

USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program

Isle Royale National Park

Typha spp. - Scirpus spp. - Mixed Herbs Great Lakes Shore Herbaceous Vegetation

COMMON NAME	Cattail species - Bulrush species - Mixed Herbs Great Lakes Shore Herbaceous Vegetation
SYNONYM	Great Lakes Shoreline Cattail - Bulrush Marsh
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Herbaceous Vegetation (V)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Perennial graminoid vegetation (V.A)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Temperate or subpolar grassland (V.A.5)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/Semi-natural (V.A.5.N)
FORMATION	Semipermanently flooded temperate or subpolar grassland (V.A.5.N.I)
ALLIANCE	TYPHA (ANGUSTIFOLIA, LATIFOLIA) - (SCIRPUS SPP.) SEMPERMANENTLY FLOODED HERBACEOUS ALLIANCE

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 2

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM PALUSTRINE

RANGE

Isle Royale National Park

This community is rare; it was only sampled at one site during 1997 surveys, at Brady Cove. There are probably a few other widely scattered sites in well-protected, quiet bays of Lake Superior.

Globally

This association is found in Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, New York, and Ontario. It may have been eliminated from its range in Ohio.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Isle Royale National Park

This community occupies shallow water of a bay or cove of Lake Superior, subject to fluctuating water levels from the lake's seiche. Soils are permanently flooded sands.

Globally

Storms, seiches, and water level cycles contribute to a dynamic vegetation structure and composition. Substrate is mineral soil. Water depth generally exceeds 0.3 m (Minc 1997).

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

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<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Graminoid	<i>Scirpus acutus</i>

Globally

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Graminoid	<i>Scirpus acutus</i> , <i>Scirpus tabernaemontanii</i> , <i>Typha latifolia</i> , <i>Typha angustifolia</i>

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Isle Royale National Park

Scirpus acutus

Globally

Scirpus acutus, *Scirpus tabernaemontanii*, *Typha latifolia*, *Typha angustifolia*

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

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This Great Lakes shoreline bulrush - cattail marsh is a wetland dominated by bulrushes. *Scirpus acutus* is the most abundant herb (average < 25% cover); associated herbs include *Sagittaria latifolia*, *Carex lasiocarpa*, and *Utricularia intermedia*.

Globally

Species composition and structure can be quite variable. Typical dominants include the emergents *Scirpus acutus*, *Scirpus tabernaemontanii*, and *Typha* spp. (including *angustifolia*, *glauca*, *latifolia*). Floating and rooted aquatics include *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Lemna minor*, *Nuphar advena*, *Nymphaea odorata*, *Potamogeton gramineus*, and *Spirodela polyrrhiza* (Minc 1997).

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

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Information not available.

CONSERVATION RANK G4?

DATABASE CODE CEGL005112

MAP UNITS 45

COMMENTS

REFERENCES

Minc, L.D. 1996. Michigan's Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands: Definition, Variability, and Classification. A report in 2 parts submitted to: Michigan Natural Features Inventory, Lansing, MI.