

CA State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways Aquatic Weed Control Programs



Aquatic weeds currently treated by DBW in the Delta

Water hyacinth



Egeria densa



Spongeplant



Curlyleaf pondweed



If you see any of these plants in the Delta - LET US KNOW!

Contact the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) at (888) 326-2822 or AIS@parks.ca.gov

Water hyacinth

(*Eichhornia crassipes*)

Description

- Floating perennial, sometimes rooted in mud
- Shiny leaves and spongy stalks
- Lavender or white flowers
- Native to South America

Growth Period: spring - late fall; flowers June - October

Habitat: ponds, sloughs, channels, canals, streams, rivers, and lakes

Control Methods Currently Used by DBW:

- Chemical Control
- Mechanical Removal
- Hand Removal

Spongeplant

(*Limnobium laevigatum*)

Description

- Floating to rooted perennial
- Thick, spongy, floating ovate-shaped leaves; honeycomb-like spongy tissue on lower surfaces
- Juveniles develop into mature clumps up to 50 cm tall
- Small white flowers
- Native to Central and South America

Growth Period: spring - fall; flowers June - September

Habitat: ponds, sloughs, channels, canals, streams, and lakes

Control Methods Currently Used by DBW:

- Chemical Control
- Hand Removal

Control Options for Residents*:

Hand Removal: Pull plants from roots. Collect all fragments.

Diver Assisted Hand Removal: Hire SCUBA divers to remove plants.

Mechanical Removal: Hire an aquatic mechanical harvesting company.

Benthic Barriers (weed covers): Use physical covers over aquatic weeds to prevent growth.

*Residents that opt to use these control methods do so at their own risk. DBW does not assume any liability for injuries or damages that may occur while residents implement these methods.

*Note that only DBW and its partner agencies are legally authorized to use the selected herbicides. Residents are cautioned not to apply these herbicides on their own.

*Referenced from Biology and Control of Aquatic Plants: A Best Management Practices Handbook, 3rd edition, *Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation*
<http://www.aquatics.org/bmp.html>.

Egeria densa

Description

- Submersed aquatic perennial
- 3-6 leaves, whorled
- Middle and upper leaves are between 15-40 mm long, 2-5 mm wide
- Small white flowers extend up to 3 cm above water surface
- Native to South America

Growth Period: spring - late fall; flowers June - October

Habitat: slow-flowing or still water in sloughs, canals, rivers, ponds, lakes, and reservoirs; often in nutrient-rich substrates

Control Methods Currently Used by DBW:

- Chemical Control

Curlyleaf pondweed

(*Potamogeton crispus*)

Description

- Leaves are floating and/or submersed
- Wavy, stiff, and crinkled leaves between 50-76 mm long
- Develop turions (specialized stem buds that survive unfavorable conditions)
- Turions resemble brown pinecones and are between 7-25 mm long
- Native to Eurasia

Growth Period: early spring - late summer; flowers May - September

Habitat: ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, reservoirs, irrigation ditches, and marsh areas

Control Methods Currently Used by DBW:

- Chemical Control