



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

HARBOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORIES Port Sanilac Harbor, Michigan



Harbor Location: Port Sanilac Harbor is located on the west shore of Lake Huron, about 30 miles north of Port Huron, MI.

Authority: Rivers & Harbors Act of 2 Mar 1945.

Project Description: Port Sanilac Harbor is a shallow draft recreational harbor protected by two sheet pile breakwaters totaling over 2,500 feet in length. The breakwaters are connected to shore by non-federal causeways. The breakwater structures extend out to the 12-foot contour in Lake Huron. Project depths are between 6 and 12 feet.

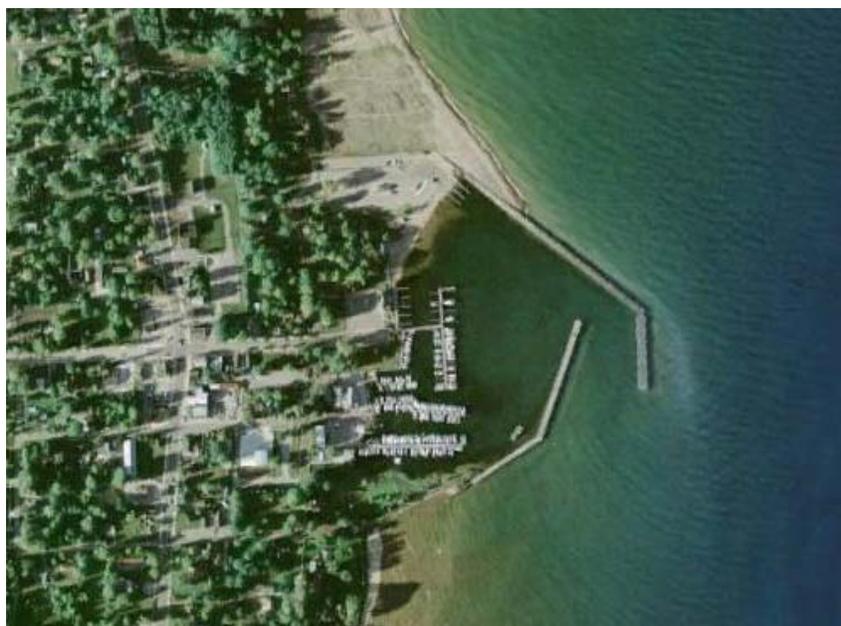
Traffic: No commerce reported.

Transportation Importance: This project serves as an important Harbor of Refuge and supports charter 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, and supports one Michigan DNR and two private marinas totaling 214 seasonal and transient slips

Congressional Interest:

- Representative Candice S. Miller R-MI-10
- Senator Carl Levin D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI

Current Condition Assessment: **B**



Date of Site Visit: 30 July 2009

Summary of Impact: Prevailing waves come from a northerly direction. The immediate impact areas affected by a break or overtopping of one or both breakwaters would be to the three marinas within the harbor, including potentially causing damage to docked recreational craft and to the marina dock structures. To the immediate north of the harbor is a large accretion zone caused by the north breakwater. In the event of a breach in the north breakwater, this area would be subject to erosion and the shoreline would recede over time. Additionally, this material would be deposited within the confines of the harbor and cause an increase in shoaling in the federal navigation channel or within the state marina. Shore structures immediately behind the harbor consists of a public park, parking areas, bathroom facilities, a support building for the private marina, and a boat launch ramp run by the state. The downtown portion of the village of Port Sanilac is elevated roughly 25 feet above the harbor and not threatened by inundation or wave action in the event of a breakwater failure.

Examples of Protected Infrastructure:



1. Port Sanilac Municipal Harbor: State owned marina consisting of 38 transient and 30 seasonal slips. Regular MDNR rates apply. Structures are steel I-beam piles with a steel superstructure and the walkways and bumpers are made of wood. Harbor master stated that the structure was originally built around 1955, and was redone in 1992 at a cost of roughly \$300,000. Most of the water-to-land interface consists of sheet piles, except for a small section (roughly 2-3 ft in diameter) that is comprised of armor stone.



2. Port Sanilac Marina: Privately owned marina consisting of 114 total seasonal and transient slips. Rates vary from \$1,000 to \$4,000 a season depending on the size of the vessel, and \$12 to \$40 a day for transient. Marina structures are the same design and construction as the state marina. Water-to-land interface consists of sheet piles.



3. Bark Shanty Marina: A privately owned marina consisting of 32 slips. Water-to-land interface consists of sheet piles.

4. Boat Storage Shed: Steel beam and sheet metal boat storage shed owned by Port Sanilac Marina.



5. Port Sanilac Marina Administration Building: Light commercial, two-story wooden building that houses the Port Sanilac Marina shop and admin facilities, a restaurant, a sailing school, and various small businesses related to the harbor.



6. Public Park: City owned Public Park that consists of playground, bathroom facilities, picnic tables, and a pavilion.



7. Port Sanilac Municipal Harbor Administration Building. Consists of harbor masters' office, bathroom and shower facilities, and storage. Immediately to the west is the parking lot that services the marina.



8. Rental House: Large, 3 story rental cottage that consists of the main structure (several hundred feet from the beach) and a smaller beach house just off the beach. Water-to-land interface is sandy beach.

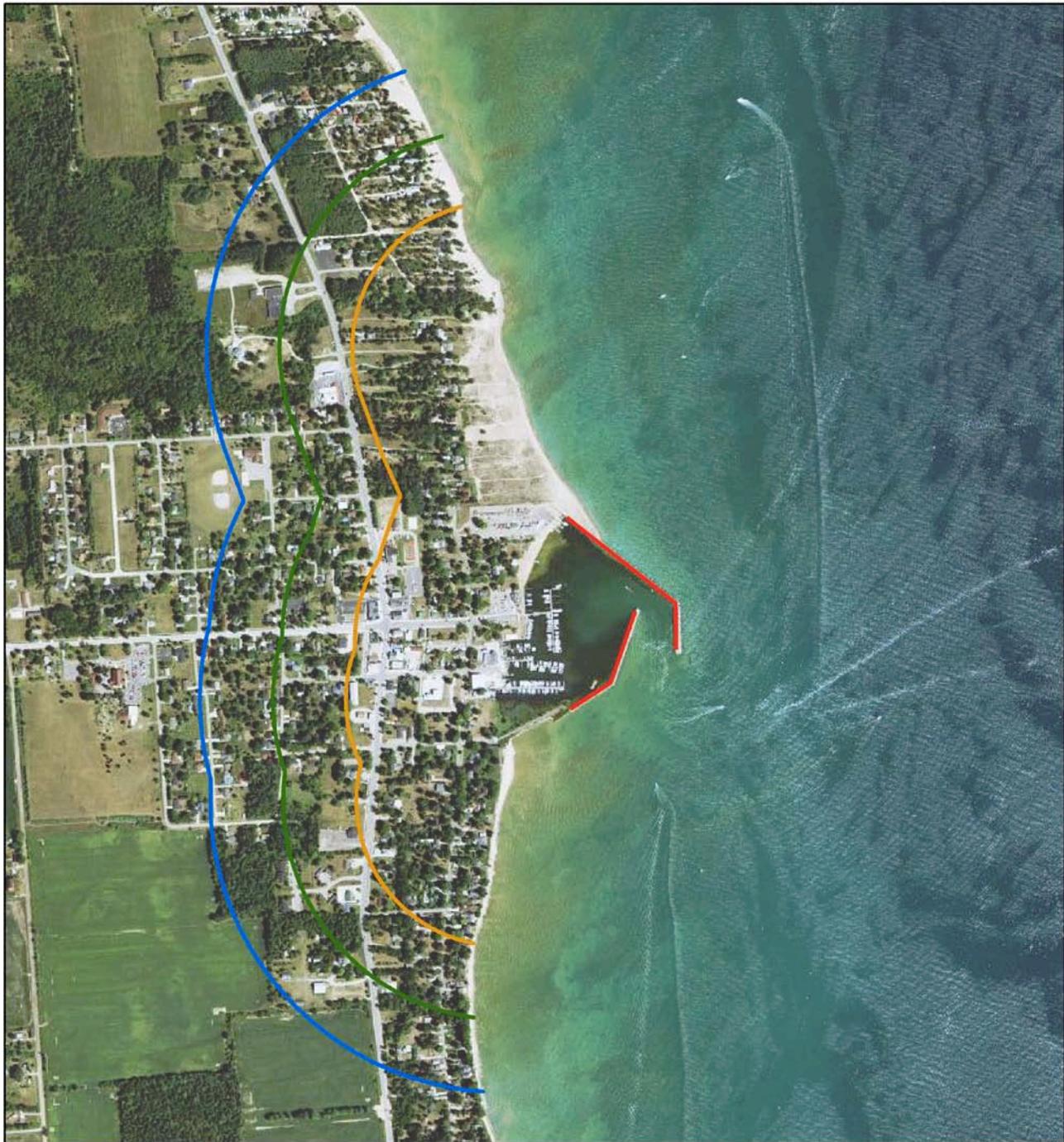


9. Boat Launch: State owned boat launch area. Area contains 3 launch ramps and a large parking area. Also contains a small structure used for cleaning fish.

10. Bark Shanty Marina and Sailing Club: Consists of an administration building for the marina and a sailing club. Structure is a single family home with the business in the basement and living area on the first floor.



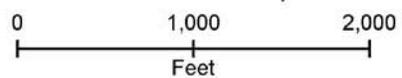
Potential Impact Area: The following graphic displays property parcels that could be impacted within various zones defined by different setbacks from the shoreline behind existing Federal coastal structures. Within 1,000 feet from the shoreline (1,000 ft buffer) all 10 of the properties that were identified (above) in this report would be affected by a failure of the breakwater.



PORT SANILAC HARBOR

Port Sanilac, MI

-  Federal Structure
-  Shoreline_1000_ft_buffer
-  Shoreline_1500_ft_buffer
-  Shoreline_2000_ft_buffer



Imagery Source- NAIP 2012

