
**ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF WATER HYACINTH ON FISHING COMMUNITIES IN
LAKE KYOGA. A CASE STUDY OF NAMASALE LANDING SITE, NAMASALE
SUBCOUNTY, AMOLATAR DISTRICT**

BY

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**RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
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2024

DECLARATION

I AKENA SAM declare that this research titled ‘Assessing the impact of water hyacinth on fishing communities on Lake Kyoga, a case study of Namasale landing site, Amolatar district’ has been through my own effort and has never been submitted to Busitema University or any other institution of learning for award of a degree or any other qualification.

Signature..... date

APPROVAL

This is to clarify that this research report entitled Assessing the impact of water hyacinth on the fishing communities of Namasale landing site Amolatar district by **Akena Sam** has been successfully completed under my supervision and recommended it for submission to the faculty of Natural Resources and Environmental Science of Busitema university.

Signature

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.....04/11/2024

DEDICATION

I dedicate this report to the students of Busitema University especially the entire class of Fisheries and Water Resource Management of 2021 as a special encouragement to sum up their effort towards accomplishment of their degree amidst challenges.

I would like to dedicate this report to my beloved parent Mr. and Ms. Ayato Faustino, my brothers, Erick and Belmos and to my sisters Nancy, Hilder, Joan, Miriam, Edina, Gloria and Ziphola for their entire support towards my studies. Lastly, I want to appreciate my Uncle James omara for the support towards my academic struggle.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FAO.....	Food and Agriculture Organizations
FWR.....	Fisheries and Water Resources Management
UNEP.....	United Nations Environmental Program
MAAIF.....	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
GDP.....	Gross Domestic Product
PLOS.....	Public library of science
ITDG.....	Intermediate Technology Development Group
NaFIRRI.....	National Fisheries Resource Research Institute
SPSS.....	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

ABSTRACT

This study was conducted at Namasale landing site, Namasale sub county, Amolatar district. The impacts of water hyacinth on fishing communities around Namasale landing site were studied with a view to assessing effects of trends of water hyacinth cover. Primary data was collected using interviews utilizing questionnaires administered to fishing communities, governments and non-governments agencies. 15% of the respondents were female and 85% were males. Results indicate the highest percentage of the respondents were married (66%). Most of the respondents were in the age bracket of 18 to 35 years (48%). Those who have lived in the area for 5 to 10 years constituted 53% of the respondents, 31.7 % had lived in the area for over 10 years, while 1.7% had lived in the area for less than 5 years. Respondents engaged in fishing activities encountered water hyacinth while fishing on the lake. Rated in terms of encounters per month, 60% of the respondents encountered 2 to 5 times per month; 30% encountered more than 15 times per month with 8.3%, and 1.7% never encountered water hyacinth while fishing. 96.7% of the respondents observed seasonal variations in water hyacinth coverage being more prevalent in the wet season (95% of the respondents) than the dry (5% of the respondents). Responses of 54.9% indicated that water hyacinth provided favourable breeding grounds for fish; 17.1% indicated water hyacinth increased fish catches while 14.6% indicated water hyacinth had no effect on fish catch. Negatively, water hyacinth affected fishing communities by blocking the navigation channels, reduction in fish market, and its breeding ground for pest with reported by 36.8%, 35.1% and 1.8% reported by of the respondents. Basing on the study on water hyacinth conducted together with other previous studies about water hyacinth, I concluded that there should be high need to control its existence since it is covering up the water bodies and affecting seriously the fishery department and then generally the navigation system.

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