



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



## Detroit River, MI

### Project Features

- One of the Great Lakes connecting channels, flowing south from Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 13 Jun 1902, 3 Mar 1905, 25 Jun 1910, 4 Mar 1913, 2 Mar 1907, 2 Mar 1919, 3 Jul 1930, 30 Aug 1935, 26 Aug 1937, 2 Mar 1945, 24 Jul 1946, 17 May 1950, 21 Mar 1956, 14 Jul 1960, 13 Aug 1986
- Deep draft commercial project
- Project depths varying from 25 to 29 feet
- 44<sup>th</sup> leading U.S. port with 12.8M tons of material shipped or received in 2008
- Port of Detroit is Ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among the Great Lakes Ports
- Contains water level and compensating dikes
- Total of 76 miles of Federal channels, including up-bound and down-bound channels
- 59.7M tons of material moved through the channels of the Detroit River in 2008.
- Material dredged from the Detroit River is placed in the Pointe Mouille confined disposal facility located in Lake Erie.
- Major stakeholders include U.S. Coast Guard, Lake Carriers' Association, Nicholson Terminal and Dock Co., Harridon Terminal, Inc., Motor City Materials, Detroit Bulk Storage, Inc., J.W. Westcott Co., Michigan Marine Terminal, Carmeuse Lime, Edward C. Levy Co., Holcim Inc., Koenig Fuel & Supply, Lafarge North America, Marathon Ashland Petroleum, LLC, Morton Salt, St. Marys Cement, the Rockdock, LLC, U.S. Steel Corp., Severstal North America, and multiple trucking and railway companies.

### Project Requirements

- Obstruction removal is required on an annual basis.



- Requires periodic maintenance dredging (on a 1 to 2 year cycle) of approximately 300,000 cubic yards; the river was last dredged in 2011 and there are plans to dredge the river in 2012; dredging is also required for 2013.
- Compensating dikes require repairs

### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Bulk commodities that pass through the Detroit River generate \$3.2B annually in direct revenue while supporting over 15,300 jobs and generating over \$703M per year in personal income.
- If the channel was closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 1.6M tons of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$41M due to increased railroad related accidents, and \$80M due to increased trucking related accidents.
- Light loading; loss of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth in the Detroit River results in increased transportation costs of between \$1.1M and \$7.7M annually.
- Key component of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway navigation system.
- Disruption of service would have severe maritime and economic impacts.

**Transportation Importance**

- Commodities transported through these channels include coal, iron ore, crude materials, manufactured goods, chemicals, steel products, petroleum products, food and farm products, and other general cargo, including overseas cargo.
- Great Lakes connecting channel between Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie.
- The Detroit River is the home port of the U.S. Coast Guard’s 140 foot long ice breaking cutter, Bristol Bay.
- Located along the banks of the Detroit River is the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Detroit Station, which is responsible for the operations of subordinate commands including: search and rescue, law enforcement, aids to navigation, ice breaking, ice rescue and maritime homeland security.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, 2012 and 2013  
Detroit River, MI - 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	963	951	992	972	990	990
Strike Removal	2,500	2,470	3,000	2,942	2,820	2,820
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	1,700	1,679	1,785	1,750	1,974	1,974
Maintenance Dredging – Backlog Work Package	1,656		1,656		1,700	
CDF Fill Management Activities					800	
Repair Compensating Dikes – by Gov Floating Plant	550		550		550	
<b>Other Business Lines:</b>						
Environmental Stewardship	130	55	115	38	60	30
Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (SSPP) initiatives			250			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7,499</b>	<b>5,155</b>	<b>8,348</b>	<b>5,702</b>	<b>8,894</b>	<b>5,814</b>

**Congressional Interests**

- Representative Hansen Clarke D-MI-13
- Representative John Conyers Jr. D-MI-14
- Representative John D. Dingell D-MI-15
- Senator Carl Levin D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI