

The proposed Grand Traverse Bay Underwater Preserve

A Fund of the



Grand Traverse Regional
community foundation

Working to establish itself as the 12th Michigan Underwater Preserve and keep underwater tourism afloat in the Grand Traverse Area

The proposed Grand Traverse Bay Underwater Preserve will:

- Encompass both East and West Bay
- Document and mark the 8 known shipwrecks in the bays to be easily identified by scuba divers and snorklers
- Purchase equipment to find and identify additional historic underwater sites in the bays
- Promote Grand Traverse Bay historical maritime heritage
- Bring awareness to the economic benefits, both local and state, of increased underwater tourism
- Supplement existing dive sites in the bays by sinking a Great Lakes related ship or aircraft as an additional dive attraction



Short Term Goals of the proposed Grand Traverse Bay Underwater Preserve

- Identify dive sites with mooring buoys.
- Create dive map to each site for divers and tourists
- Conduct an archeological survey of bays to locate additional historic underwater sites and their origins.
- Host the First Annual Underwater Tourism Summit.
- Actively promote underwater tourism in GT

Currently, Michigan is ranked 13th nationally, behind both Ohio and Illinois, as desirable dive destinations, yet Michigan has 38,000 square miles of bottomlands to be explored (four times more than any other GREAT LAKE state)