

# WATER HYACINTH MANAGEMENT

## problem

Water Hyacinth [Eichhornia Crassipes] is an aquatic invasive species that was introduced to the United States from South America over 100 years ago.

- ▶ It wreaks havoc on native flora and fauna,
- ▶ and is a **major detriment to flood risk management infrastructure**,
- ▶ as well as recreational and commercial navigation.

## solution

The US Army Corps of Engineers and its partners use various methods to control invasive species such as the water hyacinth. Biological, Mechanical and Chemical controls are part of a strategy called “**Integrated Pest Management**”, and as we manage our lakes and waterways, it is beneficial to have varied options for treatment depending on the scenario at hand. The **USACE uses their experience** in the field and **the latest science** of aquatic plant management **to make informed decisions** to most efficiently treat infestations of invasive plants, all while ensuring a minimal ecological footprint.

## impact

The benefit of using a variety of methods to manage the spread of invasive aquatic plants

- ▶ gives our native flora and fauna the **opportunity to flourish**,
- ▶ keeps waterways clear for **travel and commerce**,
- ▶ **saves tax payer dollars** on infrastructure maintenance and
- ▶ **helps our economy**.

# 1 ACRE of water hyacinths WEIGHS 200 TONS

that's about:

30  T-Rexes

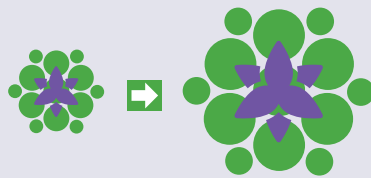
or

30  Elephants

or

2.5  Space Shuttles

# 1 ACRE of water hyacinths



can **DOUBLE** in size in **15** days

unattended

# 1 ACRE of water hyacinths can deposit up to 500 TONS of organic material per year

that's about:

850  Grizzlies

or

4.5  Blue Whales

The Management of Water Hyacinth is **integral to the preservation of our lakes and waterways and to the health and welfare of the public.**

The Corps delivers **innovative, resilient, and sustainable solutions** to the nation.

We are the **NATION'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS.**

