



## Ontonagon Harbor, MI

### Project Features

- Located about 140 miles east of Duluth, MN, on the south shore of Lake Superior, at the mouth of the Ontonagon River, MI.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 2 Mar 1867, 23 Jun 1874, 13 Jun 1902, 2 Mar 1907, 3 Mar 1909, 26 Aug 1937, Act of 1962
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Maintained depths varying from 19 to 21 feet in the entrance and inner channels.
- 412,000 tons of material shipped or received in 2007
- Over 4,800 feet of structures including piers and revetments
- About 3/4 mile of maintained channel
- Major stakeholders include U.S. Coast Guard, Lake Carriers' Association, Smurfit-Stone Container, and White Pine Power.

### Project Requirements

- Approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material must be dredged each year; the harbor was last dredged in 2011.
- Maintenance dredging is currently required within the harbor.
- Navigation structures are primarily maintained by Government floating plant.

NOTE: The harbor's primary user, Smurfit-Stone Container has ceased operations. At this time, it is unclear if the plant will re-open under new ownership. Consequently, maintenance dredging will be dependent upon harbor conditions and confirmation of continuing commercial navigation requirement.



### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Significant loss of jobs both locally and regionally in an already economically depressed area.
- Bulk commodities that pass through the harbor generate \$8M annually in direct revenue while supporting nearly 40 jobs and generating \$2M per year in personal income.
- If the harbor was closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail. This would increase annual emission rates by over 112 tons of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$202,000 due to increased railroad related accidents.
- Light loading; loss of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth results in increased transportation costs of between \$209,000 and \$451,000 annually.

### Transportation Importance

- Locally significant receiving port on the Great Lakes. Harbor provides main economic catalyst for the area.
- Harbor of Refuge
- Commodities include coal and lignite

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, 2012 and 2013  
Ontonagon Harbor, 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	72	71	48		50	
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	630		660		690	
Maintenance Dredging – Backlog Work Package						
Repair of West Pier – by Govt. Floating Plant	470	1,086				
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,172</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>0</b>

**Congressional Interests**

- Representative Dan Benishek R-MI-1
- Senator Carl Levin D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI