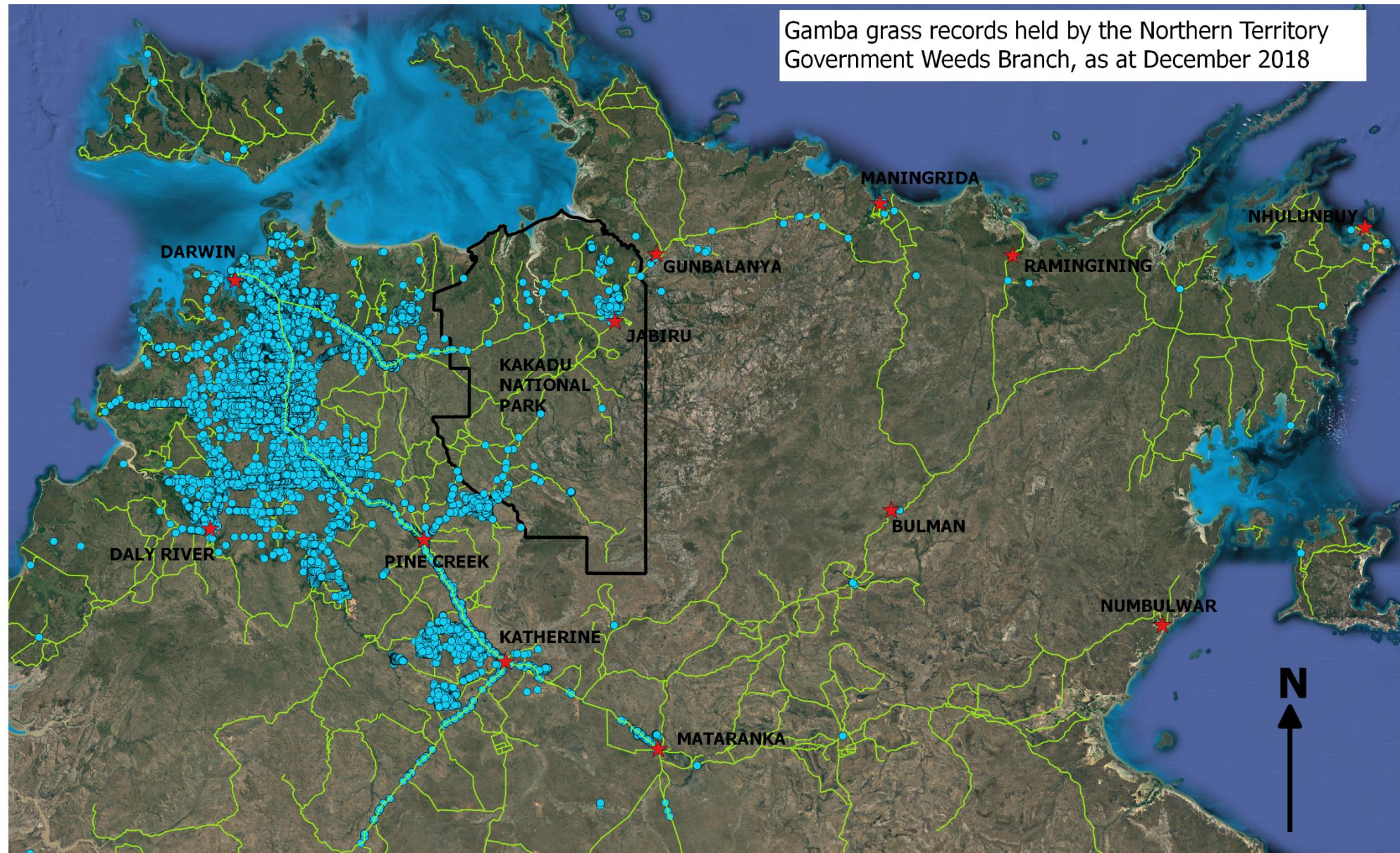


Out of Africa



Current Distribution



Fire – Ecosystem Transformer

Normal savanna fire – fuel load 3.6 t ha^{-1} ; fire-line intensity 3.7

Grass 0.5 m tall

Gamba fire – fuel load 11.6 t ha^{-1} ; fire-line intensity 15.7 MW m^{-1}

Gamba to 4 m tall



Gamba fires kill overstorey

After multiple fires –
becomes field of Gamba

Highly invasive

Growth and Seeding

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Flowering												
Seed fall												
Germination												

Grows – wet season from first decent rain

Flowers – April into early dry season

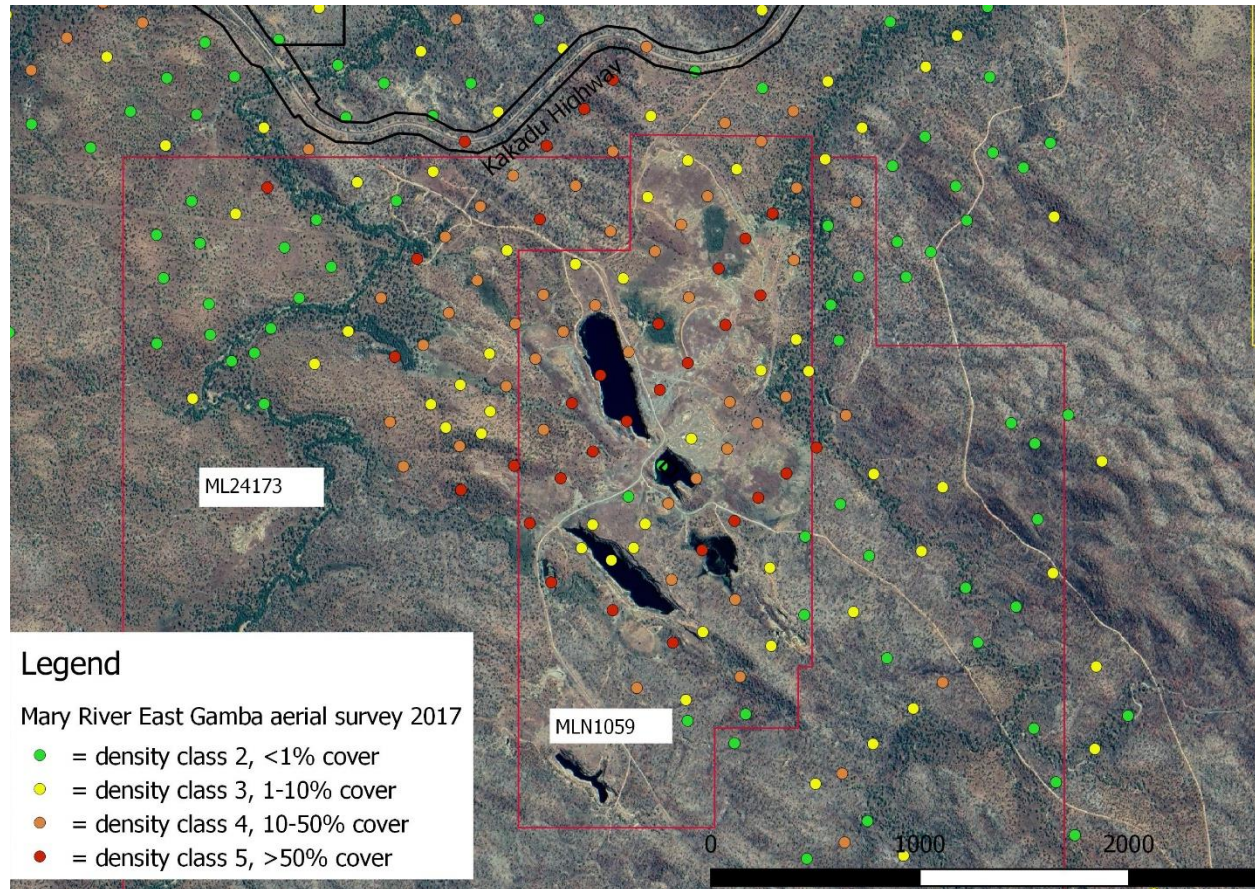
Seeding – dry season

Pathways of Spread

- Roadsides, tracks
- Disturbed areas – spoil heaps, legacy mines, scrapes, (Telstra) towers, etc.
- Wind dispersal
- Fire assisted spread – thermals during fires, opens up areas
- Vehicles, equipment
- Via water – riparian corridors



Moline



Telstra towers



Weed Control Work

Jawoyn – Road, rail and power corridors, Wandj area

DEMED – roads near Gunbalanya and Telstra towers

Warddeken – road corridors in Arnhem Land

Bawinanga/Djelk – Maningrida area

Wagiman – Cullen River patch

Let us know where there are other infestations

susanne.casanova@territorynrm.org.au



Weed Hygiene

- Vehicles
- Quads and side-by-sides
- Equipment
- Clothing

Establish wash down bays
Check crevices

Weed hygiene course

- **AHCBIO201 Inspect and Clean Machinery for Plant, Animal and Soil Material**



Burning and Gamba

- Don't burn late – super hot fires
- Don't burn Gamba that has seeded – makes situation worse
- Avoid burning areas near Gamba infestations (further spread)

WALFA and Gamba

- Make sure you don't have Gamba
- If you do – get rid of it !

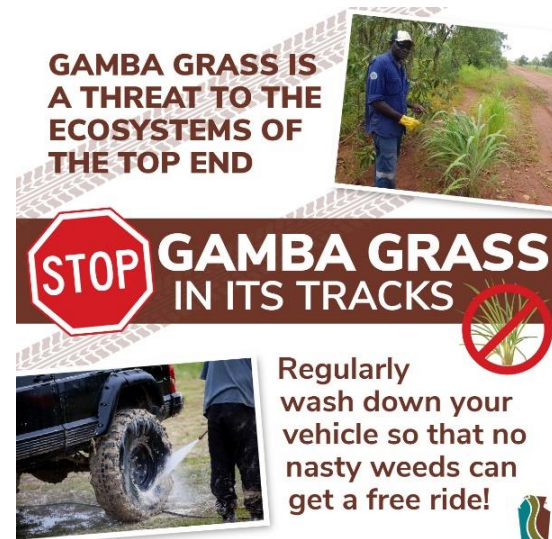


Photo: S. Setterfield

Regional Gamba Plan for Kakadu and Arnhem Land – in development

Resources

- Gamba Grass Management Guide
- Weed Management Plan for Gamba Grass



STOP GAMBA GRASS IN ITS TRACKS

Territory Natural Resource Management is working with groups and organisations across West Arnhem Land in a coordinated effort to stop the spread of gamba grass into Kakadu National Park and throughout the region.

Following recent wet season rain, gamba grass is now actively growing. Rangers, contractors and land management organisations in the Eradication Zone are out surveying for and treating gamba grass infestations before they flower in April and seed starts to fall in May.



The map shows the northern part of Australia, specifically Arnhem Land. It is divided into two zones: 'Zone A Eradication Zone' in the north and 'Zone B Control Zone' in the south. Key locations marked on the map include Darwin, Batchelor, Jabiru, Nanyu, Pine Creek, and Katherine.

Gamba grass is a declared weed with two declaration zones under the NT Weeds Management Act 2001.

Zone A – Eradication Zone: to be eradicated

Zone B – Control Zone: growth and spread to be controlled

For more info on NT weeds visit: nt.gov.au/environment/weeds

Gamba grass grows bigger, taller and denser than native grass species and creates high fuel loads. This can cause uncontrollable, hot and intense fires.

Gamba grass is a greater risk to the environment than native grass fires, it destroys vegetation, large trees, animal habitat and decreases local biodiversity.

A gamba grass plant can produce up to 250,000 seeds per season. Seeds can be spread by wind, vehicles and machinery, animals and people.

We need your help to stop gamba in its tracks

If you are living, visiting or working in Arnhem Land, help stop the spread of gamba grass.

- ✓ Clean vehicles and equipment before travelling or operating in the Eradication Zone.
- ✓ Clean vehicles before leaving an infested area.
- ✓ Ensure all mud is removed. Mud may contain seeds.

For more information and to help stop gamba in its tracks:

- www.territorynrm.org.au
- info@territorynrm.org.au
- (08) 8942 8300