

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 17 December 2018

LAKE TALBOT VEGETATION HARVESTING

Narrandera Shire Council has enlisted the services of Australian Aquatic Solutions to conduct aquatic vegetation harvesting in Lake Talbot. Harvesting is essential in managing the vegetation growth during the summer/skiing period as the lake is one of the most utilised skiing facilities in the region.

The aim of harvesting is to reduce the impact of vegetation on recreational activities and improve safety without having an adverse impact on the current lake environment. The harvest is a mechanical method preferred over other methods including chemical treatments.

Current vegetation within Lake Talbot consists of pond weeds - both curly leaf and floating pond weed (*Potamogeton crispus* and *P. sulcatus*), Ribbon Weed (*Vallisneria Americanan*), Water Thyme (*Hydrilla verticillata*) and Duck weeds (*Azolla* sp.).

The vegetation growth in Lake Talbot is extremely fast due to ideal water temperatures throughout the year and the depth being relatively shallow creating a fertile situation for early germination and out of season growth. Depending on the seasonal conditions the aquatic vegetation can grow back to its original condition within 4-6 weeks. The timing of the harvest is crucial to ensure the recreational actives can proceed safely, with minimal disturbance and to ensure value for money. The harvested material is collected and taken to the central island to break down naturally.



Vegetation harvesting at Lake Talbot in 2017.

END

Precis or Summary: Lake Talbot Vegetation Harvesting		
Attachments	Nil	Embargoed: N/A

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Authorised By: George Cowan - General Manager	Media Contact: Communications Officer, Edwina Foley T (02) 6959 5502	Number of Pages	1
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