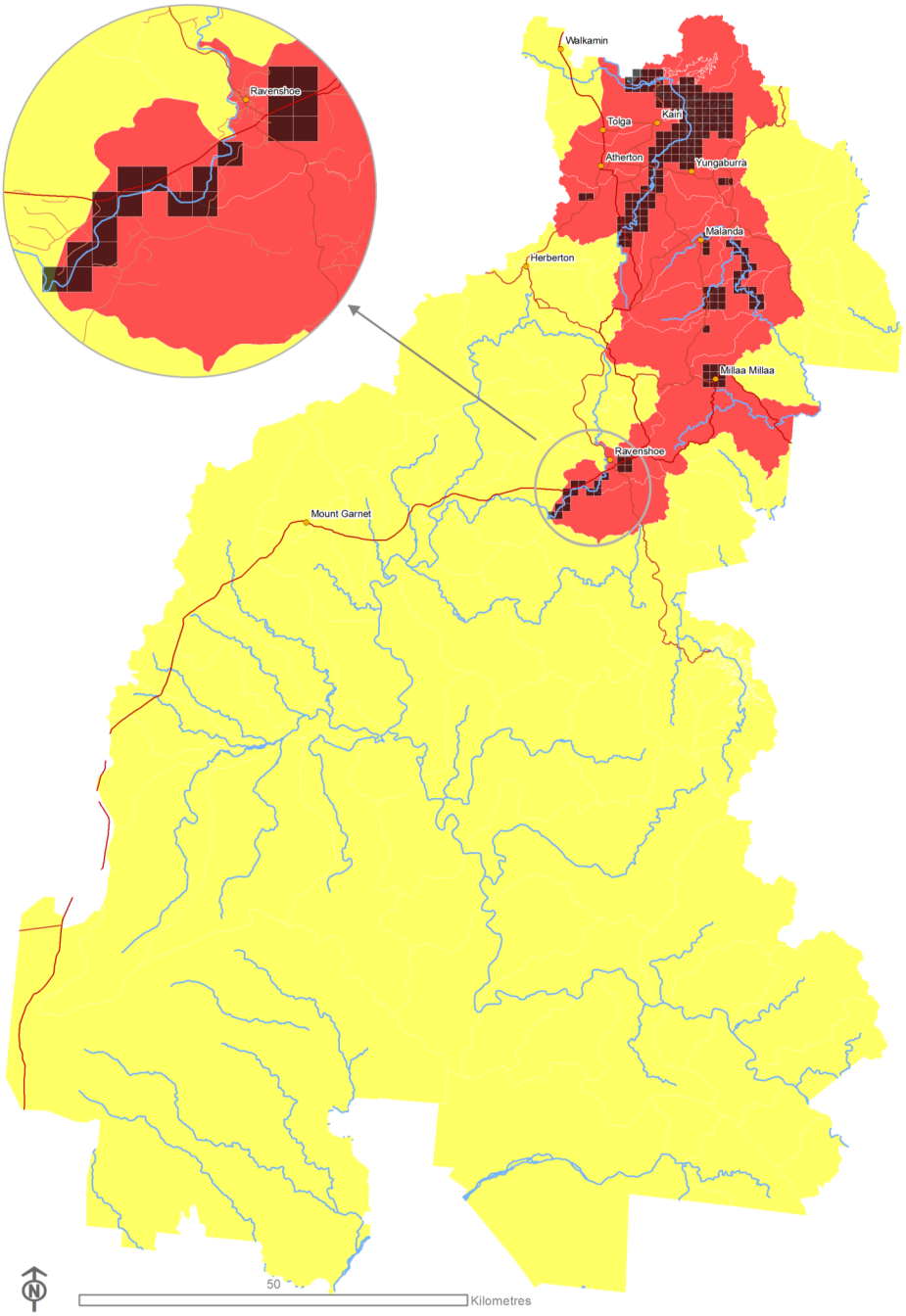

Floating

Aquatic

Perennial

Biosecurity Act Restricted matter category

2 Must be reported

3 Do not distribute

4 Do not move

5 Do not keep

6 Do not feed

Control

Spread

What is my biosecurity obligation?

In the prevention zone

Salvinia is a restricted invasive plant under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. It must not be kept, moved, given away sold or released into the environment without a permit. You should also work with Tablelands Regional Council to develop and adhere to a biosecurity plan for your property.

Ensure wetland and pond plants are sourced from a reliable supplier and from a weed free area. Do not dispose aquarium plants or fish into waterways. Do not introduce Salvinia into ornamental ponds or water features.

In the asset protection zone

Targeted control at priority environmental and visitor assets and ongoing release of the Salvinia weevil biocontrol agent are the primary means to reduce impacts.