



Love the land. *Pass it on.*

December, 2019



## HOLIDAY WOODS NATURAL AREA (PROPOSED)

This exciting project builds upon a community-driven effort to safeguard beloved natural land in a highly populated area and would provide another excellent passive recreational opportunity on the east side of the Traverse City area.

The Holiday Woods Natural Area will incorporate the existing 80-acre Holiday Woodlands Preserve, which was secured by a citizens group using a loan in early 2018, and add 65 additional acres of natural land between that preserve and the Mt. Holiday Ski Area. The combined 145-acre recreation area has excellent potential for improved trails and would permanently protect land used informally by nearby residents for many years. If protected, the entire recreation area will be owned by East Bay Township.

The portion of the proposed recreation area adjacent to Mt. Holiday already contains a rudimentary trail system and has been used for some time by the Mud, Sweat and Beers mountain bike race. Trail improvement is likely, and nearby Mt. Holiday has agreed to cover trail maintenance if the property is protected. Aside from recreation potential, the proposed Holiday Woods Natural Area has about 1,800 feet of frontage on Bakers Creek, a coldwater tributary of East Grand Traverse Bay, and contains wetlands that connect to the much larger wetland complex on the south end of East Bay.

East Bay Township has received a \$584,800 grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to cover a portion of the overall cost of this project. The Conservancy will fundraise less than \$100,000 for a local match to the grant, along with immediate stewardship needs, environmental due diligence, costs tied to land acquisition and other expenses.

### Your gift will:

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- **Permanently protect natural land long enjoyed by local residents**
  - **Provide a boost to recreational opportunities in the immediate vicinity of Traverse City**
  - **Safeguard water quality in Grand Traverse Bay by protecting wetlands and substantial undeveloped creek frontage**
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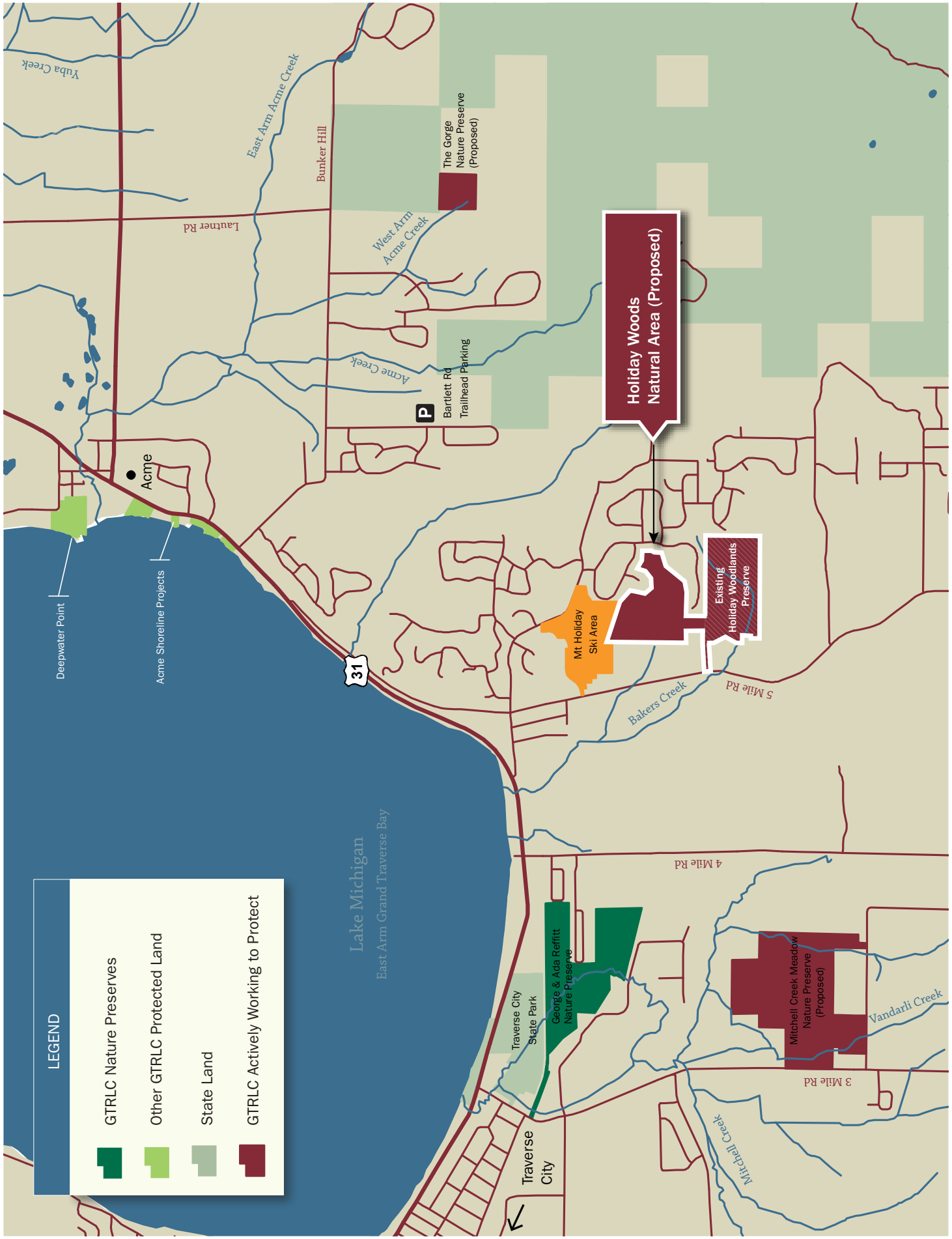


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**LEGEND**

- GTRLC Nature Preserves
- Other GTRLC Protected Land
- State Land
- GTRLC Actively Working to Protect