MO (Moderate)Buddleja davidii

Date assessed	2023-08-17
Year published	2024
Eicat category	MO (Moderate)
Justification for EICAT assessment	Moderate impacts from *Buddleja davidii by competition were already evident between the seventies and the nineties in different catchments of New Zealand, with reduction of the abundance of smaller and less vigorous native plant species in a National Park (Williams, 1979), and quickly displacement of herbaceous and woody primary native colonisers (Smale, 1990). Lately, in seven New Zealand catchments, B. davidii reached a cover that was 20 times greater than any other species, reducing strongly the frequency and cover of several native forbs and grasses, shrubs and trees, bringing them almost to disappearance (Tallent-Halsell, 2008). Most recently, it reduced the diversity of woody and herbaceous species in a valley of the northern Apennines of Italy (Gasperini et al., 2020). In all these cases, Buddleja davidii also was responsible for structural impacts on ecosystems accelerating successions to forest (Williams, 1979; Gasperini et al., 2020). In particular, the comparison between invaded and uninvaded floodplains highlighted that B. davidii facilitated the recruitment and establishment of woody species earlier in succession (Tallent-Halsell, 2008), further reducing the presence of species of not forest habitats.*
Confidence rating	HIgh
Mechanism(s) of maximum impact	Competition; Structural Impact on ecosystem
Countries of most severe impact	New Zealand; Italy
Description of impact	Other than impacts by competition, ranging from Minor to Moderate, and a Moderate structural impact on ecosystem, *Buddleja davidii also had a chemical impact on ecosystem with soil nutrient enrichment in the South Island of New Zealand, however it was of minimal concern because it was associated with no negative impacts, but with a possible facilitation of some native species*
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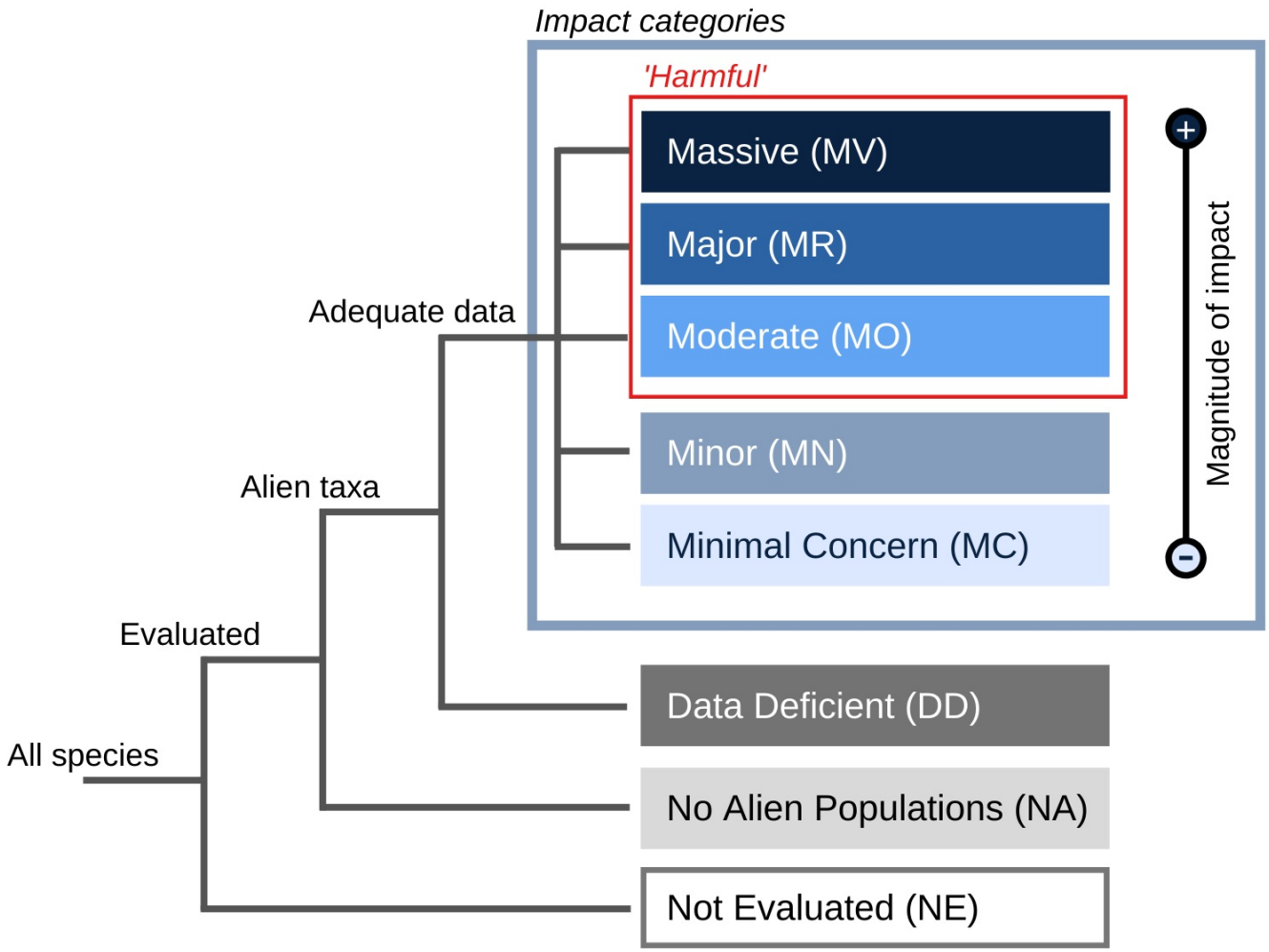
Contributors	
Reviewers	Jan Pergl
Recommended citation	Silvia Giulio. (2026). *Buddleja davidii* . IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT).


Impact categories
'Harmful'
Massive (MV)
Major (MR)
Moderate (MO)
Minor (MN)
Minimal Concern (MC)
Magnitude of impact
Adequate data
Alien taxa
Evaluated
All species
Data Deficient (DD)
No Alien Populations (NA)
Not Evaluated (NE)