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UNDER WAY



Drop Anchor Here

Summer dock space can be quite limited in the Thousand Islands, located in the St. Lawrence River in an area that straddles the U.S. and Canadian borders. Experienced local cruisers often try to secure a dock by midday and, if successful, they don't move on weekends. Anchoring opportunities, on the other hand, are virtually unlimited.

This anchorage (pictured), located just west of McDonald Island in the Admiralty group, is a typical Thousand Islands anchorage. Depth is between 10 and 20 feet and it's protected on all sides. The longest open fetch faces north and is about a half mile in length. The anchorage, which held a dozen boats the weekend we spent there last summer, could have easily accommodated three times that many.

We spent 36 hours sitting out small-craft-warning weather with sustained west winds of 25 to 30 knots, gusting higher. The chop never got higher than six inches in our protected space.

When friends ask how we pass the time there, it's difficult to come up with a succinct reply. If we tell them we read, swim, and watch the world go by, it makes the experience sound dull. Describing sunsets and moonrises verbally is impossible. What I do tell them is to check their anchoring gear and next summer, head for the Thousand Islands.

D.J. Platt



D.J. PLATT, MAP BY SHANNON CAIN TUMINO

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAH NAUTICS