



June 6, 2014

To: John Bacon
8135 White Cliff Rd.
Egg Harbor, WI 54209

Ref: Grand Traverse Islands National Lakeshore

Mr. Bacon;

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Delta County Chamber of Commerce as a sign of our complete support to your proposal for the Grand Traverse Islands National Lakeshore. Our main mission in Delta County is to better the quality of life of our residents. We sincerely believe this project would be a certain asset to our community, as well as Michigan and Wisconsin as a whole.

Tourism plays a huge role in our local economy. Every year thousands of people travel to Delta County to enjoy the scenic waterways of the Bays de Noc of Lake Michigan. Many of these outdoor enthusiasts have a passion for the beauty and historical significance of our maritime lighthouses. The Grand Traverse Islands are home to five 19th century lighthouses, which we feel are worth protecting. Along with sustaining and nurturing the immense wildlife habitat of the islands, creating a National Lakeshore would create a natural attraction which would have a positive economic impact on our area.

We would suggest, at the very least, the National Park Service should conduct a Special Resource Study of the area to determine if the islands are suitable for the National Lakeshore designation.

Please know we stand by your success and offer our services to help you in any way.

Sincerely,

TJ Thomas

TJ Thomas
Delta County Chamber of Commerce