

FLOWERING RUSH

Butomus umbellatus
Origin: Eurasia and Africa

INVASIVE RANKING, NYS

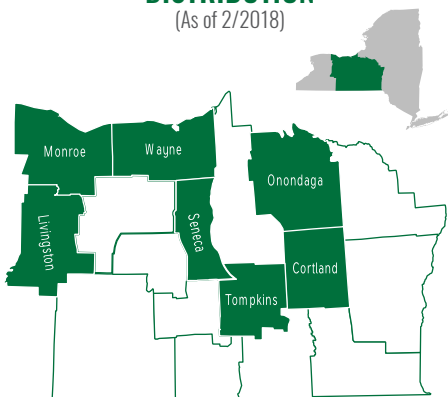
Medium

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Chemical
Physical
Prevention

DISTRIBUTION

(As of 2/2018)



www.fingerlakesinvasives.org

Flowering rush is an emergent perennial plant that can grow on shore or in shallow water. Leaves grow up to 1 m long and are triangular in cross section. The plant can grow to 1.5 m, with umbrella-shaped clusters of three-petaled flowers from white to dark pink. Plants bloom from June to August, but do not flower in deep water. Flowering rush reproduces through seeds, branching and fragmentation of rhizomes, and production of bulbils on rhizomes and inflorescences.

HABITAT

Flowering rush lives where cattails are typically found, growing in freshwater lakes, riparian areas, and wetlands. It can grow in water depths to about 2 m.

THREAT

Flowering rush can form dense stands that displace native species, which can reduce biodiversity. Dense stands of flowering rush can also alter water temperatures, water and nutrient flow, and sedimentation rates.

MANAGEMENT

Plants may be removed physically, but care should be taken to account for all parts, as it can spread via floating seeds, rhizomes, and root fragments. Removed material should be dried to prevent any new shoot growth. Cutting the plants below the water surface can reduce abundance, but will not kill them. Chemical control is usually not effective due to the herbicide washing off the plant. Several treatments would be required.

REFERENCE - Cao, L., L. Berent, and A. Fusaro, 2017, *Butomus umbellatus* L.: U.S. Geological Survey, Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database, Gainesville, FL, and NOAA Great Lakes Aquatic Nonindigenous Species Information System, Ann Arbor, MI, <https://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/greatlakes/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1100&Potential=N&Type=0>, Revision Date: 12/5/2012, Access Date: 9/15/2017



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