

# Athel pine

## *Tamarix aphylla*

**Athel pine is a declared weed in accordance with the *Weeds Management Act* and is also a Weed of National Significance in Australia.**

Athel pine has a split declaration of Class A (to be eradicated) and Class B (growth and spread to be controlled). The Athel Pine Weed Management Plan describes management requirements for each of these management zones.

The delineation of management zones between Class A and Class B areas represents a balance between the prioritised requirement to eradicate high risk outlying populations, where feasibility of control remains high (Class A) and the lower feasibility of control associated with large established infestations (Class B). It also aims to protect previous eradication efforts in the Finke River and associated tributaries.

### HABIT



A large, spreading tree up to 18m tall. Looks similar to a conifer or pine tree because of its leaves.

### STEMS & BRANCHES



Bark is rough and dark brown in colour. Stems are grey-brown.

Leaves and branches are pendulous and hang downwards.

The branches and leaves have salt secreting glands.

### LEAVES



Foliage has the appearance of pine-needles. The tiny leaves attached to the needles are between 1 - 2mm long.

### FLOWERS



Flowers are tiny white or pink and are arranged spirally in dense clusters.

The first flowers appear when the plant is around three years old and every summer thereafter.

### FRUIT & SEED



Fruit are tiny bell-shaped capsules around 3mm long.

These capsules contain cylindrical seeds that are covered with tufts of fine hairs.

Weed Management Officers from the Weed Management Branch can provide advice on all aspects of weed management including control techniques, biological control, legislative responsibilities, policy advice, monitoring and reporting and regional planning. For further information on weed management planning, integrated control, herbicide application techniques and monitoring please refer to the [NT Weed Management Handbook](#). The Athel pine Weed Management Plan can be found at [www.nt.gov.au/environment/weeds/weed-management-planning](http://www.nt.gov.au/environment/weeds/weed-management-planning).