The Northern Territory Government is winning the war against Cabomba, an extremely aggressive weed that has the potential to threaten Darwin’s fresh water drinking supply and impact our fishing industry.

Minister for Land Resource Management Willem Westra van Holthe said work towards the eradication of Cabomba in the Territory is one of the most successful programs ever undertaken in Australia.

“A major eradication program has been underway since 2004, when a large Cabomba infestation was found in the Darwin River,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“Today, there is less than one per cent of that original outbreak in the catchment but we can’t afford to be complacent.

“Areas of the Darwin River between Cox Peninsula Road and Leonino Road remain in quarantine. It’s vital that there is no movement of people, boats or vehicles in this area, if Cabomba were to be inadvertently transported to new areas, the results could be catastrophic” he said.

The recently reviewed Cabomba Weed Management Plan supports the extension of the quarantine zone for a further three years, until November 2017.

Minister Westra Van Holthe said access to the quarantine zone without a permit is illegal and could result in fines of up to $100,000.

“It’s vital that we all work together in the eradication of this aggressive weed to ensure it doesn’t spread into more of our waterways in the future,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“I would ask anyone who thinks they have seen Cabomba to report the sighting immediately to the Weed Management Branch on (08) 8999 4567.”

The updated Cabomba Weed Management Plan can be found at www.nt.gov.au/cabomba

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