

*Typha* spp. Midwest Herbaceous Vegetation (Midwest Cattail Deep Marsh)

COMMON NAME	Cattail species Midwest Herbaceous Vegetation
SYNONYM	Midwest Cattail Deep 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.1)
ALLIANCE	TYPHA (ANGUSTIFOLIA, LATIFOLIA) - (SCIRPUS SPP.) SEMIPERMANENTLY FLOODED HERBACEOUS ALLIANCE

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 2

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM PALUSTRINE

RANGE

***Voyageurs National Park***

This community type is found in 0.25 - 1 m of water along the shores of lakes.

***Globally***

This association is found in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. It is likely in southern Ontario.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

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The Midwest Cattail Marsh most commonly occurs from 0.25 - 1 m of water along the shores of lakes. Wave exposure is low to moderate and substrate is clay, sand or muck. In more isolated sites, a floating mat may develop. This community can also occur in beaver floodings and low areas surrounded by upland. In these cases, substrate is usually well decomposed peat and the water regime is permanently to temporarily flooded. Open water is common in both circumstances.

***Globally***

Stands commonly occur in water depths of 0.5 - 2 m of water along the shores of lakes, ponds, and rivers. Wave exposure is low to moderate and substrate is clay, sand or muck. In more isolated sites, a floating mat may develop. This community can also occur in beaver floodings and low areas surrounded by upland. In these cases, substrate is usually well decomposed peat and the water regime is permanently to temporarily flooded. Open water is common in both circumstances.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

***Voyageurs National Park***

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

***Globally***

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

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

***Voyageurs National Park***

*Typha latifolia*, *Typha angustifolia*

***Globally***

*Typha latifolia*, *Typha angustifolia*

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

***Voyageurs National Park***

This herbaceous community can be colonized almost exclusively by *Typha angustifolia* and *Typha latifolia* or, less frequently, by a mix of *Typha* spp. and other graminoids. Near monocultures with coverage of 80-100% of *Typha* spp. are common. Other species that may be present (usually at low cover) include: *Phragmites australis*, *Scirpus*

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*acutus*, *Scirpus tabernaemontani*, *Calamagrostis canadensis*, *Sium suave*, *Polygonum lapathifolium*, *Sagittaria cuneata*, and *Sagittaria latifolia*. In cattail stands located on the shores of a lake, it is common to find one or more of the following aquatic species at low density: *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Lemna minor*, *Lemna trisulca*, *Myriophyllum sibiricum*, *Utricularia vulgaris*, and *Potamogeton* spp.

**Globally**

The vegetation is dominated by relatively pure stands of *Typha* spp., either *Typha latifolia* or *Typha angustifolia* or both. Many associates could occur. Less frequently, stands contain a mix of *Typha* spp. and other graminoids. Other species that may be present (usually at low cover) include: *Phragmites australis*, *Scirpus acutus*, *Scirpus tabernaemontani*, *Calamagrostis canadensis*, *Sium suave*, *Polygonum lapathifolium*, *Sagittaria cuneata*, and *Sagittaria latifolia*. In cattail stands located on the shores of a lake, it is common to find one or more of the following aquatic species at low density: *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Lemna minor*, *Lemna trisulca*, *Myriophyllum sibiricum*, *Utricularia vulgaris*, and *Potamogeton* spp.

CONSERVATION RANK G5.

DATABASE CODE C EGL002233

COMMENTS

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The diagnostic feature of this herbaceous community is a continuous cover of *Typha latifolia*, *Typha angustifolia* or *Typha X glauca*. Temporarily flooded or saturated cattail marshes found in shallow basins are floristically quite different from those along the shores of lakes and may represent a sub-type. Insufficient data exist to determine the relationship between these two situations. This association is analogous to Ontario's W11 (Harris *et al.* 1996). Cattail stands along the shores of the lakes often contain little else other than cattail and are therefore difficult to confuse with any other type. When they exist in drier situations, especially inland, *Typha* spp. can share dominance with other graminoids, particularly sedges. Cattails may invade Northern Sedge Wet Meadow stands. When this occurs, there must be >60% cover of cattails for the stand to be considered a Midwest Cattail Marsh. Up to this point, the stands usually retain more characteristics of a Northern Sedge Wet Meadow than of a Midwest Cattail Marsh.

**Globally**

This type may simply be a less diverse variation of *Typha* spp. - *Scirpus* spp. Mixed Herbs Midwest Herbaceous Vegetation (CEGL002229).

REFERENCES

Harris, A. G., S. C. McMurray, P. W. C. Uhlig, J. K. Jeglum, R. F. Foster, and G. D. Racey. 1996. Field guide to the wetland ecosystem classification for northwestern Ontario. Ont. Minist. Nat. Resour., Northwest Sci. Tech. Field Guide FG-01. Thunder Bay, Ont. 74 p.

**Note:**

This association is found in three different map classes:

- 1) [Midwest Cattail Deep Marsh](#)
- 2) [Deep Marsh Mosaic / Complex](#)
- 3) [Wet Meadow / Fen Mosaic / Complex](#)