

Trails across Northern Michigan

News Update: March 2014

A grant received by the Top of Michigan Trails Council was used to collect trail data in a 21-county area of Northern Lower Michigan. Trail data was collected for federal, state and local trails. Other grants were received to map point attribute data such as parks, nature areas and preserves, trail heads, parking lots, restrooms, water, shelters, restaurants, food, lodging, bike shops, motorized vehicle repair, sporting goods stores, and many other points.

Our group intends to create a northern Michigan trails identity and an interactive mapping website which contains detailed information on all types of trail systems in northern Michigan as well as information about the things to do and see and services available around the trail systems. We are planning a tourism-based trails website that is unlike anything that northern Michigan currently has to offer. This website will be a one-stop shop for all types of trail systems where users can access maps, helmet camera videos, trail information such as segment length, difficulty, surface, and condition, and nearby points of interest and services. In addition, the website will contain an interactive mapping component which will allow users to design their own maps based on the desired trail type and points of interest that they choose.

Miles Mapped by the Up North Trails Initiative:

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Hiking: 1,817 | Horse: 435 | ORV Trails: 978 |
| Biking: 921 | Snowmobile: 2,072 | Motorcycle Trails: 1,917 |
| Skiing: 1,247 | ORV Routes: 370 | TOTAL: 5,334 |

Project Area: 21 Counties in Northern Lower Michigan



Trail Data Collected

TRAIL TYPES

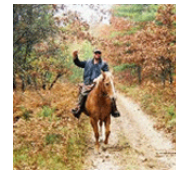
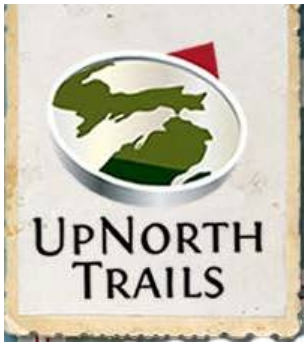
- Hiking Trails
- Biking Trails
- Skiing Trails
- Horse Trails
- ORV Trails & Routes
- Motorcycle Trails
- Snowmobile Trails

DATA FIELDS

1. Trail Name (Trail Name 2 and 3 if trail serves multiple uses)
2. Use Type
3. Segment/Loop Name
4. Surface Type
5. Grooming Status (yes/no)
6. Groom Type
7. Bike Type
8. Organization Responsible
9. Terrain
10. Segment Length
11. System Length
12. Data Source
13. Website Link

GIS DATA PROCEDURE:

- Trails were segmented by loop, if loops existed.
- Trails were segmented by intersection within the trail systems and by intersection with other trail systems.
- Trails were segmented by change in surface type, if known.
- Trails were segmented by change in named trail system.
- Each vertex connects – no existing gaps.
- Each segment has unique number for database purposes.



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Stakeholder Groups Involved

1. **Top of Michigan Trails Council ***
2. **Land Information Access Association ***
3. **Northeast Michigan Council of Governments***
4. **Northwest Michigan Council of Governments***
5. **Cheboygan County***
6. **TART Trails***
7. **Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy***
8. Eastern UP Planning & Development Commission
9. Michigan Department of Transportation
10. Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
11. MSU Extension
12. Michigan Department of Natural Resources
13. Michigan State University Extension
14. Michigan Trails & Greenways Alliance
15. Travel Michigan
16. US 23 Heritage Route
17. North Country Trail Association
18. Michigan Municipal League
19. Indian River Chamber of Commerce
20. Michigan Trail Riders Association
21. Presque Isle County Development Commission
22. Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
23. Mackinaw Area Chamber of Commerce
24. Topinabee Development Association
25. Village of Mackinaw City
26. Emmet County
27. Corwith Township
28. Burt Lake Trail Committee
29. City of Grayling
30. Crawford County Trails Committee
31. Briley Township
32. Rogue Industrial Services
33. Lake to Lake Charlevoix Trail
34. City of Alpena
35. MSU 4-H Youth Development
36. Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce
37. Northern Lakes Economic Alliance
38. USDA - Forest Service
39. Indian River & Tip of the Mitt Snowmobile Grooming Council
40. Michigan Snowmobile Association
41. North Central Michigan College
42. Troll 4-Wheelers
43. Cheboygan Chamber of Commerce
44. Otsego County Economic Alliance
45. Michigan Mountain Biking Association
46. Grayling Visitor's Bureau
47. Higgins Lake Roscommon Chamber of Commerce
48. St. Helen Snowpackers
49. Two Trackers Four-Wheel Drive Association
50. Brown Trout Festival
51. Roscommon County EDC
52. Albert Township
53. West Branch Area Chamber of Commerce
54. Numerous other individual stakeholders (totaling over 100)

***Executive Committee Member**

Point Assets:

1. Trailheads
2. Parks
3. Natural Area/Preserve
4. Wildlife Sanctuary/Refuge/Viewing
5. Camping
6. Beach
7. Parking
8. Shelter/Refuge
9. Drinking water
10. Restrooms
11. Historic Site/Museum
12. Sports Facility
13. Water Access Points
14. Gas
15. ATV/ORV Sales & Repair
16. Snowmobile Sales & Service
17. Outfitter/Sporting Goods
18. Bike Shops
19. Emergency/Health Care
20. Lodging
21. Food
22. Shopping

Point assets will come online in phases – public assets first, then private business assets.

*For more information, please contact
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