

The Seney wilderness provides habitat for many species of wildlife. The bog islands are commonly dominated by a few red pine with some jack pine or aspen. They are usually fringed with thick clumps of alder and in some locations tamarac is found. Black spruce swamps are found along the edges of the bog while thin stands of aspen or jack pine with numerous shrubs share the uplands.

*Wisconsin Islands wilderness.*—The Wisconsin Islands wilderness consists of three small islands in Lake Michigan. Their total landmass is about 29 acres.

The islands within the Wisconsin Islands wilderness proposal are the total landmass of the Green Bay and Gravel Island National Wildlife Refuges, located in Door County, Wis. For over 50 years the Federal Government has protected these islands for their value to nesting birds.

Travel to the islands is difficult and conditions must be nearly perfect before landings are attempted. Thus, these islands have, through natural forces, been preserved from extensive intrusion by man. This factor provides the element which make the islands so ideally suited for colonial nesting birds. Waterfowl, caspian terns, herring gulls, ring-billed gulls, great blue herons, and black-crowned night herons find the solitude necessary to their existence. Access must be curtailed during nesting seasons in the future, as it has been in the past.

These islands are of great interest to scientists, educators, and naturalists. The geology and ecology provide a "control group" for use in research studies of the land areas surrounding Lake Michigan. A case in point is the vegetation of the islands. Ground hemlock, which flourishes on the islands is rapidly disappearing on the mainland. Though seemingly of small impact on the national scene, to the scientist and naturalist these evolutionary changes in our landscape are significant. A place to observe and compare untrammeled areas is a desirable and rapidly disappearing commodity.

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Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge was established by Executive order of President Theodore Roosevelt on March 13, 1903, and was the first refuge in the national wildlife refuge system. An outstanding bird rookery long before its establishment as a refuge, Pelican Island continues to be one of the most important nesting sites for brown pelicans and other water birds in Florida. The refuge originally contained only Pelican Island which is only about 3 acres in extent. Through the years it has been enlarged and presently contains 616 acres in Indian River County, Fla., and is located 75 miles northwest of Palm Beach, Fla.

The Pelican Island wilderness proposal encompasses 403 acres or roughly 66 percent of the entire refuge. All of the proposal lands are on islands, and all are a part of the refuge. No acquisition is proposed, nor are any lands other than those presently administered by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife included as a part of this proposal.

We have recently been informed by the Bureau of Land Management that surveys have been made in this area. These lands, although claimed as Federal property, are subject to the provisions of the Swampland Act of 1850. By virtue of their character, title may have