

Martinique Beach Game Sanctuary



Musquodoboit Harbour is an important staging and wintering area for waterfowl, especially black ducks and Canada geese, and is also used by many other species. While much of the area of the estuary is available for waterfowl hunting, the Martinique Game Sanctuary was established in 1961 for the protection of waterfowl and their habitat at the request of local duck hunters and the Musquodoboit Harbour Board of Trade. The sanctuary is part of the 1925 ha Musquodoboit Harbour Outer Estuary which was designated in 1987 as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Hunting and trapping are prohibited within the Sanctuary.

Located behind Martinique Beach on the western side of the outer estuary, the sanctuary's 507 hectares includes 316 hectares of salt water and coastal wetlands, several islands and a strip of upland along the shore of the estuary. The upland includes 129 hectares of forest, 39 hectares of wetlands, bogs and ponds, 22 hectares of barren and brush, and 0.5 hectare of road and built-up area. The sanctuary is a mix of private and Crown land.