



Controlling hybrid cattail (*Typha x glauca*) to enhance plant diversity in lakeshore communities



Background:

- Nearshore aquatic plants are an important source of biodiversity in Minnesota lakes and are critical to fish and wildlife communities
- Cattail acts as an “ecosystem engineer” by replacing diverse wetland communities with monotypic stands dominated by dense cattail and its litter
- In some Minnesota lakes cattails can play crucial roles by providing vegetated habitat and preventing erosion



Objectives:

- Understand the little known effects of hybrid/narrowleaf cattail on the ecological dynamics of nearshore lake communities across Minnesota.
- Determine if small-scale cattail removal can increase plant diversity and heterogeneity and positively affect fish abundance and diversity.
- Compare the regional effects of cattail removal on nearshore lake ecosystems across Minnesota