



Fact Sheet

Derby Cove & Callisto Canyon Public Use Cabins



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation
May 2014

LOCATIONS

Derby Cove Cabin is the northerly-facing beach on the west side of Resurrection Bay, within Caines Head State Recreation Area, approximately five hiking miles from the trail head at Lowell Point and 7 miles from the Seward small boat harbor. The cabin sits at the rear of the beach within a grove of spruce and hemlock. A trail leads from the north side of the beach along the hillside, across the small creek to the front porch of the cabin.

Callisto Canyon Cabin is located four hiking miles from Lowell Point and 6 miles from the Seward small boat harbor. The cabin is located at the south end of the broad beach between Derby Cove and Tonsina Point near the hillside.

ACCESS

The cabins can be reached by the coastal tidal trail, private boat, floatplane, or commercial water taxi service. Those planning to hike to the cabin should come prepared to work around the tides. The coastal trail begins at Lowell Point at the Lowell Point State Recreation Site trailhead and upper-parking area. The trail leads two miles to Tonsina Point where the tidal trail begins. The next one and one-half miles must be crossed at a **plus 4 foot low tide or lower** during the summer months and a **plus 3 foot low tide or lower** during winter months, to avoid getting stranded between the sea and the cliffs. Be familiar with the tides and get started 2 hours prior to the outgoing side of a low tide. Consult the Cordova or Seward District tides for the correct tide and times.

At all times of the year the tidal trail is characterized by the presence of rocks and cobbles normally covered with sea grasses and kelp. These plants make the rocks extremely slippery to walk on. Please use caution as you walk along the tidal areas, avoiding these rocks and utilizing sandy areas whenever possible.

During winter months, be prepared to travel across snow on the trail before Tonsina Point and near the cabins, travel on icy rock beaches, travel through snow slide areas, deal with stronger wave and storm conditions and experience more frequent storm surges that may raise the tide level. Therefore we recommend only traveling by foot at a plus 3-foot low tide or lower during daylight hours. The wood stove should not be lit unless the stove pipe on the roof is clear of snow to allow proper venting.

If using a private boat, please use the caution necessary for coastal Alaskan waters with respect to tides, weather, currents and your party's abilities and experience level. The waters of Resurrection Bay are generally choppy in afternoons and become hazardous to small watercraft. No mooring buoys exist at either cabin. Anchoring is at your own risk. If pulling a kayak, inflatable or small skiff ashore, be sure to secure your boat to avoid losing it at high tide or to surf conditions.

A charter boat shuttle is available at Miller's Landing at Lowell Point. Arrangements can be made with them for drop-offs and pick-ups.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The **Derby Cove** cabin has two sets of full size bunk beds with a capacity to sleep eight people. A table, benches, counters and cabinets are provided. A wood stove for heating is also available. You will need to supply your own firewood. An axe and saw may not be available at the cabin due to thefts, so plan on being equipped to split and cut your own wood. The cabin sits along side a stream that originates in the alpine snow pack; please boil or treat all water before drinking.

The latrine is located on the opposite side of the creek. Plan on providing your own toilet paper should none be found at the latrine.

The **Callisto Canyon** cabin has two sets of full size bunk beds with a capacity to sleep eight people. A table, benches, and a counter are furnished, along with a wood stove. An ax and saw may not be available at the cabin due to thefts, so plan on being equipped to split and cut your own wood.

A small stream flows through Callisto Canyon, but water may not be easily retrievable from it since for the majority of the year it disappears into the ground about a half mile up into the canyon. Therefore the closest fresh water source to the cabin is a small stream located on the hillside directly southwest of the cabin. Another water source is located south of Callisto Canyon approximately 400 yards down the beach. A moderate waterfall empties onto the beach here and is a dependable source of water throughout the year. To reach it you must walk out onto the shore, so plan on filling any water containers only during low tides. Please boil or treat all water before drinking.

The latrine is located almost directly behind the cabin. Plan on providing your own toilet paper should none be found at the latrine.

RESERVATIONS

Reservations can be made on line at www.alaskastateparks.org, in person at our Public Information Center offices located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau or at the nearest State Park office. Alaska residents can make reservations 7 months to the day in advance of the first night stay and non-residents 6 months to the day in advance, Monday through Friday beginning at 10:00 a.m. Alaska time. Advance reservations cannot be made on weekends or State holidays, but can be made the next business day. All other cabin reservations can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Reservation requests can also be mailed or faxed. Credit cards (MasterCard/Visa/Discover) are accepted for payment when making reservations on line, mailing or faxing reservation requests or when paying in person at our Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau offices.

Reservations are not accepted over the phone. However, changes or cancellation can be done by phone or in person. A change to or cancellation of a reservation for a Public Use Cabin must be done at least 48 hours in advance of the start of the reservation in order for the customer to receive a credit. If making a change or cancellation by phone, the cabin reservation number must be provided. If done in person, the original reservation must be presented. If the cancellation or change of a cabin reservation is due to a family emergency or severe weather conditions, the 48 hour notification requirement may be waived. Otherwise, without the 48 hour notification, a

reservation cannot be cancelled or changed and a credit issued. Cabin credits are good for one year from date of issue. Refunds are not issued.

Cabin rental fee is \$70 per night. Each cabin can accommodate up to eight people with a stay limit of seven (7) nights. Tent camping is **not** permitted within 400 feet of the cabin sites. Camping is allowed along the beach berm. No person may enter, use or occupy a State Public Use Cabin without a paid, valid permit in their possession. **Check-In/Check-Out time is 12:00 Noon.**

The Alaska State Park office nearest the Caines Head Public Use Cabins is:

Kenai/Prince William Sound Area Office
 PO Box 1247
 Soldotna, AK 99669
 Phone: 907-262-5581

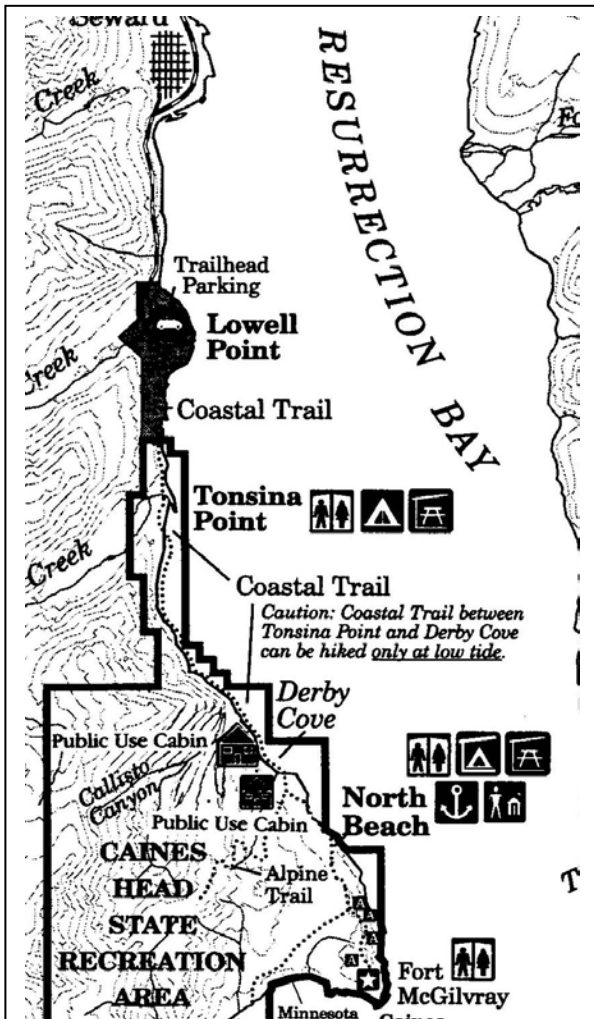
(Located at Morgan's Landing State Recreation Area, off mile 85 of the Sterling Highway)

For further information, contact one of the Public Information Centers listed below.

DNR - PIC
 550 W 7th Ave., Suite 1260
 Anchorage, AK 99501
 Phone: 907-269-8400
 Fax: 907-269-8901
 TDD: 907-269-8411

DNR - PIC
 3700 Airport Way
 Fairbanks, AK 99709
 Phone: 907-561-2705
 Fax: 907-451-2706
 TDD: 907-451-2770

DETAILED AREA MAP



GENERAL AREA MAP

