

Florida LAKEWATCH Aquatic Plants in Lakes



Questions (532) Asked at LAKEWATCH Regional Meetings (2007 to 2014)

Aquatic Plants	Fish and Wildlife	Water Level/Access	Water Quality	Lake Uses
Plants (121)	Exotic Species (55)	Lake Water Level (95)	Water Clarity (31)	Swimming Areas (6)
Grass Carp (41)	Sportfish Fish (40)	Sediments (13)	Algae (16)	Jet Skis/Boats (5)
Herbicides (19)	Aquatic Birds (28)	Hurricanes (3)	Color (12)	Trash (4)
Tussocks (4)			Storm Water (9)	Irrigation (2)
	TOTAL 123 (23%)	TOTAL 111 (21%)	Waste Water (9)	
TOTAL 185 (35%)			Bacteria (6)	TOTAL 17 (3%)
			Fertilizers (5)	
			Heavy Metals (3)	
			Oxygen (3)	
			Trends (1)	
			Pesticides (1)	
			TOTAL 96 (18%)	

A Beginner's Guide to Water Management—Aquatic Plants in Florida Lakes¹

Florida LAKEWATCH²



Littoral zone of Lake Newnan, Florida, July 2007.

Credits: Mark Hoyer

Aquatic Plants in Florida Lakes

Information Circular 111

UF/IFAS Florida LAKEWATCH

UF/IFAS Program in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences,
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Florida

October 2007

A Beginner's Guide to Water Management

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LAKEWATCH

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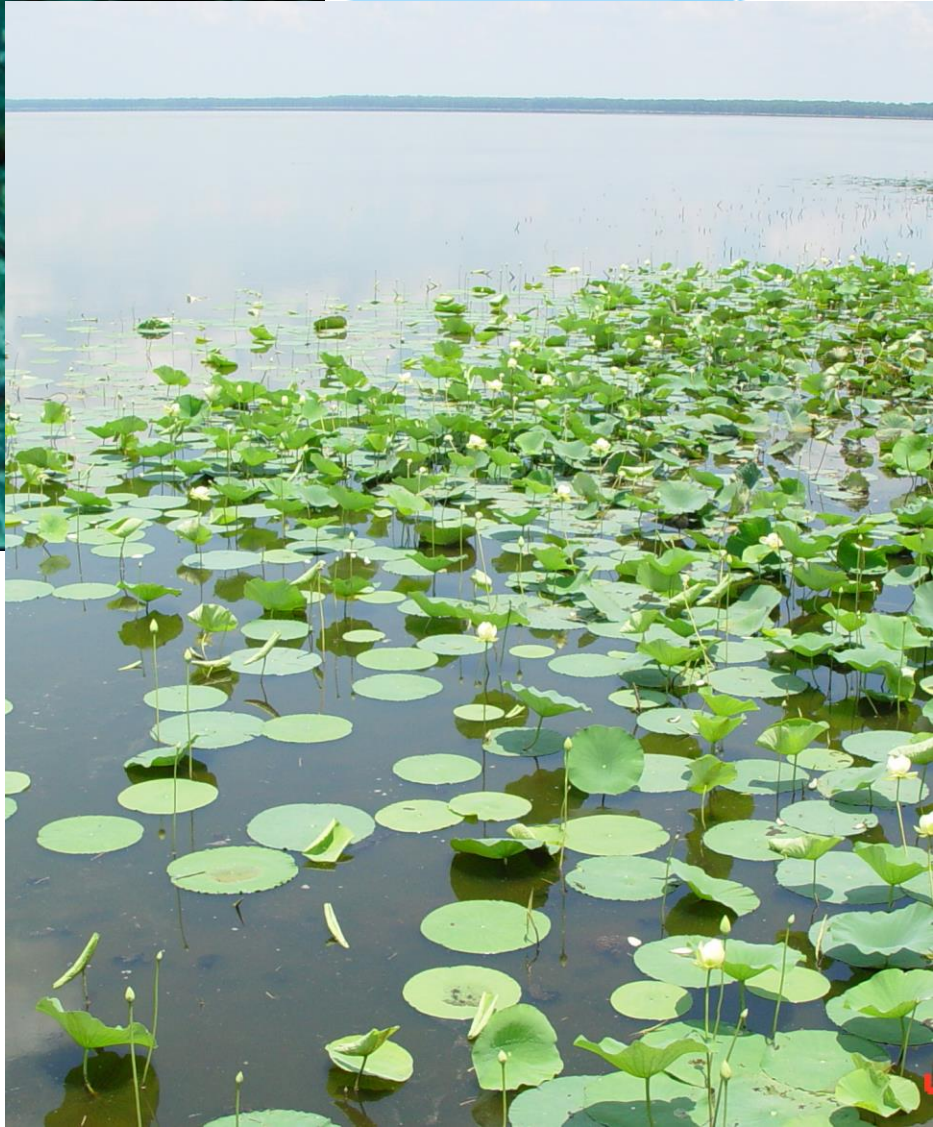
Copies are available for download from the Florida LAKEWATCH website: <http://lakewatch.ifas.ufl.edu/> or from the UF/IFAS Electronic Document Information Source (EDIS) website: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>

Lake Trophic Status

- * **Oligotrophic (Lowest Productivity)**
- * **Mesotrophic**
- * **Eutrophic**
- * **Hypereutrophic (Highest Productivity)**



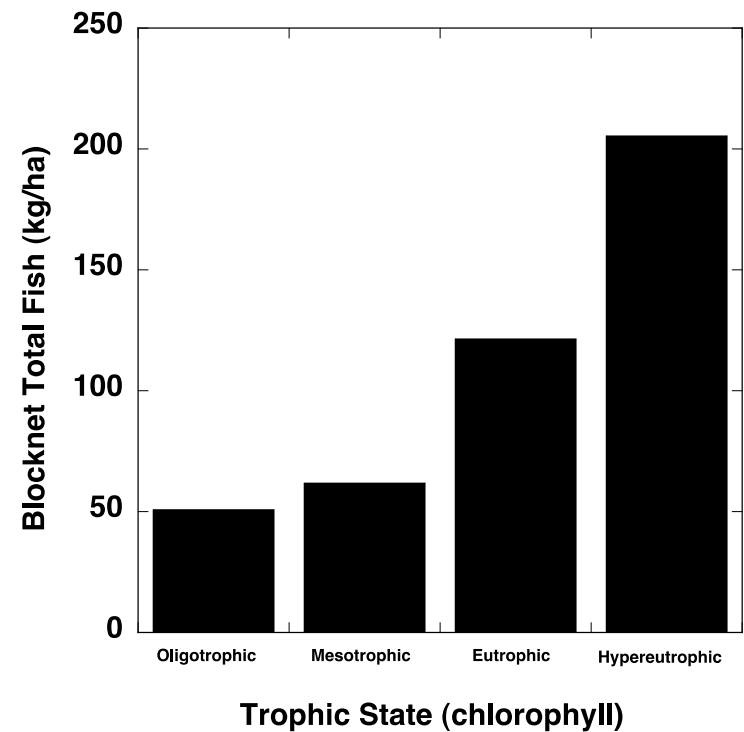
Eutrophic



Oligotrophic

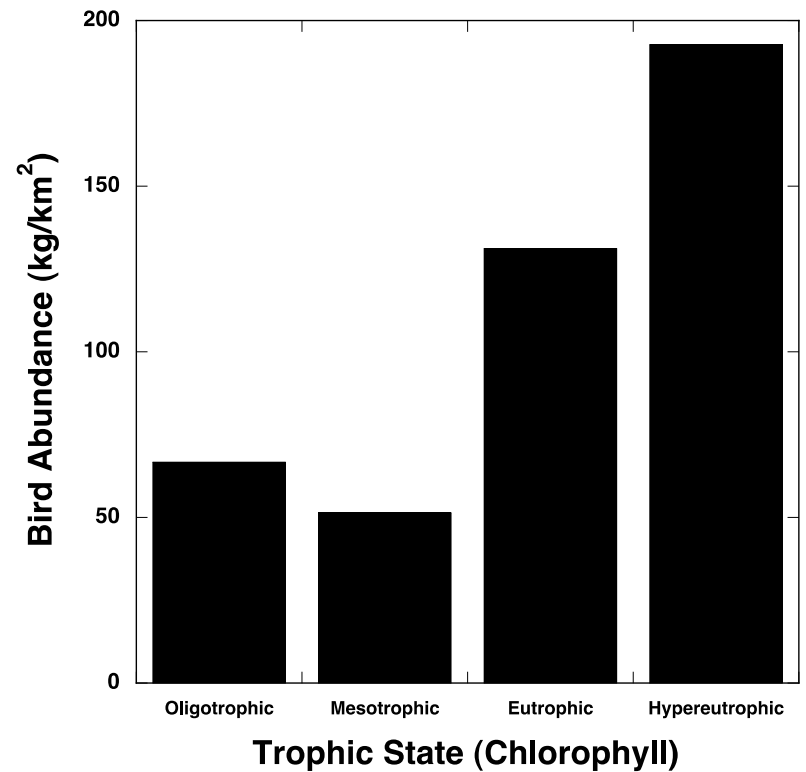


Sport Fish Abundance

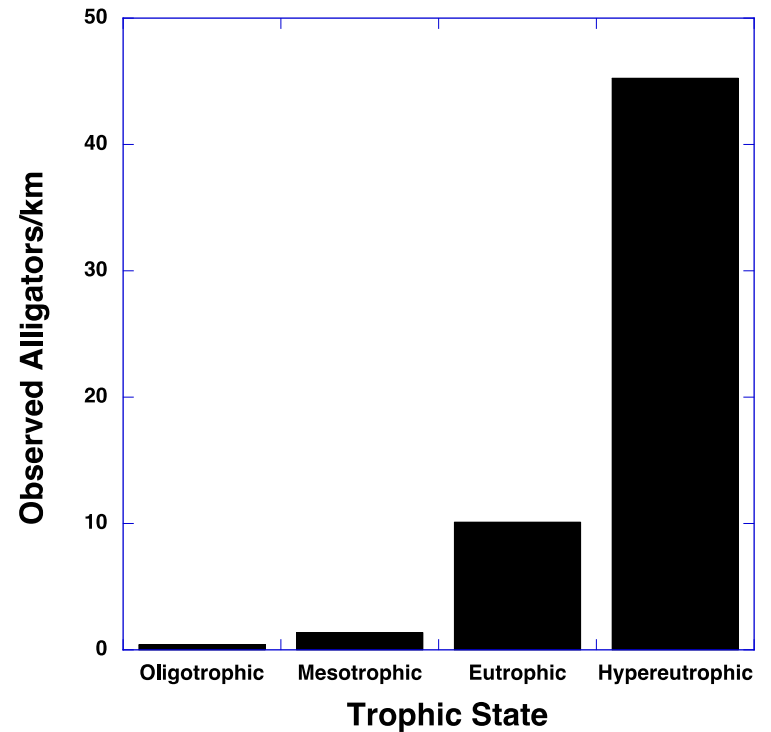


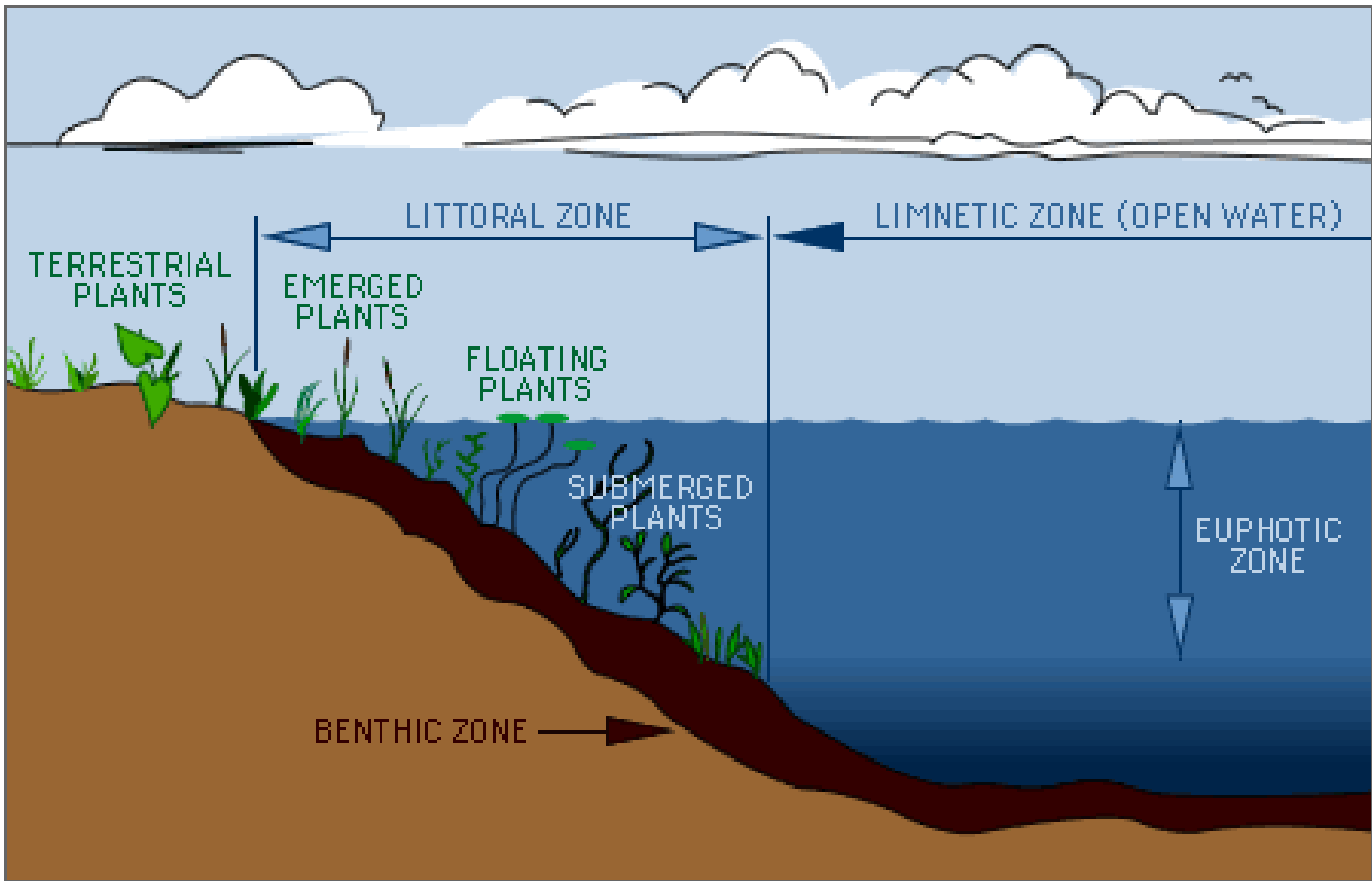


Aquatic Bird Abundance



Alligator Abundanc e





<http://www.lakeaccess.org/ecology/lakeecologyprim9.html>

Creating Wildlife Habitat with Native Florida Freshwater Wetland Plants¹

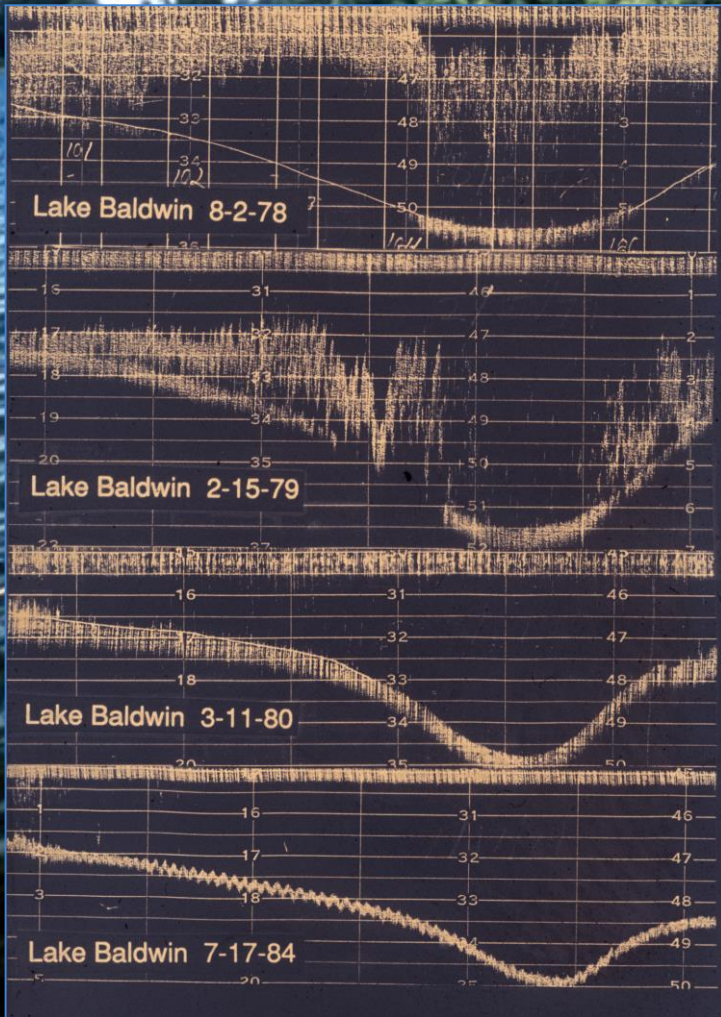
Martin B. Main, Ginger M. Allen, and Ken A. Langeland²

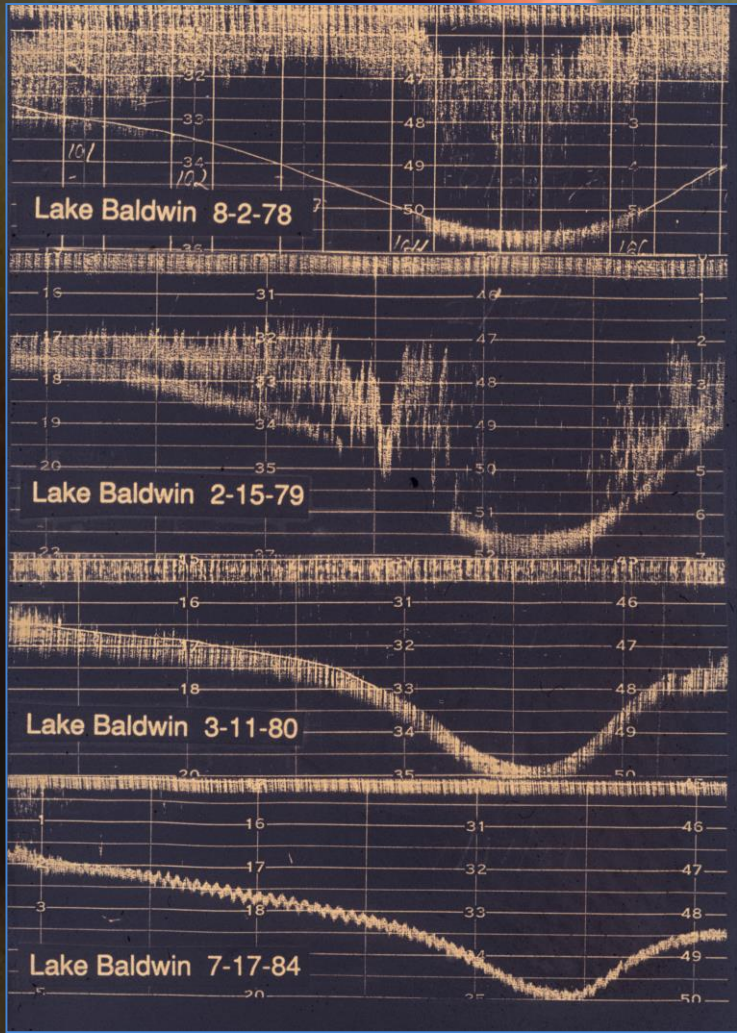
Florida-Friendly Plants for Stormwater Pond Shorelines¹

Gail Hansen and Shangchun Hu²

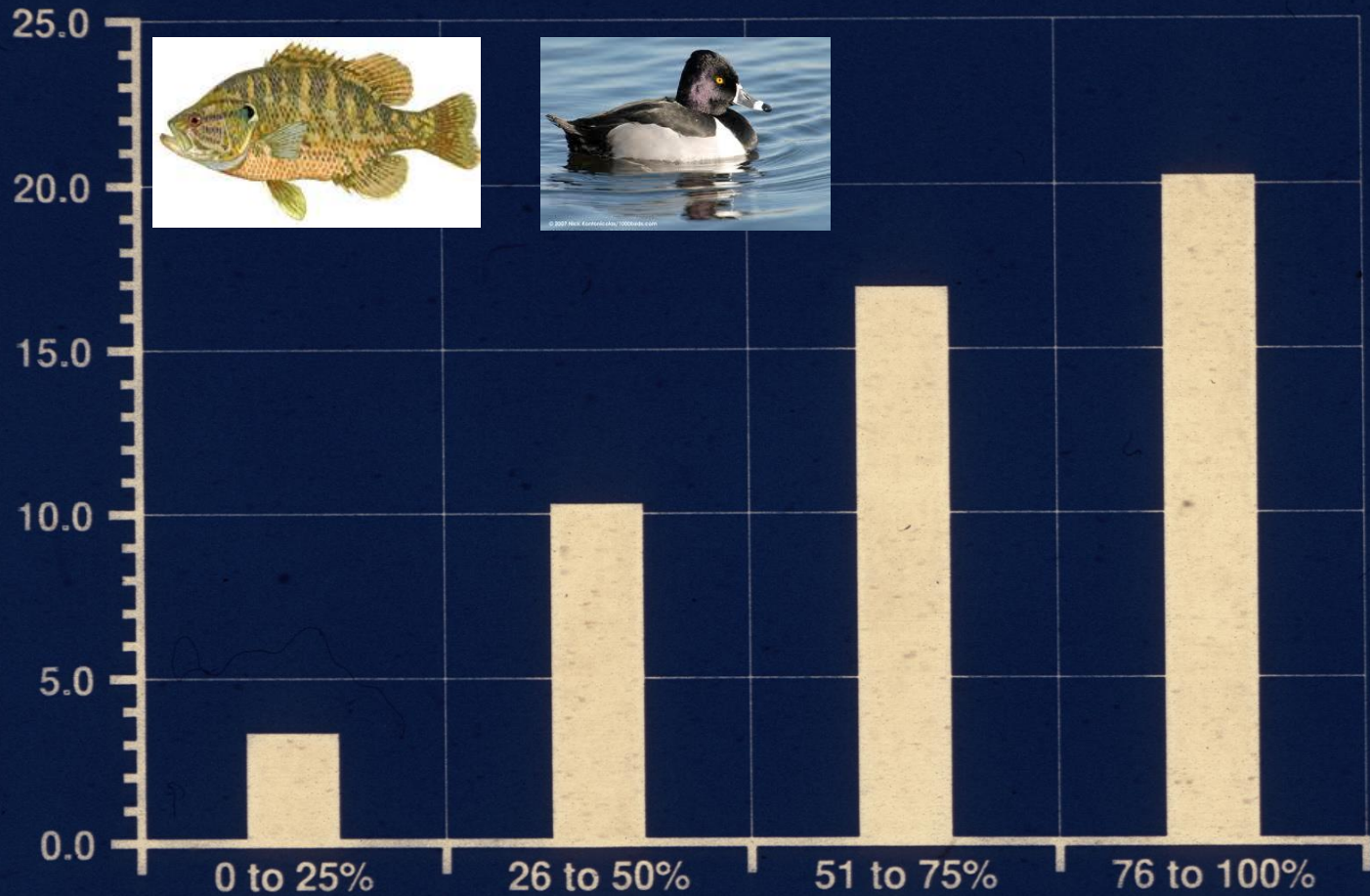
Selecting aquatic and shoreline plants for stormwater ponds is more challenging than selecting plants for a typical landscape. Site conditions can vary greatly and are more difficult to control. For example, water depth sometimes fluctuates widely, creating wet and dry conditions. Water quality varies with rainfall and fertilizer inputs. Steep slopes can make plant establishment and retention difficult. The concept of using the right plant in the right place is particularly important in the shoreline environment because the planting area includes a dry slope and a littoral shelf with shallow and deep water areas. Three questions to ask when selecting plants include 1) What environmental conditions does the plant need to grow? 2) How do you want the plant to function? 3) What do you want the plant to look like? Table 1 lists recommended plants that were selected based on these three questions.





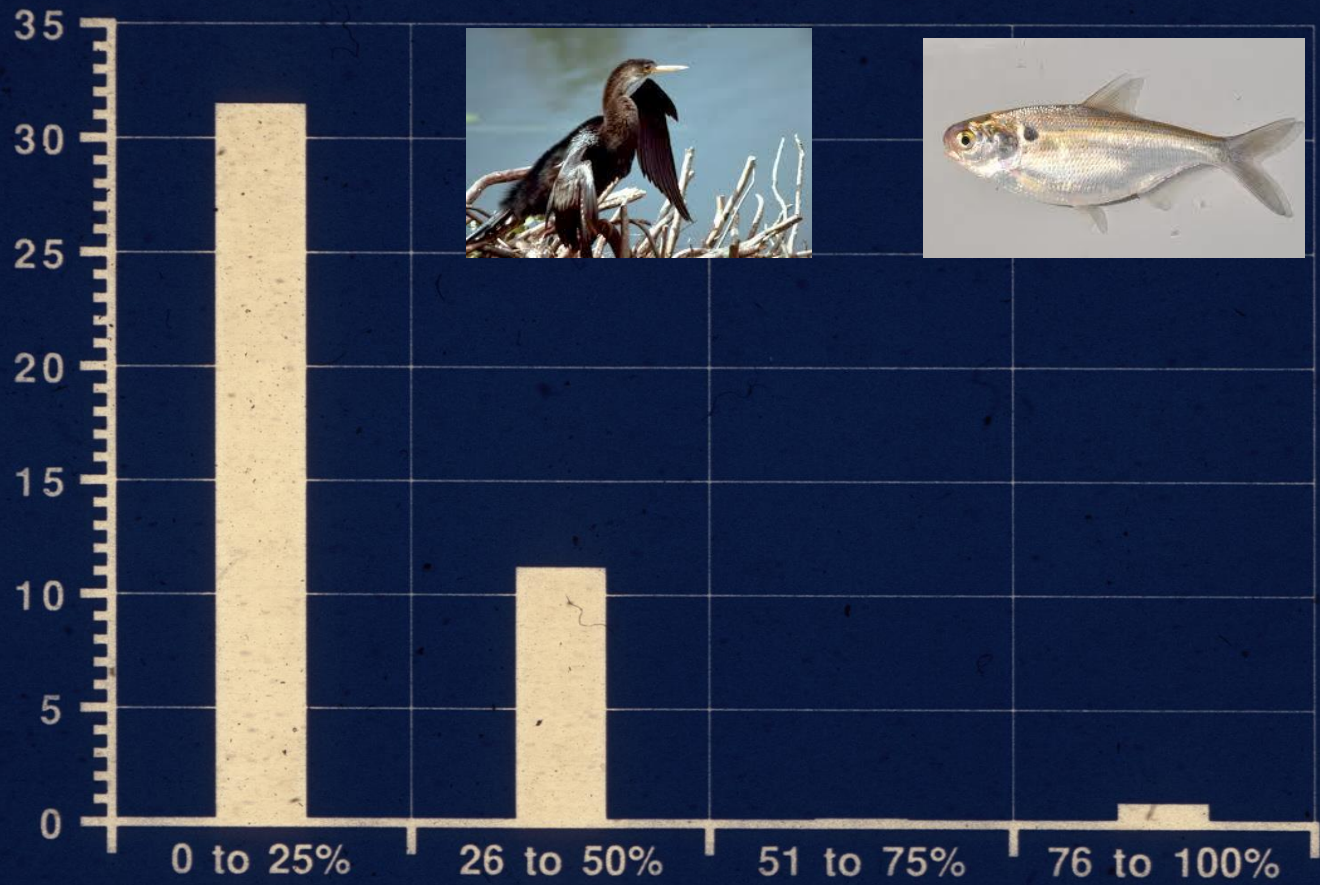


Warmouth as a percent
(%) of total population by weight



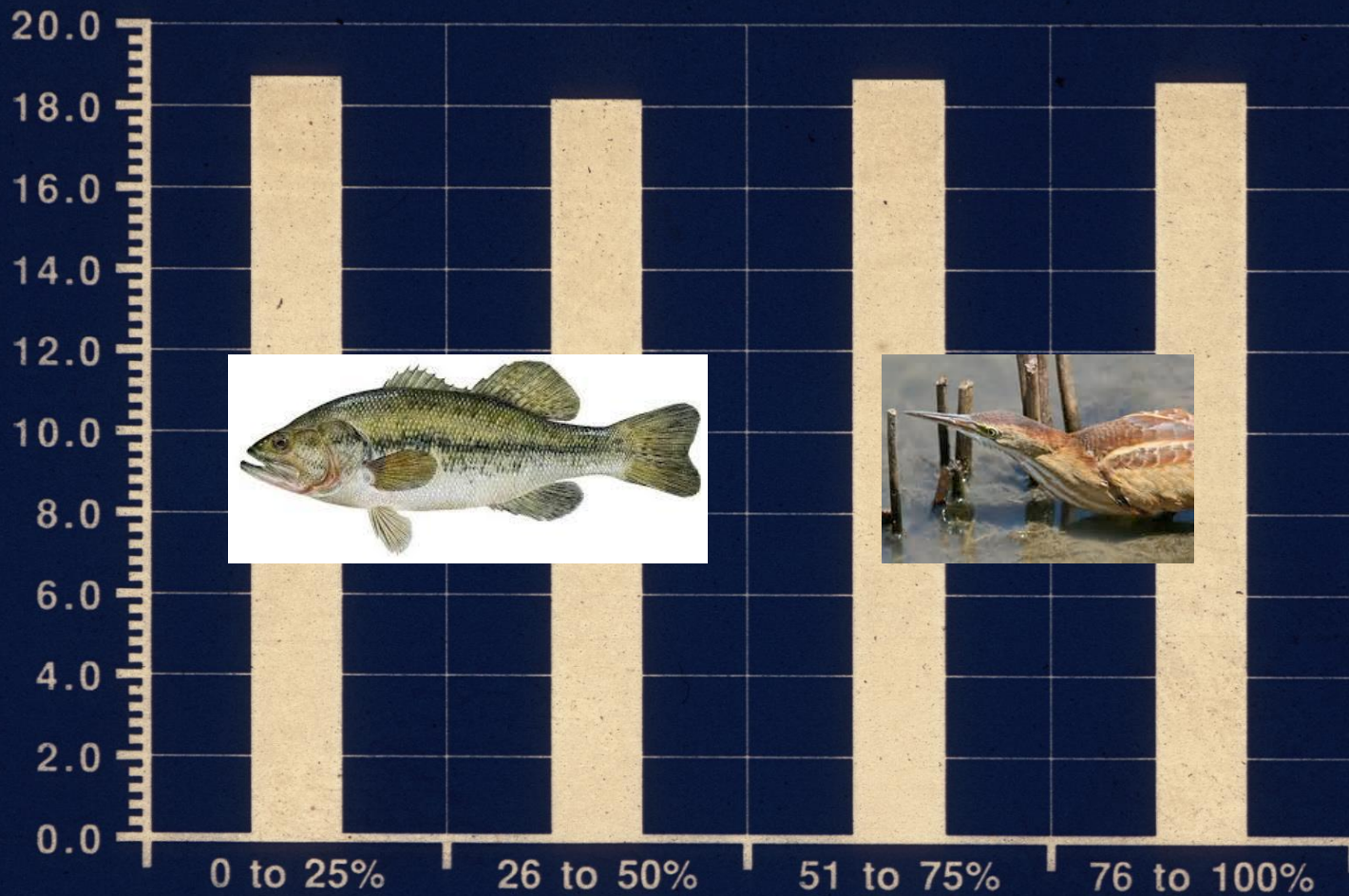
Percent Area Covered

Gizzard Shad as a Percent (%)
of Total Population by Weight



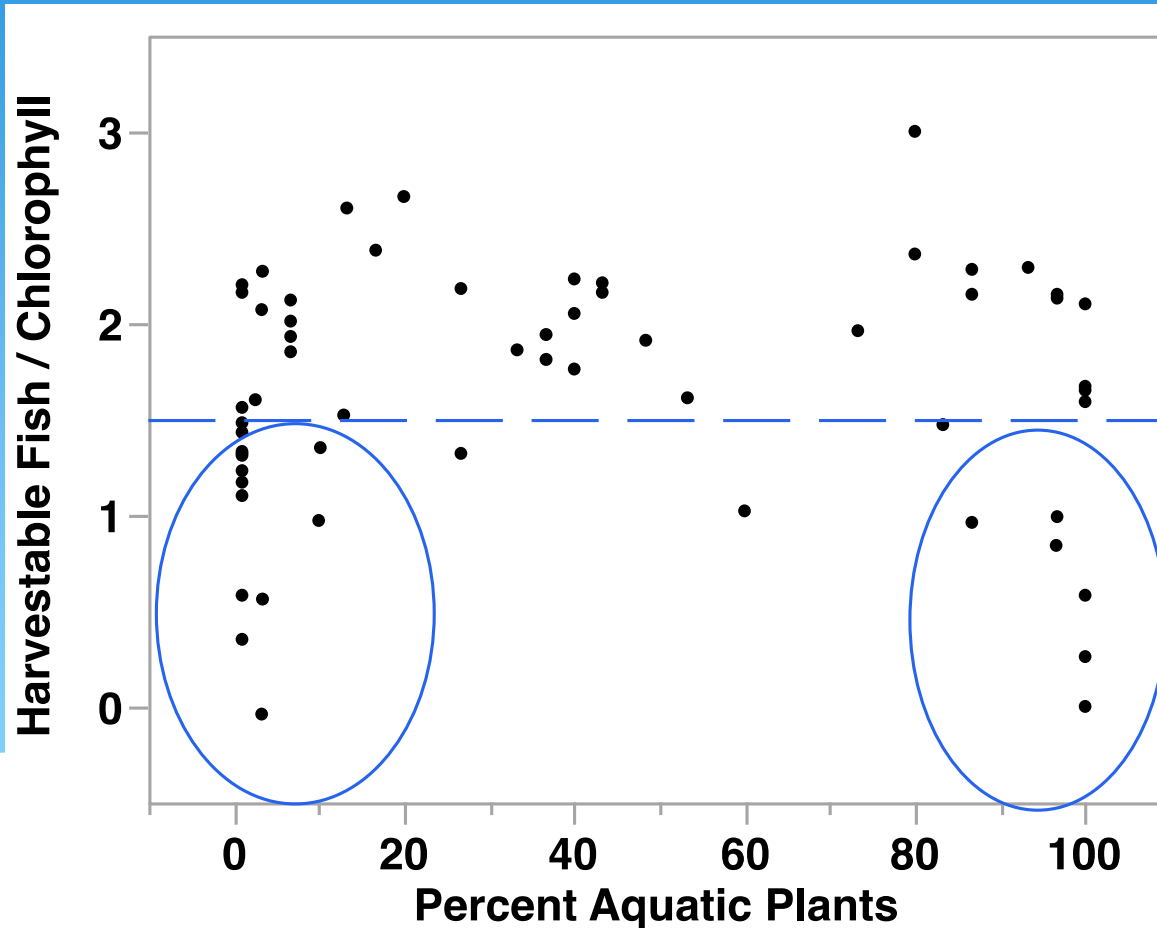
Percent Area Covered

Largemouth bass as a percent
(%) of total population by weight



Percent Area Covered

Harvestable Fish and Aquatic Plants



Aquatic Plant Control

Section 3: Aquatic Plant Management

Introduction

Physical Removal

Habitat Alteration

Biological Control

Herbicides

Environmental Considerations

Fate of Aquatic Herbicides in the Environment

Maintenance Control of Aquatic Weeds

Manipulating Plant Communities

Mother Nature's Control



Aquatic Plant Control

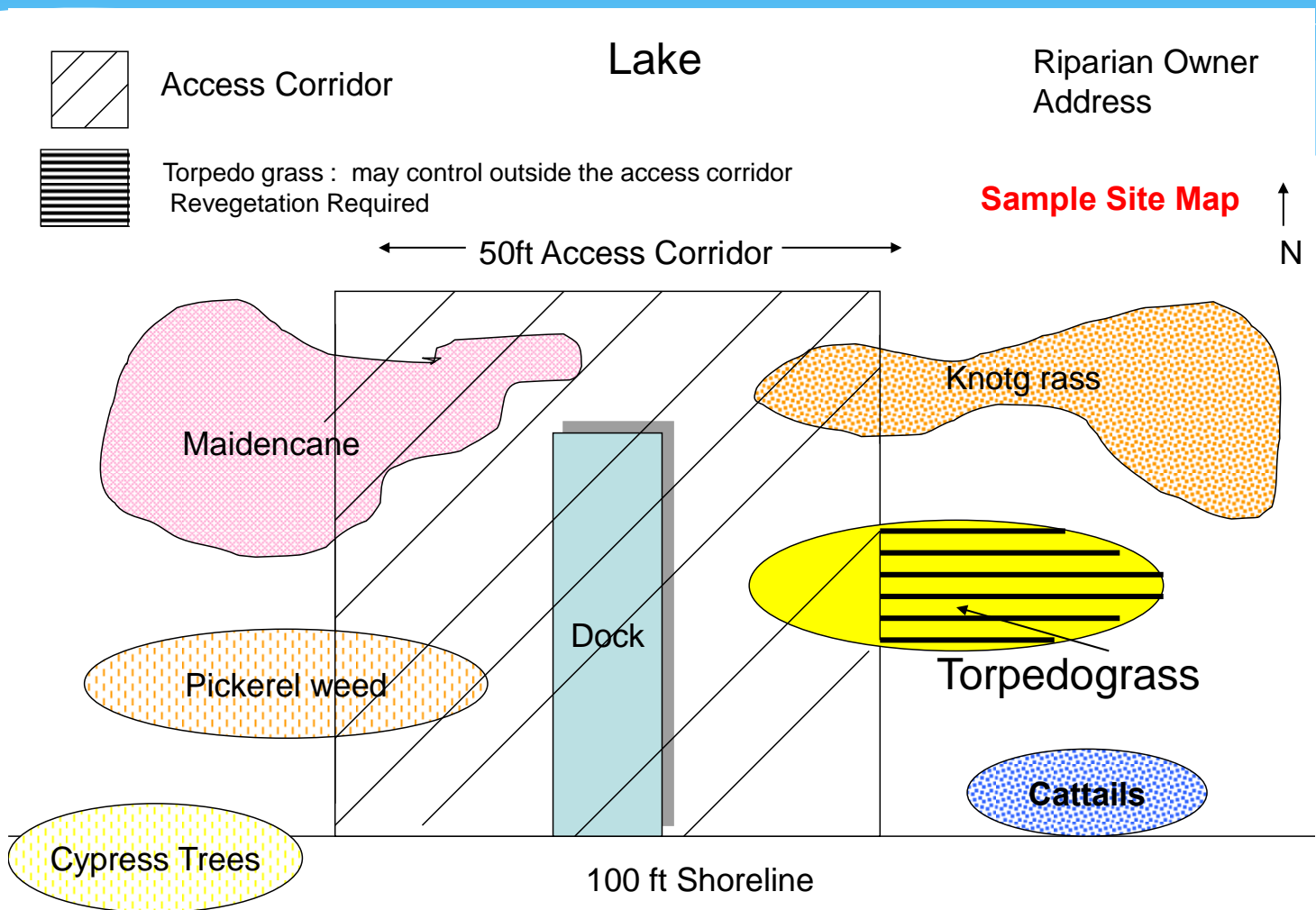
<http://myfwc.com/license/aquatic-plants>

369.20 Florida Aquatic Weed Control Act.

Aquatic vegetation plays an important role in maintaining and protecting water quality, providing shoreline stabilization and ensuring balanced fish and wildlife populations. Therefore, Florida law (F.S. 369.20) **requires all persons intending to control or remove aquatic vegetation from the waters of the state to obtain a permit** from the Commission's Invasive Plant Management Section unless an exemption for the activity has been provided in statute or rule (Chapters 68F-20).

Aquatic Plant Control

Sample Site Map for Permit Application



Map not to Scale

Date

Aquatic Plant Control

<http://myfwc.com/license/aquatic-plants>

369.20 Florida Aquatic Weed Control Act.

(8) As an exemption to all permitting requirements in this section and ss. 369.22 and 369.25, in all freshwater bodies, except aquatic preserves designated under chapter 258 and Outstanding Florida Waters designated under chapter 403, **a riparian owner may physically or mechanically remove herbaceous aquatic plants and semiwoody herbaceous plants, such as shrub species and willow, within an area delimited by up to 50 percent of the property owner's frontage or 50 feet, whichever is less,** and by a sufficient length waterward from, and perpendicular to, the riparian owner's shoreline to create a corridor to allow access for a boat or swimmer to reach open water. All unvegetated areas shall be cumulatively considered when determining the width of the exempt corridor. Physical or mechanical removal does not include the use of any chemicals or any activity that requires a permit pursuant to part IV of chapter 373.

**LAKEWATCH Works With:
Your tired, your poor, your huddled
masses.....**

