

METHOD STATEMENT 01: ALIEN INVASIVE PLANT ERADICATION

DESCRIPTION OF MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY	ALIEN INVASIVE PLANT ERADICATION	
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of the invasive and alien plants should be according to the appropriate invasive plant clearing guidelines/ methods provided by the Working for Water Programme • Alien and invasive plant species should be removed manually as far as possible, from the site as well as any areas on the property. All work will be done by hand (manually), either by pulling, using shears, hand saws or chainsaws (depending on the size of the tree). The use of vehicles or mechanical means for alien removal will be prohibited within the riparian zone. • The use of herbicides should be avoided. However, only herbicides which have been certified and proved for wetland/ aquatic environments by an independent testing authority may be considered. • As per the freshwater specialist recommendations, removed alien plant material should be covered when transported to prevent it from being blown away. • Cape Nature recommends that all vegetation that was removed must be transported off-site for disposal to reduce fire hazard. 	
Impact of actions	<p>The following impacts are anticipated as a result of undertaking the maintenance activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor disturbance to the local indigenous vegetation with the aquatic habitats as a result of the removal of alien and invasive plants • Clearing of alien invasive vegetation and the subsequent improvement in the ecological health of the site. 	
Severity of actions	Minor disturbance to the local vegetation	If all mitigation measures are implemented, the severity if the impact will be Very Low to Negligible
	Alien eradication	N/A this impact is positive
Measures to mitigate the severity of the impact	Minor disturbance to the local vegetation	Mitigation measures listed as follows: Removal of the invasive and alien plants should be according to the guidelines provided by the Working for Water Programme
	Alien eradication	N/A this impact is positive

Remedial measures if mitigation measures are not implemented adequately on site.	There are no additional remedial measures other than those listed above. As such, all mitigation measures as outlined above should be implemented in full.
Method of Access to site	Access to the site should be through existing access roads.
Time period of maintenance activity & Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maintenance management activity should be undertaken on a regular basis (at least 6 monthly) after initial site clearing, by the applicant to monitor and control seedlings and regrowth. • The maintenance management activity will last for approximately 1-2 days.

Impacts described here are direct impacts only. Cumulative impacts have not been assessed.

High: Disturbance of area with important conservation value; destruction of rare or endangered species. No possible mitigation or mitigation is difficult, expensive, time-consuming.

Medium: Disturbance of area with potential conservation value or of use as a resource; complete change in species occurrence or variety.

Low: Disturbance of degraded area with little conservation value; minor change in species occurrence or variety. Mitigation easily achieved or little require.