



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Detroit District

HARBOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORIES Black River Harbor, Michigan



Harbor Location: Black River Harbor is located at the mouth of the Black River on the south shore of Lake Superior, 39 miles west of Ontonagon, MI and 47 miles east of Ashland, WI.

Authority: River & Harbor Act of 2 Mar 1945.

Project Description: Black River Harbor is a shallow draft recreational harbor with approximately 1,300 feet of rubble mound breakwaters and 4,000 feet of maintained Federal channel.

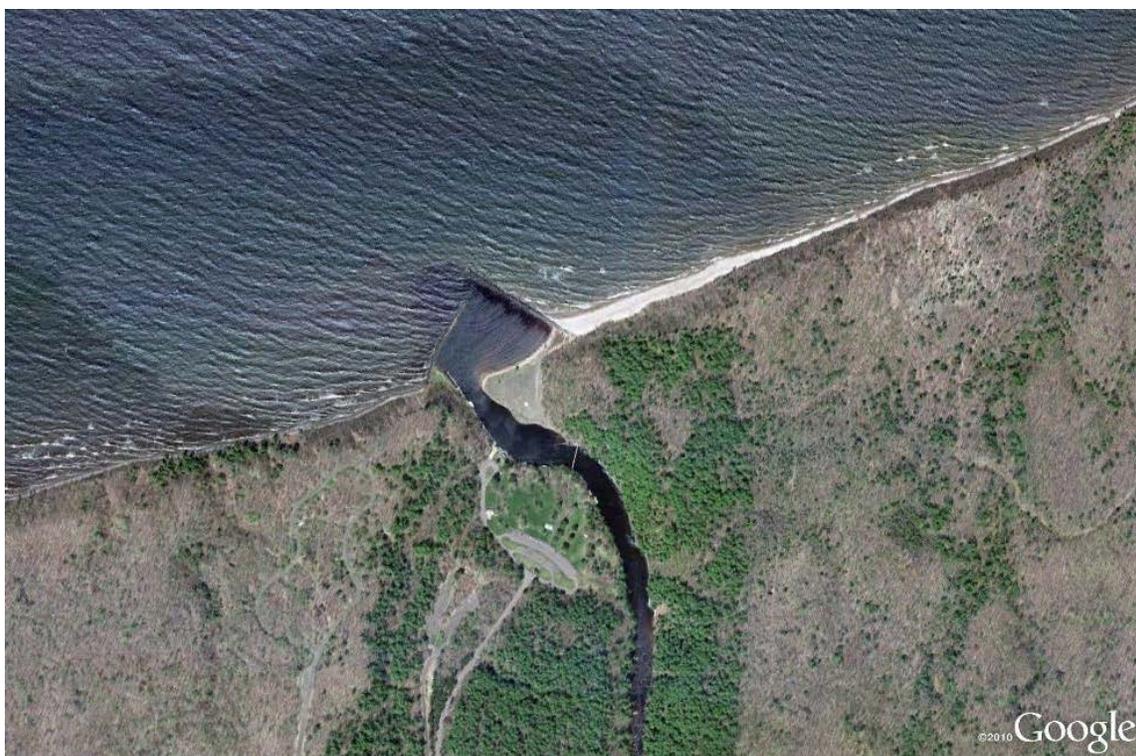
Traffic: No commerce reported

Transportation Importance: This project serves as an important Harbor of Refuge, supports fishing and recreational navigation interests. The local community has established a significant infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.

Congressional Interest:

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

Current Condition Assessment: **B**



Date of Site Visit: 1 November 2010

Summary of Impact: Prevailing waves come from the north direction. Waves overtopping the breakwaters could roll into the harbor and have an immediate impact on the MDNR Marina and the structures associated the marina operations. The wave activity associated with the overtopping could cause dangerous currents for boat launching at the MDNR site as well as damage vessels moored at the marina. Presently, the marina is sufficiently protected, but could be exposed to greater wave heights under the right conditions. In both cases, an increased wave climate could result in damage to docked vessels and the docks themselves. In the event the structures are damaged and/or destroyed during a storm event, only the Black River Marina and its support buildings would likely be impacted.

Examples of Protected Infrastructure:



1. Black River Marina: The MDNR marina has 8 Transient Slips, 17 Seasonal Slips and 5 Commercial Slips. The facility is open 15 May to 15 October. Amenities include: water, electricity (30-amp), restrooms, gasoline, pump out, ice, boat launch, public phone, playground/park and grills/picnic tables and a campground. Snacks and gift items are also for sale.

Potential Impact Area: The following graphic displays property parcels that could be impacted within various zones defined by different setbacks from the shoreline behind existing Federal coastal structures. Within 1,000 feet from the shoreline (1,000 ft buffer) the property identified (above) in this report would be affected by a failure of the breakwater.

