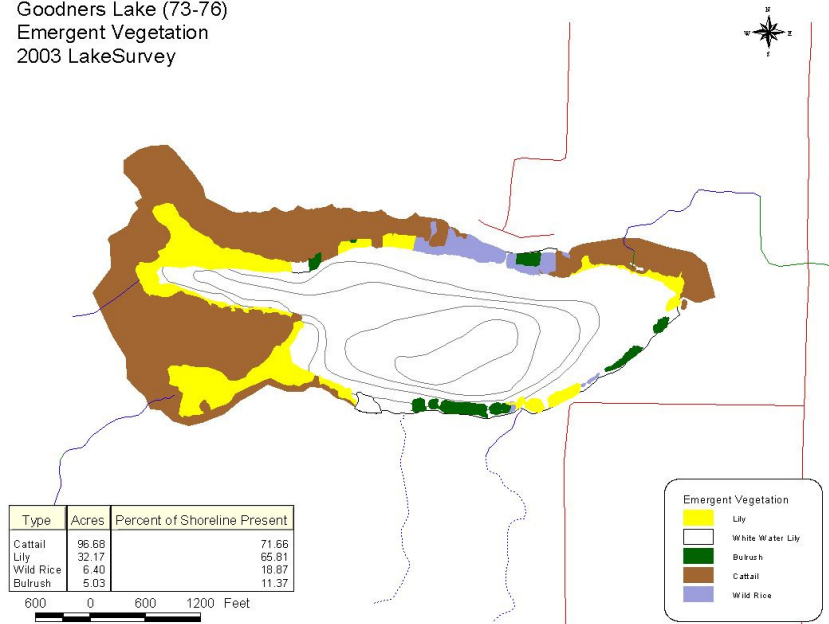


## Quantifying Habitat to set Goals and Prescribe Treatment

Since 1998 the Montrose Area DNR Fisheries Office has used new technology to map habitat and develop precise maps of aquatic vegetation. Using global positioning systems and geographic information system software we have surveyed plant communities and calculated the amounts of various habitats present. For example, the map constructed for Goodners Lake shows the location of about five acres of bulrush, a beneficial emergent species. If the lake association decided to promote bulrush and allow the stands to increase the changes could be measured with 1-meter accuracy.

Goodners Lake (73-76)  
Emergent Vegetation  
2003 LakeSurvey



Similarly, if the association decided it wanted to control curled pondweed (an exotic species), the map below shows that it grows to the surface (at the time of peak abundance) over 9.8 acres. Treatment costs can be calculated and strategic areas treated.

