

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure 15

Herbicide Application

Control of invasive and non-native plants, through herbicide application, is often vital to protect the conservation value of Broads' sites. Management of recreation and mooring areas also requires periodic weed control.

Aim

To selectively eliminate or control invasive species such as Willow or Sallow on land, or non-native species such as Parrot's Feather or Australian Swamp Stonecrop in, or near, water.

Environmental Impact

Impact	Likelihood	Mitigation
Harmful effect on water life in adjacent waterbodies	Medium	Follow Environment Agency guidelines
Chemical drift to other plants	Medium	Avoid windy conditions
Chemical Spillage	Low	Use only certificated and skilled operators



Delivery Method

- Knapsack spraying to spot-treat target plants or painting of glyphosate on cut stumps using a paint brush.
- Herbicide use only by those who have gained the relevant NPTC certificate of competence.

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- Rangers, Operations Technicians, Environment Officers (EO) – identify target species distribution and species to be protected before commencing.
- If spraying on, or within a few metres of, any waterbody or watercourse, Environment Agency consent must be gained via AqHerb01 application, to be completed by EO.
- In sensitive areas, EO carry out protected species survey and identify whether or not the risk of herbicide use is justified. Use only herbicides in accordance with on-label approval.
- Adhere to COSHH regulations for herbicide and only take dilute version on site
- Operations Technicians, EOs – maintain spray log in accordance with COSHH requirements.

Consultation Required

- **Broads Authority internal** – Anyone wanting to use herbicides (e.g. Rangers, Operations Technicians, Volunteers) should inform an EO prior to work being undertaken so permissions can be arranged if necessary.
- **Environment Agency** – AqHerb01 form must be completed and consent received prior to spraying on, or within 10m of water. EO to coordinate submission of AqHerb01 applications.
- **Natural England** – Consent required if herbicide used in or near protected area e.g. NNR, SSSI, SPA, SAC. EO to consult with NE.
- **Landowners** – Must have landowner permission before works completed. Sprayer or EO to gain permission.

Further Information

Environment Agency guidelines

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/wildlife/31350.aspx>

Pesticide Directorate guidelines

http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/safe_use.asp?id=64%20&lang=_e