

Gmelin's Watercrowfoot

(*Ranunculus gmelinii*)

- Gmelin's Watercrowfoot is an aquatic buttercup, with medium-sized yellow flowers that open in late July.
- Leaves are divided into numerous segments which become progressively more divided, and more slender, towards the base of the plant and with increasing depth.
- The leaves form extensive tangled underwater masses, while the flowers float.



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Provincial Distribution



Habitat/ Range

Gmelin's Watercrowfoot can be found in muddy riverbanks, ponds, meadows, and marshes. In Newfoundland and Labrador it has only one known location (Robinsons River) and one historic population (Middle Barachois River), both in St. George's Bay. Gmelin's Watercrowfoot is found across Canada, the United States, Japan, Russia, and Mongolia.

Population Trends

The entire known provincial population of Gmelin's Watercrowfoot is contained within a few square meters of unstable habitat in a river floodplain. The Middle Barachois River population has not been re-located during the last six survey attempts, therefore its status and size are unknown. It appears that the Robinsons River population has not changed; it is estimated to contain only 10 individuals.

Limiting Factors and Threats

Both populations are located extremely close to the main town road and adjacent service corridor. Any repairs or changes to the highway, the culvert, or adjacent town services, may pose a serious threat.

Special Significance

Gmelin's Watercrowfoot is one of the rarest species in the province.

You can help protect the Gmelin's Watercrowfoot:

- Support habitat protection for all our rare species.
- If you see a flower, take a picture instead of picking it!

Department of Environment & Conservation

Wildlife Division

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

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