



The lake assessments are created in partnership with Hillsborough County and the Florida Center for Community Design and Research
LAKE ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

Dosson Lake 9/27/01 Watershed: Rocky/ Brushy Creek

II. Ecological Data

Aquatic Plant Survey

Approximately equispaced sites are haphazardly mapped around the lake and the aquatic plants at each site are surveyed. The total number of species from all sites is used to approximate the total diversity of aquatic plants and the percent of invasive-exotic plants on the lake and in the watershed (Table 2). Many of these plants are considered ecologically harmful, as they tend to out-compete native species. Such “nuisance” plants can also make boating and other recreational activities difficult or impossible. The common and scientific names of plant species found on your lake are listed in Table 3.

Table 2. Comparison of species diversity between your lake and other assessed lakes located within your watershed.

	<u>Dosson Lake</u>	<u>Rocky/ Brushy Creek</u> (Average)
Number of Taxa:	25	34
Percent Exotic Plants:	20%	18%

Table 3. Botanical and common names of the most commonly found plants on your lake. Percent frequency (of occurrence), habit (location where found), status (native or exotic), and EPPC status are provided.

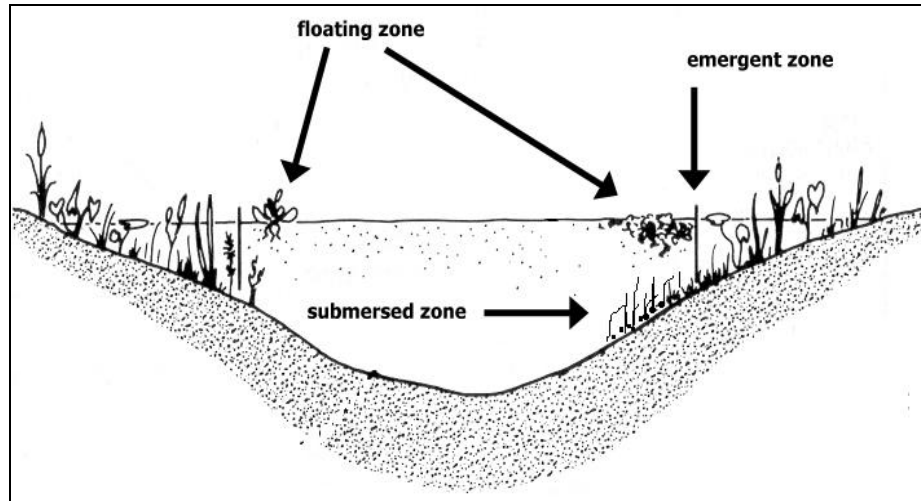
<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Plant Species</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Habit</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>EPPC</u>
Baldwin's Spikerush, Roadgrass	Eleocharis baldwinii	100%	Submersed	Native	NL
Water Primroses, Primrosewillow	Ludwigia spp.	100%	Emergent	Unknown	NL
Cypress	Taxodium spp.	100%	Emergent	Native	NL
Dahoon Holly	Ilex cassine	70%	Emergent	Native	NL
Popcorn Tree, Chinese Tallow Tree	Sapium sebiferum	70%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Torpedo Grass	Panicum repens	60%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Brazilian Pepper	Schinus terebinthifolius	60%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Cattails	Typha spp.	60%	Emergent	Native	NL
Southern Red Maple	Acer rubrum var. trilobum	50%	Emergent	Native	NL
Swampbay	Persea palustris	50%	Emergent	Native	NL
Manyflower Marshpennywort, Water Penny	Hydrocotyl umbellata	40%	Emergent	Native	NL
Maidencane	Panicum hemitomon	40%	Emergent	Native	NL
Pickereel Weed	Pontederia cordata	40%	Emergent	Native	NL
Willow	Salix spp.	40%	Emergent	Native	NL
Wax Myrtle	Myrica cerifera	30%	Emergent	Native	NL
Watergrass	Luziola fluitans	20%	Emergent	Native	NL

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Climbing Hempvine	<i>Mikania scandens</i>	20%	Emergent	Native	NL
Redbay	<i>Persea borbonia</i>	20%	Emergent	Native	NL
Bur Marigold	<i>Bidens</i> spp.	10%	Emergent	Native	NL
Camphor-tree	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	10%	Emergent	Native	I
Wild Taro, Dasheen, Coco Yam	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	10%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Punk Tree, Melaleuca	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	10%	Emergent	Exotic	I
Swamp Hornpod, Miterwort	<i>Mitreola sessilifolia</i>	10%	Emergent	Native	NL
American White Water Lily, Fragrant Water	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	10%	Floating	Native	NL
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	10%	Emergent	Native	NL

Standing Crop

In addition to an overall survey of the types of plants on a lake, an estimate of the standing crop (biomass) of the lake has been obtained for many lakes. This was done by calculating the average weight of the vegetation within a quarter-meter square quadrat tossed haphazardly into three zones (see Figure) at each sampling site around the lake: (1) the emergent zone, (2) the floating zone and (3) the submersed zone. The average weight of the plants (Table 4) from all sampling sites and the dominant type of vegetation (Table 5) are provided. If data tables are not shown, no standing crop estimates were obtained for this lake.

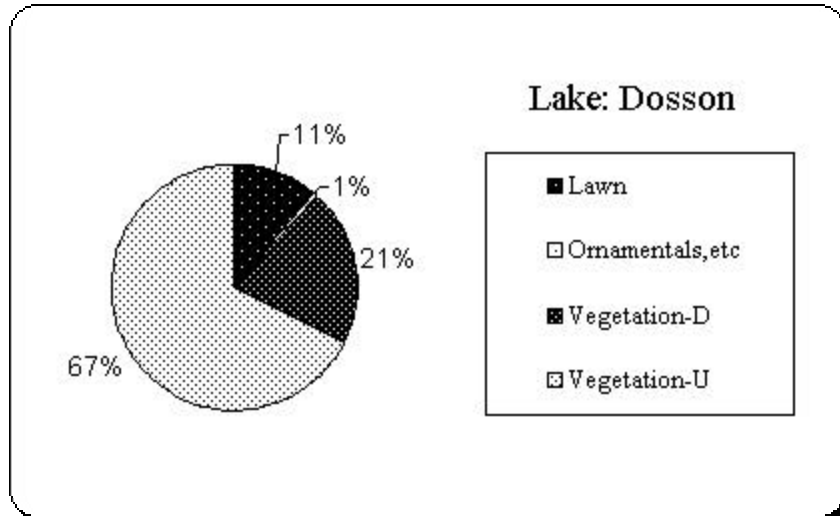




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Habitat Quality

The shoreline is mapped by navigating the circumference of the lake and characterizing the adjacent shore using sophisticated GPS. Categories for characterization include: 1) Lawn 2) Seawall 3) Beach, Bare Soil 4) Undisturbed Vegetation (*Vegetation-U*) 5) Disturbed Vegetation (*Vegetation-D*) 6) Impervious Surface and 7) Ornamentals, etc. The result is an estimate of the percent of each type of shoreline per lake. This information assists in the interpretation of the aquatic plant survey as an indicator of relative habitat quality.



Percent of lake shore types