

Proposed Additions to Eastern Shore Islands Wildlife Management Area

The Eastern Shore Islands Wildlife Management Area was established in 1977, and expanded in 1991 to include additional islands, in order to secure important nesting habitat for colonial breeding birds.

The Eastern Shore Islands Wildlife Management Area should be expanded again to include islands owned by the Province in Clam Bay. Tobacco Island and the Sugar Islands in Guysborough County, also owned by the Province, should also be included. This is a total of about 40 islands and islets. These islands, shown in red on the above map, have a total area of about 151 hectares. This includes 57 hectares of coastal forest and brush, 70 hectares of barrens, 12 hectares of freshwater wetlands and ponds and 12 hectares of cliffs, dunes, beaches and coastal rocks.

The proposed additions to the Eastern Shore Islands Wildlife Management Area will be managed primarily to maintain their importance to colonial breeding species such as common eider, Leach's storm petrel, and great blue heron. Hunting and trapping will be allowed in season. Access to the islands will be prohibited from April 1 to August 15 each year to prevent disturbing the breeding birds, except for commercial fishers retrieving lost gear or persons with written permission from the Department of Natural Resources.

