



## Burns Waterway Small Boat Harbor, IN

### Project Features

- Located on Lake Michigan near the city of Portage, Lake County, Indiana.
- Authorization: Section 107 of the River and Harbor Act of 1960
- Project depths are 11 feet in the approach channel, 10 feet in the inner harbor, and 6 feet in the River Channel.
- Combined length of 1,688 linear feet of rubblemound breakwater structures.
- 5,200 feet of Federal channel in the harbor and channel leading to the public marina. The channel also serves numerous private marinas upstream of the public marina.

### Project Requirements

- Structural repairs to the North breakwater were completed in FY10 using USACE hired labor forces. Both the North and West Breakwaters are in satisfactory condition.
- The current condition of the navigation channel is as follows: the approach channel project depth is 12 feet, but seasonal shoaling at the southern edge of the harbor entrance has reduced portions of the center half-width to 9 feet. The Inner Harbor project depth is 10 feet, and there is no shoal accumulation in this area. The channel project depth is 6 feet; and there is no shoal accumulation in this area. A new harbor survey will be performed during the summer of 2012.
- Hydraulic dredging was completed in 2009. Approximately 75,000 CY of sediment was removed, and placed offshore adjacent to the community of Ogden Dunes.
- Erosion control along the slopes adjacent to Burns Ditch is critically needed, to help reduce the rate of shoal accumulation within the channel.



### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- The available depth of the navigation channel is slightly reduced due to shoaling at the harbor entrance. Current shoaling could adversely affect only very few recreational users. Funding of channel maintenance in all recreational harbors is lower priority than commercial harbors.

### Transportation Importance

- The harbor provides berthing and launching for hundreds of recreational boats. Numerous marinas are located upstream of the federal project. In addition, the harbor and channel provide safe refuge for recreational boats on southern Lake Michigan traveling between Michigan City and Chicago's Calumet Harbor during periods of adverse weather. The commercial harbors in the immediate area, such as Burns Harbor, Gary Harbor and Indiana Harbor do not have any facilities for the protection of recreational boats during intense periods of rapidly developing summer/fall thunderstorms.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, 2012 and 2013  
Burns Waterway Small Boat Harbor, IN - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>FY11 Requirement</b>	<b>FY11 Work Plan</b>	<b>FY12 Requirement</b>	<b>FY12 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY13 Requirement</b>	<b>FY13 President's Budget</b>
Project Condition Surveys / Caretaker Funds	14	0	25	0	25	0
Sampling/Testing of Harbor and Channel for Maintenance Dredging – primary work package						
Maintenance Dredging of Harbor and Channel – Primary work package	250					
Structural Repair - North and West Breakwaters						
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>

**Congressional Interests**

- Representative Peter J. Visclosky, D-IN-1
- Senator Richard Lugar, R-IN
- Senator Dan Coates, R-IN