



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 ft. in the approach channel, 10 ft. in the inner harbor, and 6 ft. in the River Channel.
- Combined length of 1,688 linear feet of rubblemound breakwater structures.
- 5,200 ft 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.
- Due to the severe Hurricane Sandy storm on southern L. Michigan on 31-Oct-2012, the outer harbor entrance received approximately 20,000 CY of new sediment.
- Hydraulic dredging was last completed in 2009. Approximately 75,000 CY of clean sand 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) 2012, 2013 and 2014
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Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY12 Requirement	FY12 Work Plan	FY13 Requirement	FY13 Work Plan	FY14 Requirement	FY14 President's Budget
Project Condition Surveys / Caretaker Funds	25	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						
Structural Repair - North and West Breakwaters						
TOTALS	25	0	25	0	25	0

Congressional Interests

- Representative Peter J. Visclosky, D-IN-1
- Senator Dan Coats, R-IN
- Senator Joe Donnelly, D-IN