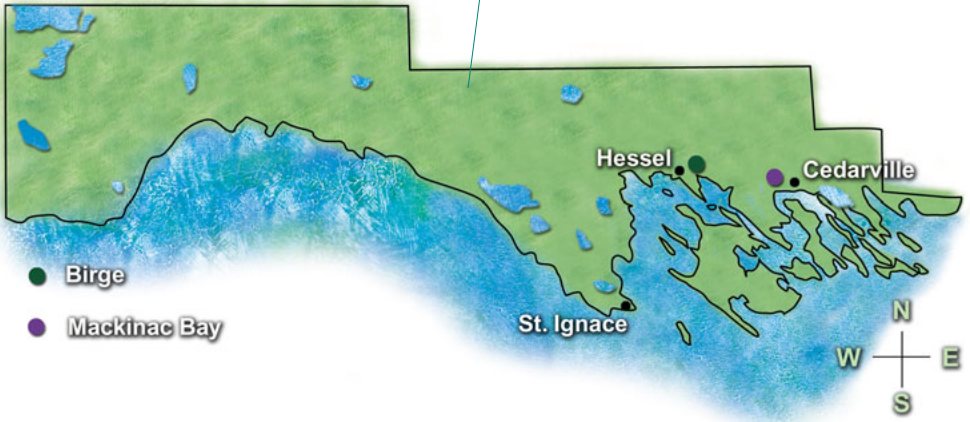
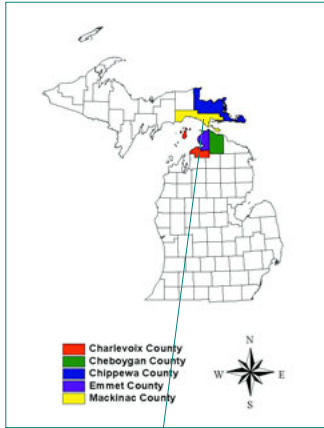


map of MACKINAC COUNTY PRESERVES



Birge Nature Preserve



Size: 275 acres

Water frontage:

1.2 miles frontage Lake Huron

Characteristics: The

northern Lake Huron shoreline is some of the most biologically productive habitat in Michigan.

Accessibility: A short, quarter mile trail and boardwalk leads to Loon Lake.

The Birge Nature Preserve, located approximately two miles west of Hessel in the Les Cheneaux region, is part of an impressive complex of cedar wetlands, hardwoods, a small lake, and more than 6,400 feet of frontage on Mismar Bay. The Conservancy received the original 171-acre preserve on Point Brulee as a donation from long-time Hessel residents Oliver and Edna Birge. In 1998 and 1999, two adjacent purchases were made.

According to Oliver Birge, the old wheel road that crosses the property is part of the oldest road in the area. A short trail to Loon Lake provides opportunities to see beaver, bald eagles, osprey, and many other mammals and birds. Tree swallows are quite common, and the wetland along the road leading to the preserve has dozens of tree swallow boxes.

Many native wildflower species are abundant at the Birge Preserve. Orchids, lady slippers, gentian, asters, marsh marigold, Indian paintbrush, and iris, among many others, can be found throughout the property.

Directions: From the Mackinac Bridge follow I-75 North about 14 miles to M-134. Take M-134 east 13 miles to Hessel. From Hessel take M-134 west roughly 2 miles to Point Brulee Road. Follow Point Brulee Road $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. The preserve is on both sides of the road.



Mackinac Bay Nature Preserve



Size: 22 acres

Frontage: 1,320 feet Lake Huron

Characteristics: This northern section of Lake Huron coastline is some of the most biologically productive habitat found in the state.

Accessibility: A parking area is directly off of M-134, providing a handicap-accessible marsh overlook.

Freshwater marshes play a pivotal role in the aquatic ecosystem of the lakes, storing and cycling nutrients and organic material from the land into the aquatic food web, and, given recent research on water-bred midges as a major food source for neotropical migratory songbirds, back out to the terrestrial systems. The marshes throughout the region sustain important populations of bird, mammal, herptile, and invertebrate species. Most of the Great Lakes' fish species depend on the coastal wetlands for some portion of their life cycles.

The Mackinac Bay Preserve consists of 22 acres of land that will never be developed. Its protection, in 1994, occurred through a partnership of the Les Cheneaux Foundation, the Little Traverse Conservancy, and the Michigan chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Management of the property is supported by the Les Cheneaux Beautification Committee.

Directions: From the Mackinac Bridge follow I-75 North about 14 miles to M-134. Take M-134 east 13 miles to Hessel. Continue east on M-134. The preserve is less than ½ mile past Hessel on the right side.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
Round Island Point Nature Preserve

Size: 710 acres

Water frontage: 9,000 feet Lake Superior

Characteristics: This is the Conservancy's largest preserve and includes lake frontage as well as bluffs overlooking beautiful vistas.

Accessibility: While much of this preserve is rugged and difficult to access, a paved road bisects the property and takes you within a short distance of the lake. Plans are underway to create a short trail and viewing area to a bluff overlooking Lake Superior.

Such a large block of protected habitat in the Upper Peninsula provides excellent wildlife habitat for many large mammals including black bear, wolves, moose, bobcat, and others. In addition, the property lies within a major flyway for migrating waterfowl and other birds. The original 460 acres of the property was donated to the Michigan chapter of The Nature Conservancy by the Finlayson family. In 2000, The Nature Conservancy transferred the land to Little Traverse Conservancy and, subsequently, LTC fundraised to purchase 210-acre and 40-acre additions.

Directions: From Sault Ste. Marie, head south on Hwy. 75 to exit 392. Travel approximately 1 mile and turn left (south) on 20th street (S. Bakerside Road) and then travel 3 miles and turn right on 6 Mile Road. Go 5 miles and turn right (north) on Birch Point Road (east loop). Go for ½ mile and turn right onto a paved road. This is the property's road, which extends for one mile.



Other Preserves in Mackinac County

Clark Township Beach

To provide public beach, these two lots were purchased using funds from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, with assistance provided by the Conservancy. The beach is now owned and managed by Clark Township.



Les Cheneaux Club Preserve

In 2001, the Les Cheneaux Club donated approximately 165 acres on Marquette Island to the Conservancy to ensure the property's perpetual safekeeping. The property includes 1.3 miles of Lake Huron frontage and provides critical habitat for neotropical migrants.



Les Cheneaux Foundation Preserve

In 2000, the Les Cheneaux Foundation donated 60 acres of land on Marquette Island to the Conservancy. The protected land includes .4 miles of Lake Huron shoreline. A conservation easement on the land is held by the foundation.



Poupard Bay

This one-acre preserve, donated in 1995 by Frank and Blanche Easterlin, includes frontage on Lake Michigan and Highway 2, as well as habitat for dwarf lake iris.

Sheppard-Hardy Nature Preserve

Katharine, Christine, and Nancy Sheppard donated this 21-acre parcel in 1993. Forest, wetland, and a quarter mile of Lake Huron frontage characterize this parcel. Protection of this property preserves the most scenic and undeveloped entrance to the Les Cheneaux islands. In 1995 a 21-acre addition with an additional quarter mile of frontage was donated by the Les Cheneaux Foundation.



St. Helena Island

In 2001, the Conservancy purchased the 266-acre St. Helena Island located within the Straits of Mackinac, just 6½ miles west of the Mackinac Bridge. A three-acre light station is owned and managed by the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association. The island was purchased from the Brown and Wallich families who owned it for decades.



Tamlyn Nature Preserve

This wetland parcel is located on the north shore of Lake Michigan about four miles west of St. Ignace. The two-acre property has approximately 600 feet of frontage on Lake Michigan and 600 feet on Gros Cap Road. Howard and Marjorie Tamlyn donated the land in 1992.

Les Cheneaux Islands



Other Preserves in Chippewa County

Ashmun Bay

The Conservancy helped the city of Sault Ste. Marie prepare a successful grant request to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to purchase this 50 acres and 1,800 feet of St. Mary's River frontage from Edison Sault Electric. The property is a public park and boat launch site.



Badgley Nature Preserve

This half-acre preserve consists of delicate wetlands surrounding the channel that connects Little Trout Lake with Carp Lake. Located near the 60-acre Muir Woods Preserve, this parcel is associated with historic Birch Lodge, which was in operation until 1984. It was donated in 1991 by Anna Badgley.



Cook Island Nature Preserve

Located on the northwest shore of Sugar Island with more than 2,500 feet of frontage on the St. Mary's River, these 38 acres of wetlands were donated to the Conservancy in 1993 by Donald and Margaret Fedrigo, Melbourne and Donna Amo, A. Nelson and Elanor Dingle, Jacob and Jeanne Dunlap, Erich Graff, George and Marlene Green, Robert and Anne Hofmann, and Donald and Jean Thiel. In 1996, the Koren Family donated an additional 20 acres through the Michigan chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

Muir Woods Nature Preserve

Sixty-one acres of upland hardwood ridges and a 10-acre lake constitute this Upper Peninsula preserve. The parcel also has about one mile of Carp River frontage as it flows out of Mud Lake. Wishing to protect the wetlands and provide an area for nature study, Emery Muir donated this property in 1986.



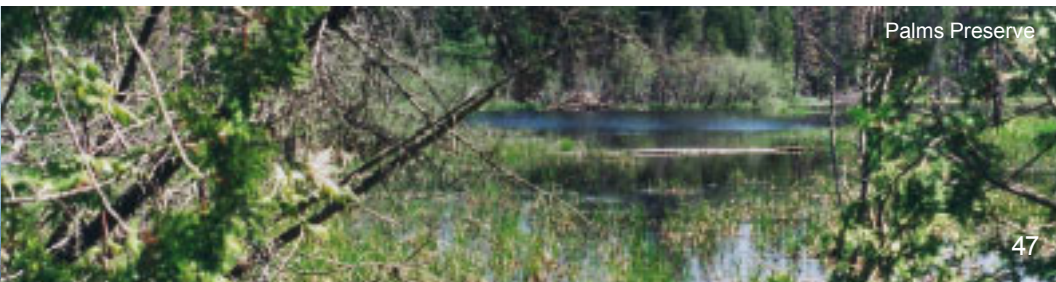
Jinny Palms Preserve

Situated a mile inland from Lake Superior, this 360-acre preserve borders other protected properties which together provide for the protection of two square miles of land. Abundant wildlife including moose and bear utilize the primitive land as habitat. Most of the funds for the land's purchase in 2001 came from Jeannine Palms, who named the preserve in memory of her mother. The preserve is located approximately nine miles north of Tahquamenon Falls and 11 miles west of the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory in Paradise.



Whitefish Point

Thanks to a bargain sale and funds from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, the Conservancy purchased 144 acres adjacent to the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory property and transferred it to the State of Michigan in 1994.



Palms Preserve