

BASS ISLAND A.C.P.F.

UTM Ref. 17TPV243729

Muskoka Township, Gravenhurst
Status: Recommend Heritage Site

Area: 0.4 ha.

Site Characteristics

This small island is located on North Muldrew Lake. It is a rock barren landscape with a shallow, sandy-gravel shoreline supporting few shrubs, plus grass and forb species. Notable among the flora are Atlantic Coastal Plain species of which there were nine. The A.C.P.F. score for this site was 45 which is of moderate significance.

Significant Natural Values and Selection Criteria Met

1. **Rare Species** - (B4) Bass Island provides habitat for the following rare species, all which are A.C.P.F.

Panicum spretum Eaton's Grass [PR, RU]
Elatine minima Water Wort [PR]
Rhexia virginica Virginia Meadow Beauty [NR, PR]
Xyris difformis Slender Yellow-eyed Grass [PR]

In addition, there were four species considered regionally uncommon.

Ownership, Disturbance and Sensitivity

Ownership of the island was not available. It is apparently used by local cottagers as a place to burn garbage once a year. This is potentially a great disturbance and threat to the population of rare species on the island. The sensitivity of this site is related to the presence of A.C.P.F. Policies related to protection of habitat for these species should be applied and the cottagers made aware of the significance of this island habitat.