

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ACQUIRES NEW REFUGE IN MAINE

A rugged 1,700-acre finger-like peninsula on the southeast coast of Maine is being acquired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a partial donation by Mr. and Mrs. William Mague of Petit Manan, Maine, with the help of the Nature Conservancy.

The property, about 15 miles east of Bar Harbor, is considered good breeding habitat for eider ducks and black ducks and is used by other migrating waterfowl. Osprey are regular nesters and bald eagles are frequently seen in the area along with 160 other species of birds.

The peninsula's seven-mile, boulder-strewn shoreline encompasses a gently rolling land surface that is interspersed with bogs, salt ponds, woods, and glacier scarred rocks. It is a generally wild, undeveloped area with only one and a half miles of footpaths.

The Fish and Wildlife Service will make the property part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, officially designating it the Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge. The area will be managed as a natural area, prohibiting vehicles and excessive disturbance by visitors.

The official change of deed to the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service will take place on October 14.

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