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GREAT BULRUSH
Scirpus validus

Located in brackish and fresh marshes and shallow water throughout the Division. Also known as soft-stem Bulrush, Mat-rush, Black-rush and others.

A perennial sedge; stems erect (often leaning), pale green, smooth, soft and easily crushed, round in cross section, 0.5 to 3 m high; arising from stout, scaly, reddish rootstocks. The base of the stem is sheathed but usually leafless. The upper leaf above the spikelets resembles a continuation of the stem; it is short, and erect. Spikelets are attached to the stem by slender stalks (1 to 7 cm long); originating along the stem near the tip. Spikelets are oblong, cone-shaped, pointed, 0.5 to 1.5 cm long, tawny or chestnut brown color, either single or in clusters of 2 to 5 at the ends of stalks; fruiting from June to September.

See general description of wildlife value on p 17.00.



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Notes