

# ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Threatened Species Profile** 

Department for Environment and Heritage

**River Buttercup** 

PLANT

## Ranunculus inundatus

AUS	SA	AMLR	Endemism	Life History
-	R	Т	-	Perennial

## Family RANUNCULACEAE



Photo: M. Fagg <u>©ANBG</u>

## **Conservation Significance**

The AMLR distribution is disjunct, isolated from other occurrences within SA. Within the AMLR the species' relative area of occupancy is classified as 'Extremely Restricted'. Relative to all AMLR extant species, the species' taxonomic uniqueness is classified as 'Very High'.<sup>4</sup>

## Description

Perennial herb, 5-30 cm high. Flowering stems slender and erect, vegetative stems creeping. One to three flowers, yellow, five to seven petals, nectary very near the base.<sup>6</sup> Leaves divided into numerous linear, subacute lobes.<sup>2</sup>

## **Distribution and Population**

Also occurs in QLD, NSW, VIC and TAS. In SA occurs in SL, SE and MU regions.  $^{1,3}\,$ 

Post-1983 AMLR filtered records near Deep Creek CP, Kuitpo and Pages Flat (west of Mount Compass).<sup>4</sup>

Also known from Norton Summit area growing under Silky Tea Tree in streambeds with permanent water (K. Brewer *pers. comm.*).

There are no pre-1983 records.<sup>4</sup>

## Habitat

Aquatic or semi-aquatic perennial herb. Occurs on wet mud or in water in ponds or streams.<sup>2</sup> Often grows in shallow water with leaves floating or submerged.<sup>6</sup>

In AMLR, recorded habitat includes:

- Deep Creek: upper reaches, north of Raywood Nursery, in water and mud, growing near *Villarsia umbricola* and *Isolepis cernua*
- Dodds Road Creek Crossing via Myponga: growing in mud along the creek
- Chookarloo Trail, Kuitpo Forest: in a shallow creek
  growing in mud
- Finniss River: in clay by waterhole.5

Within the AMLR the preferred broad vegetation group is Wetland.  $\!\!\!^4$ 

Within the AMLR the species' degree of habitat specialisation is classified as 'Very High'.<sup>4</sup>

#### **Biology and Ecology**

Flowers from September to January.<sup>6</sup> Seeds fall from the fruits while young (i.e. green).<sup>5</sup>

### **Aboriginal Significance**

Post-1983 records indicate the AMLR distribution occurs in Ngarrindjeri Nation and on the border of southern Kaurna and Peramangk Nations.<sup>4</sup>

#### Threats

Threats include altered water regimes in watercourses and swamps, weeds (e.g. Willows and other watercourse weeds) and, at some sites, trampling by horses (K. Brewer and J. Smith *pers. comm.*).

Very limited within the AMLR region, however the majority of known distribution occurs within 2 km of confirmed or suspected *Phytophthora* infestations.<sup>4</sup>

Additional current direct threats have been identified and rated for this species. Refer to the main plan accompanying these profiles.



Further information:

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Prepared as part of the Regional Recovery Plan for Threatened Species and Ecological Communities of Adelaide and the Mount Lofty Ranges, South Australia 2009 - 2014



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## **Regional Distribution**



Map based on filtered post-1983 records.<sup>4</sup> Note, this map does not necessarily represent the actual species' distribution within the AMLR.

#### References

Note: In some cases original reference sources are not included in this list, however they can be obtained from the reference from which the information has been sourced (the reference cited in superscript).

**1** Barker, W. R., Barker, R. M., Jessop, J. P. and Vonow, H. P., eds. (2005). *Census of South Australian Vascular Plants, 5th Edition.* Botanic Gardens of Adelaide & State Herbarium, Adelaide.

**2** Botanic Gardens Trust (1993). *PlantNET - The Plant Information Network System of Botanic Gardens Trust.* Available from <u>http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au</u> (accessed September 2007).

**3** Council of Heads of Australian Herbaria (2002). *Australia's Virtual Herbarium.* Available from <u>http://www.flora.sa.gov.au/avh/</u> (accessed July 2007).

**4** Department for Environment and Heritage (2007). *Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Regional Recovery Pilot Project Database.* Unpublished data extracted and edited from BDBSA, SA Herbarium (July 2007) and other sources.

**5** Department for Environment and Heritage (2007). *State Herbarium of South Australia Database*. Unpublished data, extracted October 2007.

**6** Jessop, J. P. and Toelken, H. R., eds. (1986). *Flora of South Australia*. South Australian Government Printing Division, Adelaide.



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