



DOWNEAST COASTAL CONSERVANCY

The Downeast Coastal Conservancy (DCC) maintains and protects Tibbett Island Preserve and also works cooperatively with landowners to protect other land in coastal Washington County from Steuben to Lubec and up to Calais and Rt. 9. This area is part of the last frontier on the Northeast coast of peaceful, untrampled beauty, including forests, woodlands, wetlands, islands, salt marshes, clam flats, fishing villages and working waterfronts.

DCC is a membership organization whose mission is the conservation of natural habitats and resources of the coastal watersheds, islands and communities of Washington County, Maine for present and future generations.

Formed in 2009 through the merger of Great Auk Land Trust and Quoddy Regional Land Trust, Downeast Coastal Conservancy brought together two successful land trusts, each with over 20 years of conservation into a single, stronger organization.

To join DCC, make a charitable contribution, or obtain advice and assistance in conserving your land, please contact us.

DOWNEAST COASTAL CONSERVANCY

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TIBBETT ISLAND PRESERVE



EXPLORE ADDISON!



DOWNEAST
COASTAL
CONSERVANCY

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TIBBETT ISLAND PRESERVE



The acquisition of this stunning public preserve was made possible by generous public, private and Land for Maine's Future support of the Summit, Forest & Seacoast Campaign in 2007 and 2008.

This successful campaign was a joint effort of the Great Auk Land Trust (now DCC) and the Maine Coast Heritage Trust to preserve Pigeon Hill in Steuben, Willard Point in Harrington and Tibbett Island in Addison.

ECOLOGY

Although quite open in 1944, Tibbett now has a rapidly expanding forest cover. The forest occupies roughly the northern 75% of the island. A single species, white spruce (*Picea glauca*), controls the northwest part of the island. Many of the trees are between 50-60 years old, but some are up to 80-90 years of age.

The northeastern part of the island has a great variety of trees, shrubs, and other plants, including green alder (*Alnus viridus*), balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*), and plants found as well in the open areas of the island.

The open, non-forested portion of Tibbett Island harbors the greatest plant diversity, but a small suite of plants predominate. Goldenrod (mostly *Solidago rugosa*), lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*), gooseberry (*Ribes hirtellum*), and New York aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-belgii*) are common. Black crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*) is a dwarf shrub near the south shore. Large or bog cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*) in some years produces a good crop.

No rare plants have been found on Tibbett, but two uncommon species deserve mention. Seaside bluebells (*Mertensia maritima*) forms mats on the shore, with fleshy gray-green leaves and small blue flowers. By late summer the few individual plants on Tibbett measure up to five feet across. This subarctic plant has a limited range and is easily damaged. Arctic blue flag or beachhead iris (*Iris bookeri*) is another subarctic plant found close to the shore in Downeast Maine. This iris occurs near the south shore of Tibbett, along with the common blue flag (*Iris versicolor*).



The shores of Tibbett Island 'collect' trash from the ocean. DCC has a cleanup day on the island nearly every year. You can lend a helping hand on your visit. Carry a small bag and remove some of the debris from the island on your trip.

Please contact the DCC office if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.



VISITOR INFORMATION

Tibbett is a 23-acre island about 600 feet offshore from Moose Neck, at the southern tip of Addison. A public beach owned by the Town of Addison provides easy access to the island. The distance across the narrow channel is so short that small kayaks, skiffs, and similar vessels can make a quick passage, and can launch and land at nearly any level of tide.

PRESERVE GUIDELINES

We welcome your visit to the Tibbett Island Preserve which is open from dawn to dusk. Help us protect this special place by observing the following guidelines:

- Please practice “carry-in/carry-out” and “leave no trace” ethics.
- Visit only during daylight hours and at your own risk.
- Take care when walking along the rocky coast.
- Camping, fires, Balsam Fir tipping and Rockweed harvesting are not allowed.
- Do not feed or disturb wildlife.
- Hand picking of berries is permitted.
- Dogs are not allowed on DCC island properties

GETTING TO TIBBETT ISLAND

Drive south from Columbia Falls or north from Harrington on Rt. 1 and turn toward Addison at the 4 Corners Shopping Center in Columbia. Drive about 2.1 miles and turn left across from the Addison Post Office. Drive 6.5 miles, crossing the Pleasant River and along the East Side Rd. to the Basin Rd—Mooseneck Rd. split. Drive 2.5 miles on Mooseneck Rd. and Narrows Rd. to the parking area.

Cross the narrow channel from the public beach. The distance is short and kayaks, canoes and small boats can make a quick passage at nearly any level of tide.

Thank you for helping preserve Tibbett Island for current & future generations!