

BOTANICAL NAME:  
**Eucalyptus camaldulensis**

COMMON NAMES:  
**Red Gum,  
River Red Gum**

FAMILY: Myrtaceae

ORIGIN: Australia



Photo from Landscape Plants for Western Regions<sup>1</sup>

Reason for listing as invasive species:

This is the most widely occurring species of Eucalyptus in Australia.<sup>1</sup> It grows in arid and semi-arid areas and can survive along seasonal watercourses in acidic or sandy alluvial soils and colonizes natural areas with moisture. Growth and development of understory plants is inhibited by large volumes of leaf, bark, excessive shade and branch debris.<sup>2</sup> *E. camaldulensis* is categorized in the Checklist of Vascular Plants of San Diego County as “A taxon that is non native to the county, but has become naturalized, meaning that the taxon is persisting or spreading in natural, non-cultivated areas.”<sup>3</sup> *E. camaldulensis* is on the 2005 Cal-IPC list as “Low”: this species is invasive but its ecological impacts are minor. Its reproductive biology and other attributes result in low to moderate rates of invasion. Ecological amplitude and distribution are generally limited, but this species may be locally persistent and problematic.<sup>4</sup>

Methods of invading natural areas:

Seed

Locations where it invades:

Riparian, wetland

Where invasive in San Diego:

San Diego River, Torrey Pines, Rancho Santa Fe, Jamul, Otay<sup>4,5</sup>

Invasive varieties include:

All members of the species *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*

Varieties not known to be invasive:

None

Alternative plants to consider:

Native Species:

*Platanus racemosa*  
*Quercus agrifolia*  
*Lyonothamnus floribundus* ssp.  
*aspleniifolius*

Western Sycamore  
Coast Live Oak  
Fern-leaved Catalina  
Ironwood

Ornamental species:

*Tristania conferta*

Brisbane Box

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<sup>1</sup> Perry, Bob. *Landscape Plants for Western Regions*. 1992, p168.

<sup>2</sup> Personal communication Mike Kelly, mkellysd@aol.com

<sup>3</sup> Checklist of the Vascular Plants of San Diego County. Accessed September 1, 2004 on the World Wide Web at <http://www.sdnhm.org/research/botany/sdplants.html>.

<sup>4</sup> Cal-IPC 2005 Invasive Plant Inventory Plant Assessment Form for *E. camaldulensis* <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/filelibrary/5319/20368.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Beauchamp, Mitchell R., *A Flora of San Diego County*, 1986, p. 184.