

Controlling Mosquito Populations



With king tides hitting Queensland frequently, low lying areas on coastal marshlands are prone to flooding, providing the perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes in these areas carry many dangerous diseases which they pass on to the people they bite.

Local authorities are implementing strategies to reduce the spread of disease and number of mosquitoes. These strategies range from education and research to mosquito population control.

Reducing mosquito populations involves spraying more than 2500 known mosquito breeding sites on public land. These sites are regularly monitored on quad bikes, trucks, helicopters and by foot. In a typical season, councils will treat 20,000 hectares of coastal salt marsh by helicopter.

Several city councils in the Brisbane area have installed Waterwatch sensors to monitor these areas and set notifications for the perfect time to spray and control the mosquito population. Sending out helicopters only when necessary to greater, unmanaged areas saves councils valuable time and money, as well as protecting millions of people from many harmful diseases.

Councils are now able to check marshland depths, especially after flooding events, from Waterwatch Live and make decisions on when will be best spray without wasting resources. They can also record data for research and developments in both mosquito management and mosquito-borne disease control.

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