

## EPA Official Record

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**Notes ID:** EC48895D6EDB9F0485257AD80070F9F0

**From:** Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US

**To:** Carl Dierker/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Stephen Perkins/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Lois Adams/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Ann Williams/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Carl Deloi/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Cynthia Catri/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Jackie Leclair/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Elaine T Stanley/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Michael Stover/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

**Delivered Date:** 08/30/2012 03:12 PM EST

**Subject:** Fw: RE: Use of Culturally Significant Plant Species such as Cattails and Bulrush in Wetland Mitigation (UNCLASSIFIED)

In response to Carl Dierker's voicemail, please see the attached email string regarding the proposed use of various species of cattail ( *Typha* spp .) as a mitigation plantings. There apparently was some confusion because narrow leaf cattail ( *Typha angustifolia* ) was proposed as an alternative to broad leaf cattail ( *Typha latifolia* ). Both of these species, as well as the hybrid species *Typha X glauca*, are included on the Corps List of Invasive and Unacceptable Plant Species for use in mitigation plantings, because they are aggressive colonizers that tend to dominate and preclude the establishment of other, desirable native species. Also note that cattail is likely to colonize on its own.

I have sent Mike Stover a link to the Corps mitigation guidance, which includes the List of Invasive and Unacceptable Plant Species. Hopefully we can identify some species (not on that list) appropriate for compensatory mitigation planting that would also have cultural significance to the Tribe. In any event, the purpose of the compensatory mitigation is to address environmental impacts to aquatic resources associated with construction and operation of the proposed project. (Please note that cattail marsh is not impacted by the project). Ideally we will be able to design a compensatory mitigation plan that appropriately compensates for project impacts and has the added benefit of incorporating culturally significant plant species.

Mike

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-----Forwarded by Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US on 08/30/2012 02:08PM -----

To: "Ladd, Ruth M NAE" <Ruth.M.Ladd@usace.army.mil>, Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, "Sneeringer, Paul J NAE" <Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil>  
From: "Minkin, Paul NAE" <Paul.Minkin@usace.army.mil>  
Date: 08/30/2012 01:32PM  
Cc: Ann Williams/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Catri/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Jackie Leclair/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, "Adams, Karen K NAE" <Karen.K.Adams@usace.army.mil>, Michael Stover/R1/USEPA/US@EPA  
Subject: RE: Use of Culturally Significant Plant Species such as Cattails and Bulrush in Wetland Mitigation (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

I agree with Mike and Ruth. We do not preclude common cattail (*Typha latifolia*) because it is nonnative (it is, in fact native), but it is aggressive and often takes over marsh systems, whether planted or not. Narrow-leaf cattail (*Typha angustifolia*) is also native and perhaps even more aggressive (it also tolerates higher salinity), so we also recommend its use. Cattails will likely move in on their own, whether we wish them to be there or not.

"Bulrush" is a non-standardized common name, typically used for sedge species in the genera *Scirpus* and *Schoenoplectus*. It may also be used for other plants, as Mike suggests its use for *Typha* species. It would be best for the Tribe to tell us the species they intended rather than us guess, perhaps incorrectly.

Paul

-----Original Message-----

From: Ladd, Ruth M NAE  
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 1:12 PM  
To: Mike Marsh; Sneeringer, Paul J NAE  
Cc: Ann Williams; Cynthia Catri; Jackie Leclair; Adams, Karen K NAE; Minkin, Paul NAE; Michael Stover  
Subject: RE: Use of Culturally Significant Plant Species such as Cattails and Bulrush in Wetland Mitigation (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Note that cattail would likely colonize the site on its own so it seems an unnecessary expense

to plant it - if it is determined to be appropriate to include in this case.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Marsh [ <mailto:marsh.mike@epamail.epa.gov> ]

Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 1:10 PM

To: Sneeringer, Paul J NAE

Cc: Ann Williams; Cynthia Catri; Jackie Leclair; Adams, Karen K NAE; Minkin, Paul NAE; Ladd, Ruth M NAE; Michael Stover

Subject: Re: Use of Culturally Significant Plant Species such as Cattails and Bulrush in Wetland Mitigation (UNCLASSIFIED)

Paul - Narrow leaf cattail, or *Typha augustifolia*, is also on the Corps list of Invasive and Other Unacceptable Plant Species for use in mitigation sites. Both broad leaf and narrow leaf cattail, as well as the hybrid *Typha X glauca*, are inappropriate for mitigation planting because they are aggressive colonizers that will tend to dominate and preclude the establishment of other, desirable native species.

Numerous species are often referred to as bulrush. I assumed, given the history of its use by Native Americans, that the tribe was referring to *Typha*. I would suggest that either Gary Davis, who raised the issue, or Mike Stover, contact the tribe directly for clarification of the exact species they are suggesting for use as mitigation plantings.

Mike

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-----"Sneeringer, Paul J NAE" < [Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil](mailto:Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil) > wrote: -----

To: "Minkin, Paul NAE" < [Paul.Minkin@usace.army.mil](mailto:Paul.Minkin@usace.army.mil) >, "Ladd, Ruth M NAE" < [Ruth.M.Ladd@usace.army.mil](mailto:Ruth.M.Ladd@usace.army.mil) >

From: "Sneeringer, Paul J NAE" < [Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil](mailto:Paul.J.Sneeringer@usace.army.mil) >

Date: 08/30/2012 12:07PM

Cc: Ann Williams/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Mike Marsh/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Jackie Leclair/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Catri/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, "Adams, Karen K NAE" <[Karen.K.Adams@usace.army.mil](mailto:Karen.K.Adams@usace.army.mil)>

Subject: Use of Culturally Significant Plant Species such as Cattails and Bulrush in Wetland Mitigation (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Paul and Ruth:

During their review of the South Terminal Project in New Bedford, Massachusetts, the Wampanoag (Aquinnah) Tribal Historic Preservation Officer ("THPO") has requested that the EPA - South Terminal team consider incorporating cattail and bulrush (culturally significant plant species for the tribe) into the design for wetland mitigation areas. I have a couple of quick questions for you:

1.) I realize that common cattail is viewed by the Corps as an invasive species that we don't want to see planted in mitigation sites. Are their native cattail species (i.e., narrow leaf cattail) that are appropriate to plant in mitigation sites? Please let me know what you think.

2.) Do you have any recommendations on what species of plants are commonly referred to as bulrush? Please provide scientific names for these species, so that we can identify the bulrushes that the Wampanoag (Aquinnah) are considered about. In addition, please identify which of these species are appropriate for use in planting plans for mitigation sites.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this e-mail. Thanks for your review.

Paul Sneeringer  
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(978) 318-8491 (W)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

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Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE