

CUTLER COAST

Coastal Trail

Location: Cutler, Washington County

Description of Hike: The Coastal Loop trail is an easy to moderate hike that traverses a figure eight shape. Inland, the trail gently rolls through a variety of habitats from dense spruce-fir forests and cedar swamps to bogs and peat lands. Along the coast, the trail ascends rocky bluffs and dips below high cliffs to stone beaches with spectacular views to the Bay of Fundy and Grand Manan Island. From the cliffs, watch minks, seals, and whales surfacing from the sea. Hike in the early summer and fall for the best views and wildlife sightings.



Directions: From Machias, turn onto Route 191 from Route 1 and follow it south 16.9 miles, through Cutler Village, to the parking area and trailhead located on the right.

Total Distance: 9.8 Miles

Hiking Time: 4.5 Hours

Additional Maps

DeLorme Maine Atlas and Gazetteer Map 27, C-1/2.

Cobscook Trails publishes a guidebook to the Bold Coast Trails and other hiking opportunities in the region. <http://www.qrlt.org/Cobscook%20Trails.htm>.

Local Attractions:

- *Camping* – Spend the night camping at one of the preserve's primitive campsites at Fairy Head which offer views of the ocean.
- *West Quoddy Head* – Travel up the coast to Lubec to see this historic red-and-white striped lighthouse. Picnic on top of the cliffs at Quoddy Head State Park located adjacent to the lighthouse.
- *Birding on Machias Seal Island* – Located at the edge of the gulf of Maine and the Bay of Fundy, this barren island is a sanctuary for seabirds including Atlantic Puffins, Razorbills, Arctic Terns and Eiders.

Sources:

- Land for Maine's Future. Maine State Planning Office.
http://media.informe.org/lmf/projects/project_detail.php?project=1529

LMF Background: A joint purchase in 1989 by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust and The Conservation Fund, the Cutler Coast Public Preserved Land encompasses 12,000 acres of protected lands. The land preserve with rugged coastlines, woodlands, and grasslands provides contiguous habitat for wildlife. Located on the Bold Coast of Maine, the preserve is now managed by the Bureau of Parks and Lands.