

2013 Big Mar – Caernarvon Aquatic Vegetation Control Plan
LDWF, Inland Fisheries

Past Control Measures:

LDWF spray crews treated 108 acres of water hyacinth in the Caernarvon area in 2013. Seventy eight acres within Plaquemines Parish were treated with 57 gallons of Aquamaster and 14 gallons of Red River 90 surfactant. The remaining 30 acres were treated in St. Bernard Parish with 15 gallons of 2,4-D. No herbicide applications were made in the area from 2009-2011.

Aquatic Vegetation Status:

Storm surge and salt water intrusion associated with Hurricane Isaac in 2012 greatly diminished water hyacinth in the area. LDWF spray crews estimated a 90% reduction in water hyacinth plant mass immediately following the event. Saltwater intrusions as a result of Hurricanes Katrina, Gustav, and Ike have limited the spread of giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) and water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) in the surrounding area. As of January 2013, we estimate that there is less than 100 acres of water hyacinth present in publically accessible areas of Caernarvon.

Recommendations:

1. Biannual scouting (early spring and late summer) for giant salvinia and water hyacinth infestations will be conducted.
2. If giant salvinia is discovered to be a problem in the area, giant salvinia weevils should be placed strategically to help control the infestation in places where this method is likely to be successful.
3. Water hyacinth should be treated with 2,4-D at a rate of 0.5 gallons per acre and a non-ionic surfactant at 0.25 gallons per acre in those areas that lie within St. Bernard Parish.
4. In those areas that lie within Plaquemines Parish, water hyacinth should be treated with glyphosate at 0.75 gallons per acre and a non-ionic surfactant at 0.25 gallons per acre. The use of 2,4-D is prohibited in Plaquemines Parish.