



LOWER WOODCOCK LAKE NATURE PRESERVE

Trail and Water Access Improvements

June, 2021

Love the land. *Pass it on.* 

Plans are in place for an expanded trail system and other infrastructure at the beautiful and ecologically important Lower Woodcock Lake preserve, a 230-acre jewel in the Platte River watershed.

Conservancy staff built a short 0.8-mile loop trail around the time the preserve opened to the public in 2020. While the trail is enjoyable, there is potential for other high quality experiences. Now, the hope is to give visitors the opportunity to better engage with this special place by taking them around the lake as well as deep into beautiful, healthy forests to the south. Plans call for roughly three more miles of trail, some of which has already been built with the help of dedicated GTRLC volunteers.

The new trail will allow users to experience the multiple habitat types (including five upland and six distinct wetland habitat types) that make this preserve such a special place. Portions of this new trail may be periodically closed to protect nesting raptors, which have been documented on the property. Plans also call for a floating dock that will more sensitively allow the launch of non-motorized boats, along with two bridges that will span the lake's outlet into the Platte River and inlet from Upper Woodcock Lake.

The goal of this project is to both protect the sensitive habitats found here and help foster an appreciation for them by providing better access. If fundraising is successful, the goal is to have this project done by the end of the year.

Your gift will:

- **Allow visitors to better engage with an ecologically important property**
- **Help protect wildlife by providing guidance to passive recreational activities at this sensitive preserve**
- **Expand outdoor opportunities in eastern Benzie County**

The total cost of this project, which is included in the *Campaign for Generations*, is **\$248,477***.

Thanks to a generous matching challenge from the Bondy Family Charitable Giving Fund, your gift will be doubled, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$16,000!

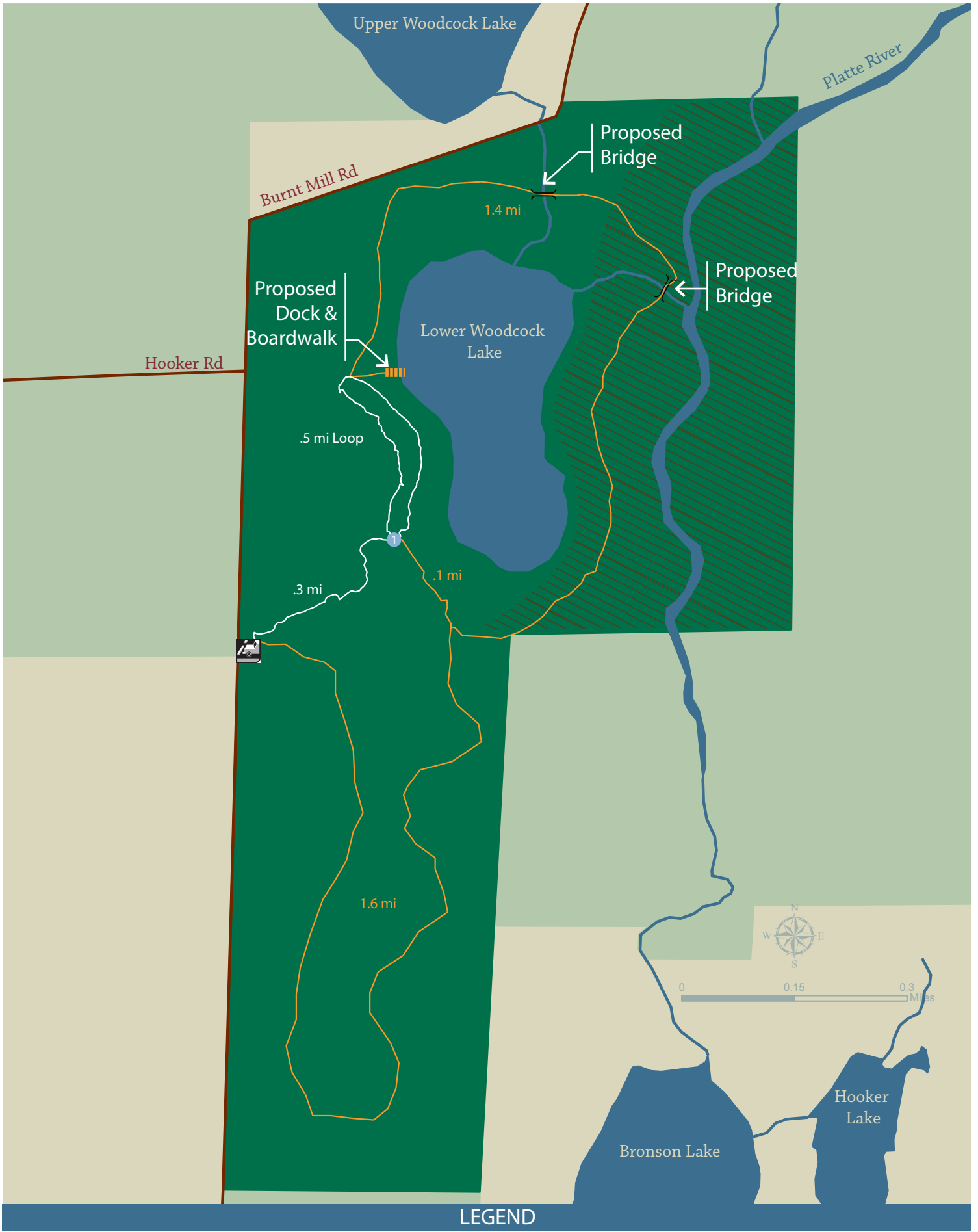


SUPPORT THIS PROJECT

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**In the event that fundraising support for a project exceeds the original project fundraising goal, the Conservancy will allocate the overage to purposes that the Conservancy determines further its mission, such as organizational costs, to protect additional land, or to care for the long-term stewardship of protected land.*



LEGEND

	GTRLC Nature Preserves		Other Public Land		Sensitive Bird Nesting Habitat
	Parking Area		Scenic View		Trail Map
	Proposed Trails		Hiking Trails		