



Buffalo Harbor, NY

Harbor Features

- Located on Lake Erie in the city of Buffalo, Erie County, New York
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 1826, 1866, 1874, 1896, 1899, 1900, 1902, 1907, 1909, 1910, 1912, 1919, 1927, 1930, 1935, 1945, 1960, 1962 and Water Resources Development Acts (WRDA) of 1986, 1988 and 2007
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Authorized depths are 23-30 feet in the outer harbor and 22 feet in the river
- Five year average (2008-2012) tonnage of 1.18M tons of material shipped and received
- Ranked 23rd among the Great Lakes Harbors based on five year average (2008-2012) tonnage
- 141st leading U.S. port in 2012
- Interconnected with 9 commercial ports: ships to 1 port, and receives from 8 ports
- Over 4.5 miles of breakwater structures
- 5.5 miles of Federal channel on the Buffalo River
- A confined disposal facility (CDF) is located adjacent to the south entrance channel
- Major stakeholders include the Port of Buffalo, U.S. Coast Guard, General Mills, Exxon-Mobil, Lafarge Cement and Founders Supplies, Incorporated

Project Requirements

- Approximately 140,000 cubic yards (CY) of material must be dredged every 2 years. The harbor was last dredged in 2011-2012 when approximately 556,000 CY of material was removed. This project included the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funded removal of 452,000 CY of backlog dredged material from the Federal channel. Maintenance dredging is scheduled to be completed in 2015



- Great Lakes Legacy Act (GLLA) environmental dredging of approximately 462,000 cubic yards outside the Federal Channel is scheduled to be completed in December 2014. A goal of the project is for future year Buffalo River dredging to be suitable for placement in the open lake, resulting in reduced O&M costs for the Buffalo Harbor in addition to significant environmental benefits
- Initiation of a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) is required to determine future sediment placement needs given the recent GLRI and GLLA projects.
- Deteriorated sections of the South Breakwater and CDF #4 require repairs to restore proper function of the structures

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Reduction of bulk commodities that pass through the harbor and generate \$50M annually in direct revenue while supporting 410 direct, indirect, and induced jobs that produce over \$36M per year in personal income

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- If the harbor was closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 32,358 tons of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$490,000 due to increased railroad related accidents, and \$3,695,000 due to increased trucking related accidents

- Light loading; losses of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth would result in increased transportation costs of between \$140,000 and \$460,000 annually

Transportation Importance

- Major receiving and shipping port on the Great Lakes; and Critical Harbor of Refuge.
- Commodities shipped or received include aggregates, limestone, salt, grain, cement, and ores and minerals

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, 2015 and 2016
Buffalo Harbor, New York - Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$1,000)**

| Work Package | GLRI Funds | FY14 Requirement | FY14 Appropriation | FY15 Requirement | FY15 Appropriation | FY16 Requirement | FY16 President’s Budget |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Maintenance Dredging | 5,270 | 1,420 | 1,406 | | | | |
| Interim Repair CDF #4 | 3,435 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | | |
| DMMP | | | | | | 500 | |
| E&D South Breakwater Repair (1,800 LF) | | 300 | | | | 320 | 320 |
| Critical Maintenance of Coastal Navigation Structures & Obstruction Removal – CDF #4 | | | | 1,040 | 1,040 | | |
| Sediment Sampling and Analysis | | | | 160 | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 8,705 | 1,970 | 1,656 | 1,450 | 1,290 | 820 | 320 |

Congressional Interests

- Representative Brian Higgins D-NY-26
- Senator Charles Schumer D-NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D-NY