



Michigan's
Nonpoint Source
Program

**Federal Clean Water Act
Section 205(j) Grant
2017-0106**



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Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Protection Plan Update

1/2/18 through 3/31/21

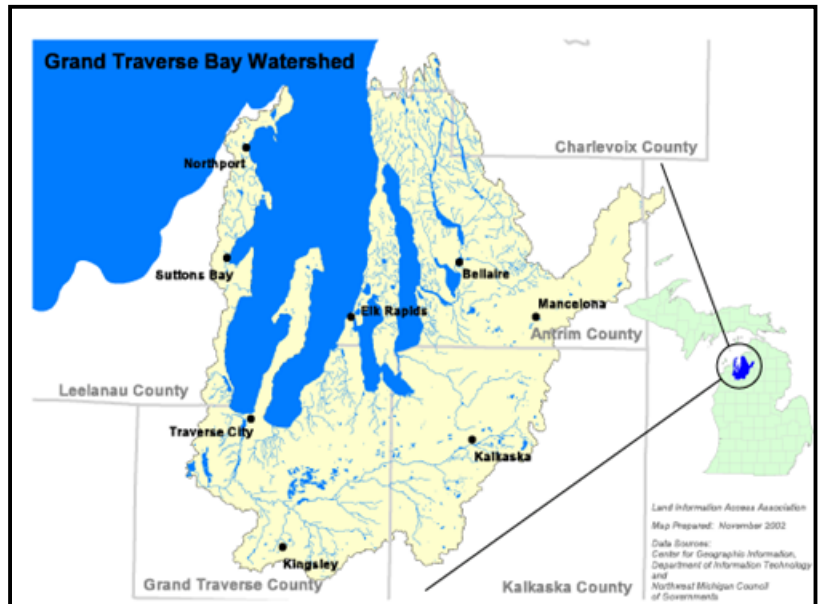
The Grand Traverse Bay watershed drains 976 mi² and its land use is predominantly forest (50%) and agriculture (19%). The original Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Protection Plan (GTBWPP), completed in 2005, was highly successful, with \$20 million and counting spent on implementing priority tasks. Since then, management plans for the two largest subwatersheds in the Grand Traverse Bay watershed (Boardman River and Elk River Chain of Lakes) have been completed, which account for nearly 81% of the land area.

This project updated the existing 2005 GTBWPP with a focus on Mitchell, Tobeco, Acme, and Yuba Creeks, as well as shoreline areas along Grand Traverse Bay, totaling 190 mi². The new plan will be called the Coastal Grand Traverse Bay Watershed Plan. The Grand Traverse Bay Region's economy and quality of life are directly tied to its water resources which are threatened from development and increased stormwater runoff carrying nutrients and sediments. Long-term watershed planning from this project will help strengthen and protect the water quality and natural resources that fuel the economy and help our region address the growing pressures of development for the next 10 years.

Grant Amount:	\$51,500
Match Funds:	\$14,600
Total Amount:	\$66,100

Partners involved:

Conservation Resource Alliance; Land Information Access Association; Northwestern Michigan College Water Studies Institute; Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy; Leelanau Conservancy; Antrim, Grand Traverse and Leelanau Conservation Districts; Natural Resources Conservation Service; Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Inland Seas Education Association; Michigan Sea Grant Program; local governments; and lake associations



Priority Areas

Tier 1 Priority Areas for land protection were drafted and submitted via maps by both the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (509 acres) and Leelanau Conservancy (4,915 acres).

Additional Priority Areas: Critical Dunes; Undeveloped Parcels Along Grand Traverse Bay Shoreline; Headwaters of Acme Creek and Cedar Lake; Wetlands; Grand Traverse Bay Spawning Reefs

Critical Areas

General: Grand Traverse Bay Shoreline; Riparian Corridors; City/Village Centers

Specific: Areas of Bacterial Impairment (Mitchell Creek GT County, Mitchell Creek Antrim County, Northport Creek); Urban Sprawl; Severe Road Crossings; High Risk Erosion Areas; Wetland Development Pressure; Coastal Infrastructure Challenges; Macrophyte Bed Clusters; Compromised At-Risk Streams; Small Dam Locations; Agriculture Lands in Headwaters of Tobeco and Mitchell Creeks

Grand Traverse Bay Subwatershed Map

