

Dyer Island Narragansett Bay Research Reserve

Background

Dyer Island is a low-lying 28-acre island situated approximately halfway between Aquidneck Island and the south end of Prudence Island. Despite its small size, Dyer Island's ecological value is significant. It supports one of the last remaining salt marshes without mosquito ditches in Rhode Island and is a nesting area for coastal shorebirds including the locally rare American oystercatcher.



This uninhabited island also provides foraging habitat for a variety of shorebirds and was found to support 47 species of seaweed – species diversity second only to Rose Island in Narragansett Bay.

History of Dyer Island

Little is known of Dyer Island's history. In September 2001, Dyer was acquired for preservation and incorporation into the Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve using state and NOAA funds. It will be used in perpetuity for research, monitoring, education, and passive recreation.