



## Black Rock Lock and Tonawanda Harbor, NY

### Harbor Features

- Located on the Niagara River in the city of Buffalo, Erie County, New York
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 1888, 1902, 1905, 1916, 1919, 1922, 1925, 1934, 1935, 1945 and 1954
- Deep draft commercial project
- Project depths are 21 feet in the Niagara River Channel and 16 feet in Tonawanda Harbor Channels.
- The Black Rock Lock and Channel permit pleasure craft and commercial vessels to travel between Buffalo Harbor and Tonawanda Harbor
- The Black Rock Lock can accommodate pleasure craft and commercial vessels up to 625 feet long with drafts up to 21 feet
- 71k tons of material shipped and received in 2013
- The Bird Island Pier is approximately 2 miles long and forms the west side of the Black Rock Channel
- The Black Rock Channel is a 3.5 mile Federal channel connecting Buffalo Harbor and Black Rock Lock
- The Major stakeholders include U.S. Coast Guard, Marathon, Petroleum, NOCO Energy Corp., and United Refining Co.

### Project Requirements

- In addition to routine operation and maintenance (O&M), critical requirements include the following: replacement of pintels, repair of lower west guide wall, and chamber resurfacing
- Maintenance dredging is conducted on an infrequent, as-needed basis. The Black Rock Channel was last dredged in 2009 when approximately 115,000 cubic yards (CY) of material was removed. GLRI funded strategic navigation dredging was completed in 2015



- A major rehabilitation of the Bird Island Pier was completed by the Buffalo District Floating Plant in 2013. Additional repairs are required to repair areas not addressed in 2013

### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Reduction of bulk commodities that pass through the harbor and generate \$56.3M annually in business revenue while supporting 246 direct, indirect, and induced jobs that produce over \$15M per year in personal income in the transportation and commodity related industries
- Failure to adequately fund routine O&M could result in total or temporary closure of the lock
- Elimination of the US connection to the Intercoastal Waterway from Lake Erie
- Inability for commercial and recreational vessels to reach destinations on the Upper Niagara River
- Failure to complete non-routine maintenance of aging components, will result in continued degradation and eventual failure of the components, and increased future maintenance costs

### Transportation Importance

- Asphalt is the primary commodity shipped or received through the lock
- With 1,531 lockages in 2014, the lock provided safe passage for 2,069 vessels (344 commercial and 1,725 recreational)

- The lock provides the only means for deep draft commercial vessels to reach delivery ports on the upper Niagara River; including fuel storage facilities and refinery

### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 2016 and 2017 Black Rock Lock and Tonawanda Harbor, New York Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>FY15 Requirement</b>	<b>FY15 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY16 Requirement</b>	<b>FY16 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY17 Requirement</b>	<b>FY17 President's Budget</b>
Operation of Lock	1,556	1,556	1,125	1,125	1,200	1,200
Operational Routine Maintenance of Lock			605	605	580	580
E & D, Gate Anchorages Rehab					150	
E & D, Motor Control Center			50		50	
E & D, Bird Island Pier Reconstruction	300					
E&D Chamber Resurfacing	200		200		200	
Facility Security			55			
Replacement of Pintels			775		775	
Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan						
Structure Repair – Bird Island Pier (F/P)					500	
E & D, Lower W. Guide Wall Repair			300		300	
Periodic Inspection and Assessment	125	125				
<b>Other Business Lines:</b>						
Environmental Stewardship	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>1,686</b>	<b>3,115</b>	<b>1,735</b>	<b>3,760</b>	<b>1,785</b>

### Congressional Interests

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