

Great Lakes Navigation Stakeholder Meeting

Shallow Draft Harbor Needs & Issues

Mike O'Bryan

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Great Lakes Navigation
Business Line Manager

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US Army Corps of Engineers
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Meeting Agenda

Welcome; Introductory Remarks **Mike O’Bryan**

Self introduction of all participants **All**

Shallow Draft Harbor Funding & Needs **Mike O’Bryan**

- **Funding Process and Trends**
- **2013 Program Summary**
- **System Requirements**
- **Stakeholder Involvement**

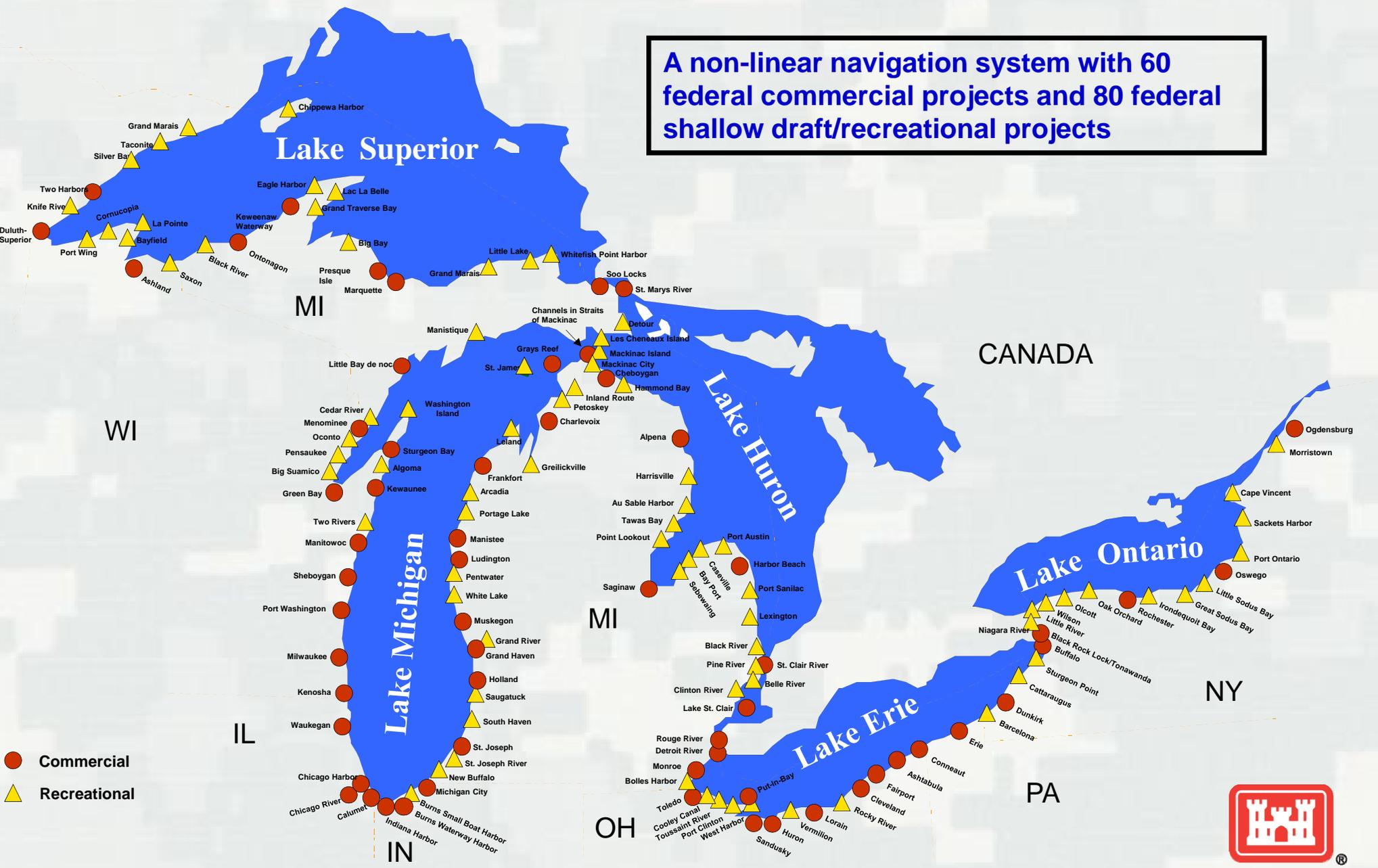
Great Lakes Small Harbor Coalition **Chuck May**

Stakeholder Feedback—Open Discussion **All**



Federal Projects on the Great Lakes

A non-linear navigation system with 60 federal commercial projects and 80 federal shallow draft/recreational projects



- Commercial
- ▲ Recreational



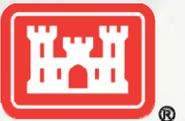
FY13 Corps Funding Status

- Congress has not passed an Energy & Water appropriations bill for FY13.
- The Corps is operating under a Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA), with funding levels no greater than FY12.
- CRA funding generally follows FY13 President's Budget. Projects that did not receive funding in FY12 are not eligible for funding under the CRA.
- It is possible that we will have a year-long CRA in FY13.
- Sequestration could further reduce our funding levels.



Federal Budget Process

- The Corps submits budget requests for all federal harbors with operation & maintenance needs
- With the limited funding available, operations and maintenance funding for deep draft navigation projects usually takes priority over shallow draft harbors
- Subsistence harbors and harbors that support commercial transportation and fishing are budgetable but come at a lower priority than commercial harbors



Alternatives to Corps funded dredging

- There are two primary methods for local communities to accomplish dredging outside of the traditional Corps dredging process:
 - Local community signs an agreement with the Corps to provide funding to the Corps and the Corps accomplishes the dredging including design, contractor acquisition, and dredging quality assurance.
 - Local community obtains a permit from the Corps and the state. The Corps will grant a permit good for 10 years. Must check state requirements.



FY13 Dredging Requirements and FY13 Funding



FY 13 President's Budget Dredging Projects

Duluth-Superior
Green Bay
Calumet
Indiana Harbor
Holland
Grand Haven
Muskegon
Manistee

Saginaw River
Detroit River
Toledo
Sandusky
Cleveland
Ashtabula
Conneaut



Harbors Affected by Hurricane Sandy

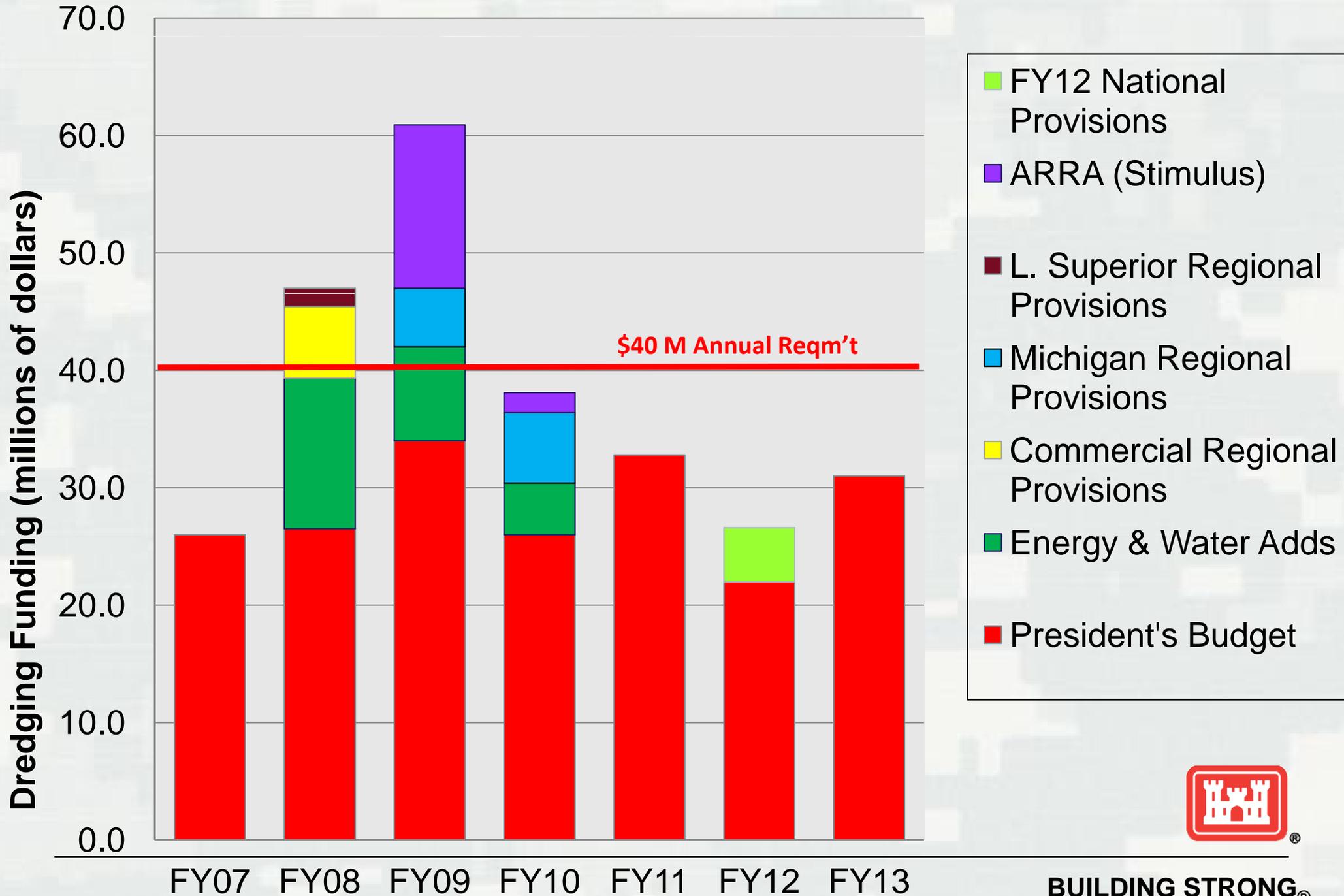
Burns Waterway
Waukegan
Michigan City
St. Joseph
Muskegon
Holland

Cleveland
Lorain

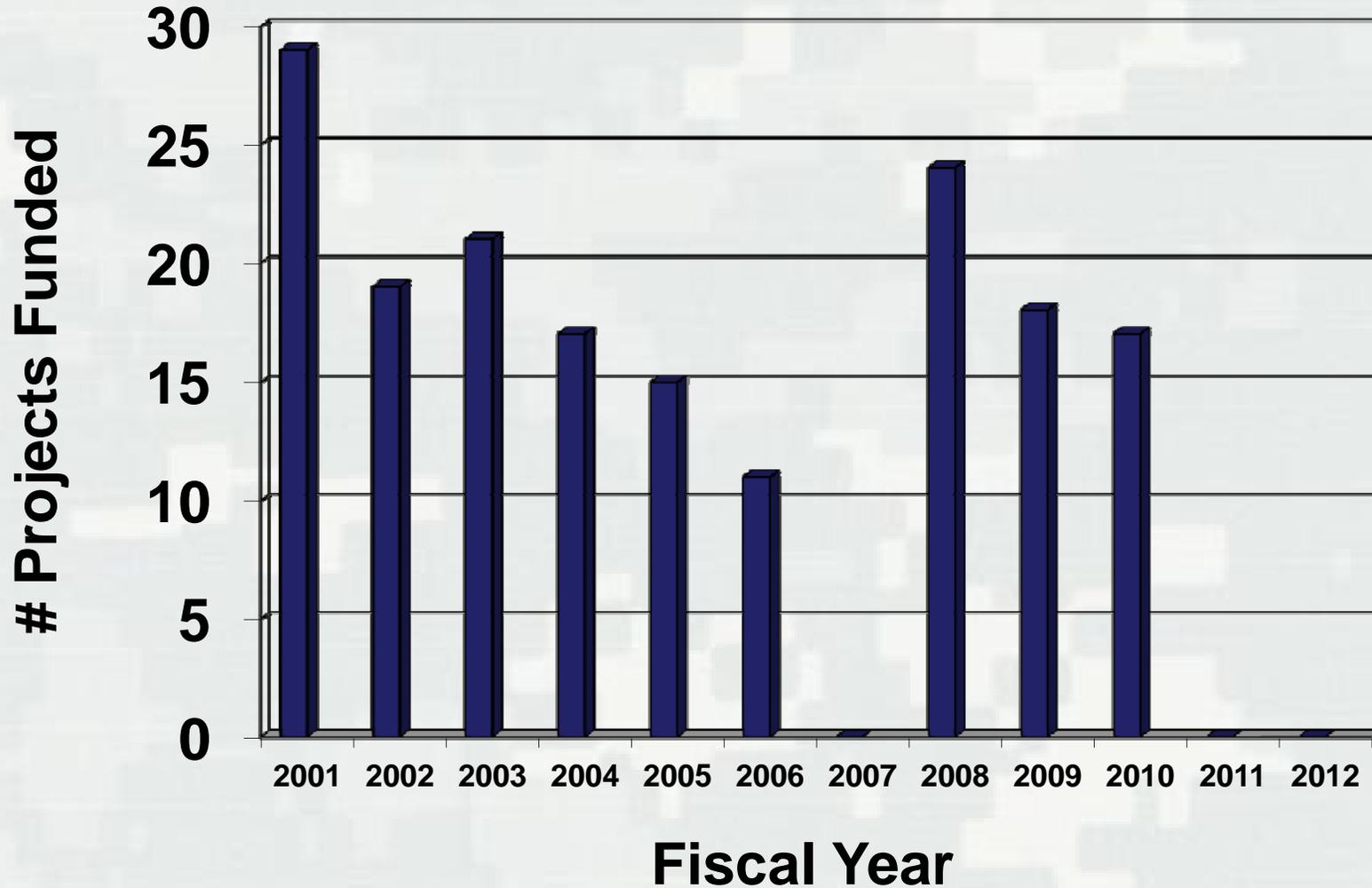
- President signed Sandy Supplemental on January 29. Included \$821M for dredging and repair needs nationwide due to Sandy. Funds have not been allocated by HQ yet to specific projects.
- Great Lakes Districts have submitted our needs.



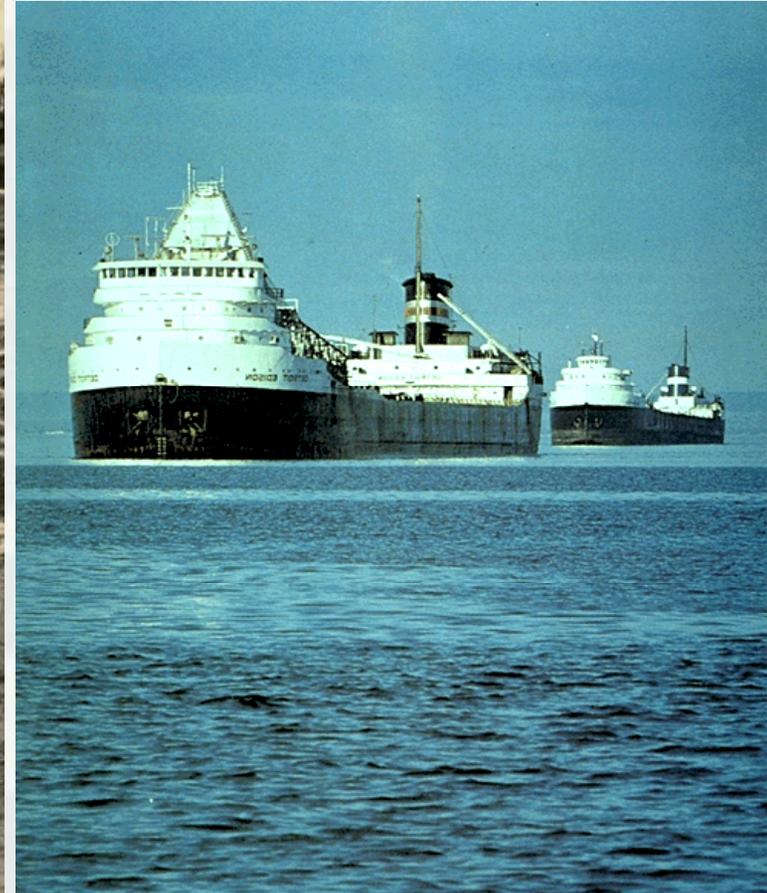
Dredging Funding Trends 2007 - 2013



Historical Shallow Draft Harbor Funding

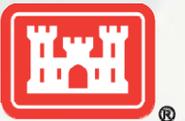


Great Lakes Water Levels



Water Levels on Great Lakes

- All the Great Lakes are below their long term averages. Lake Michigan-Huron set new monthly record low levels in December and January and an all-time low in January.
- Levels on Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron have been below average for over 14 years, the longest stretch in their recorded histories.
- Lake Erie has dropped two feet in the past year and had no seasonal rise in 2012 - first time the lake had no seasonal rise.
- The most probable forecast shows Lake Michigan-Huron setting new record lows again in February and March, and remaining near record low levels from April – July and most likely well beyond that.
- Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron are expected to be 12 and 18 inches below chart datum, respectively, at the open of the 2013 navigation season in March.

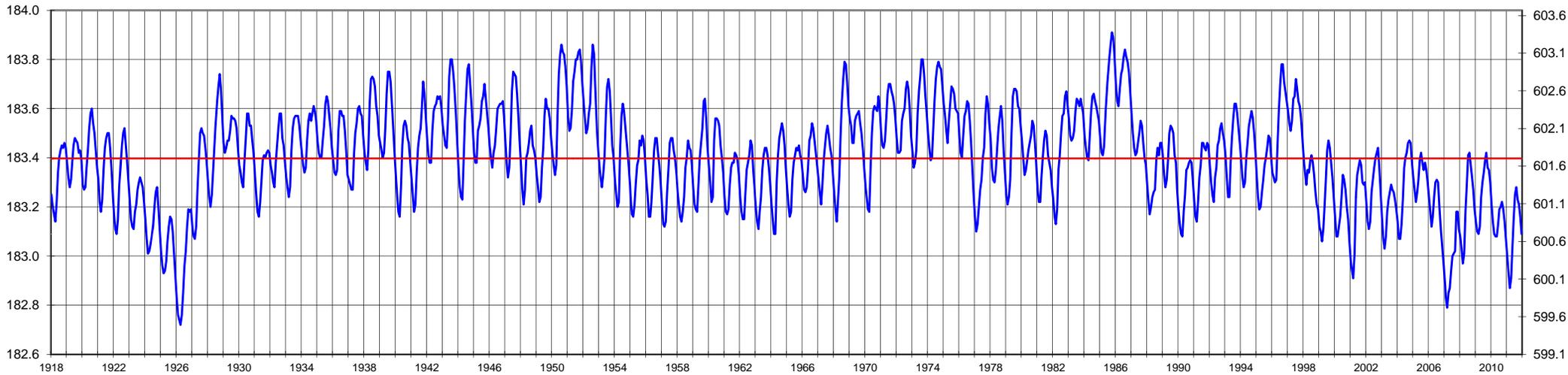


Period of Record Water Levels (1918 – 2012)

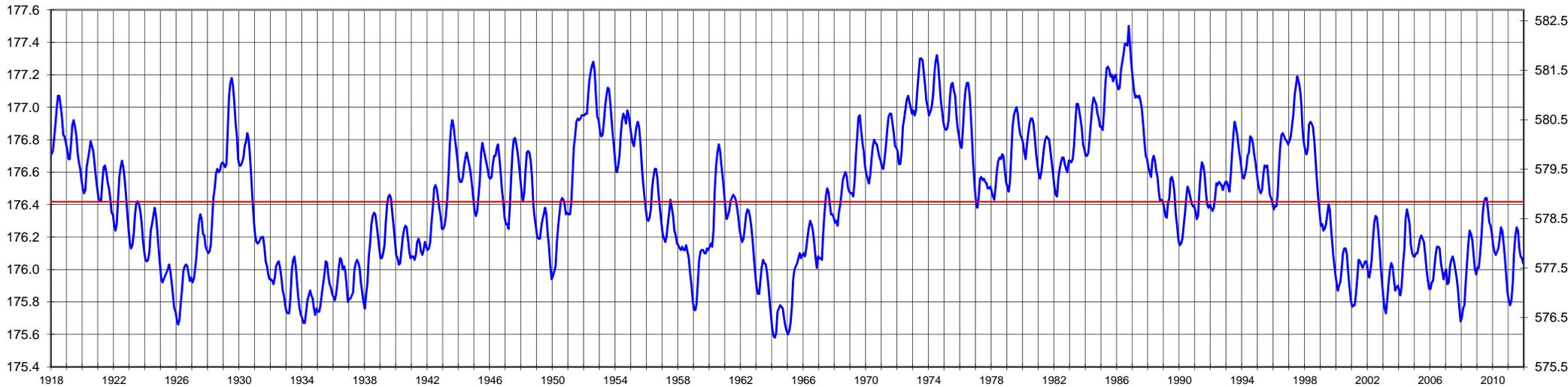
meters

Lake Superior

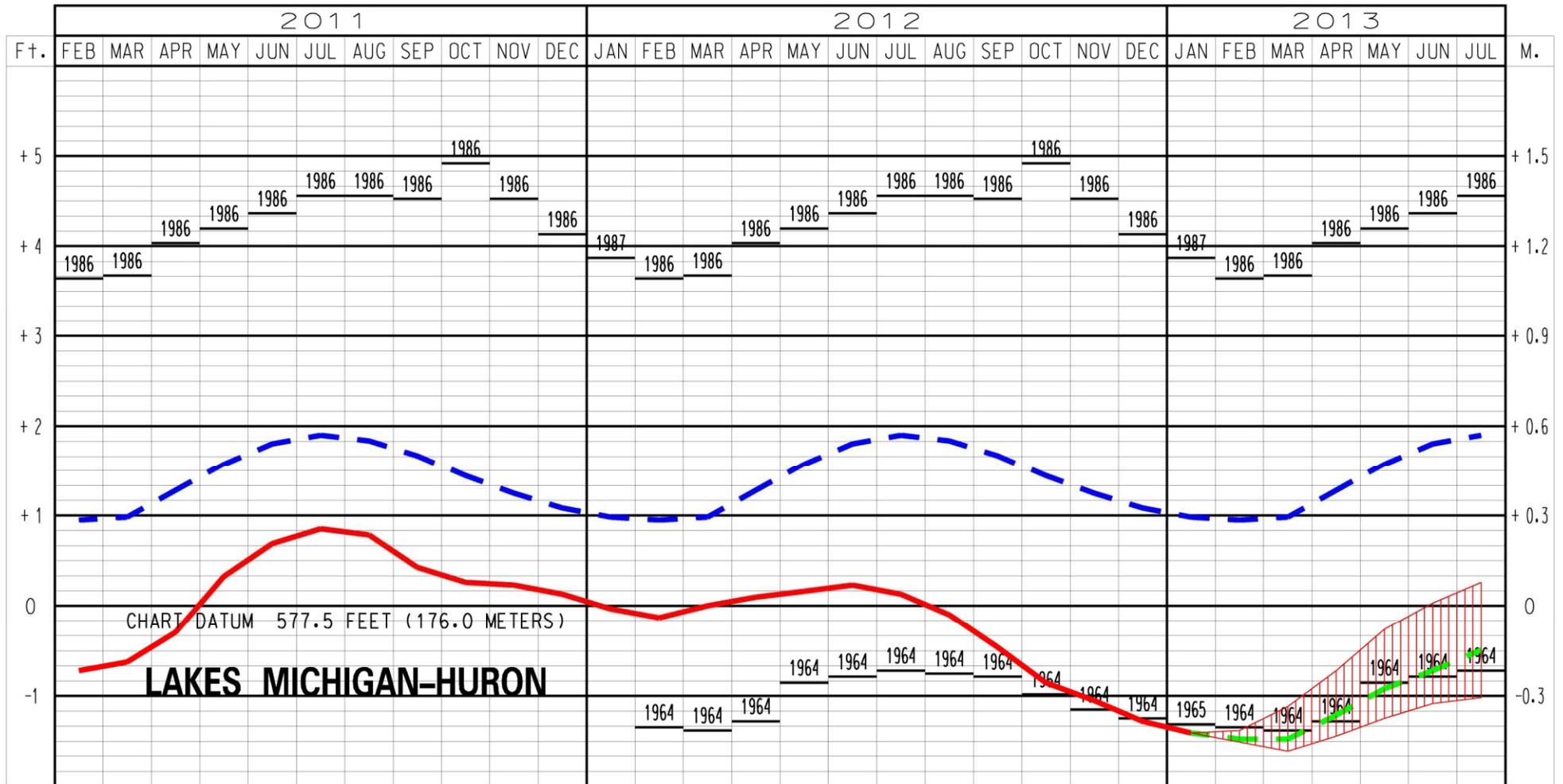
feet



Lake Michigan-Huron



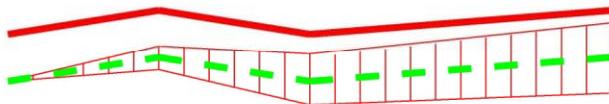
LAKES MICHIGAN-HURON WATER LEVELS - FEBRUARY 2013



LEGEND

LAKE LEVELS

RECORDED

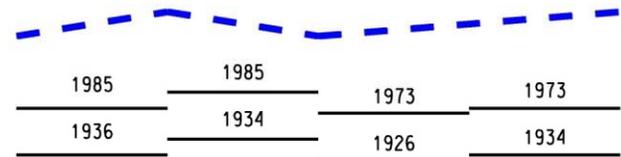


PROJECTED

AVERAGE **

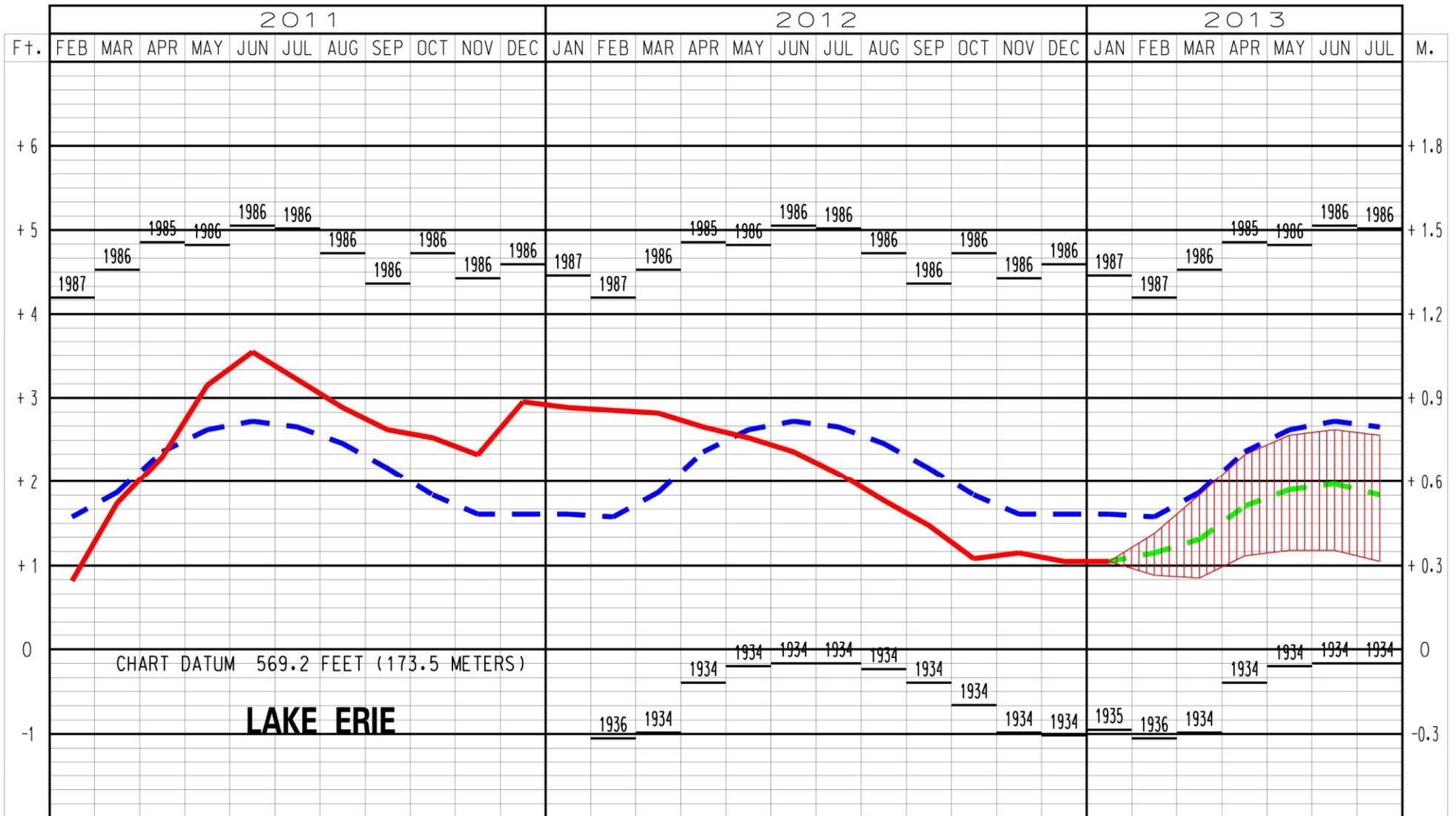
MAXIMUM **

MINIMUM **



** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2011

LAKE ERIE WATER LEVELS - FEBRUARY 2013

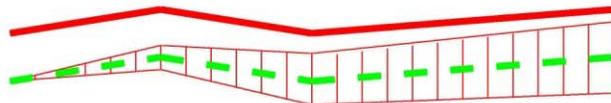


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LAKE LEVELS

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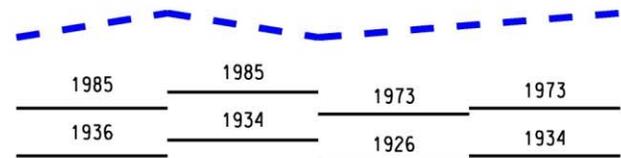
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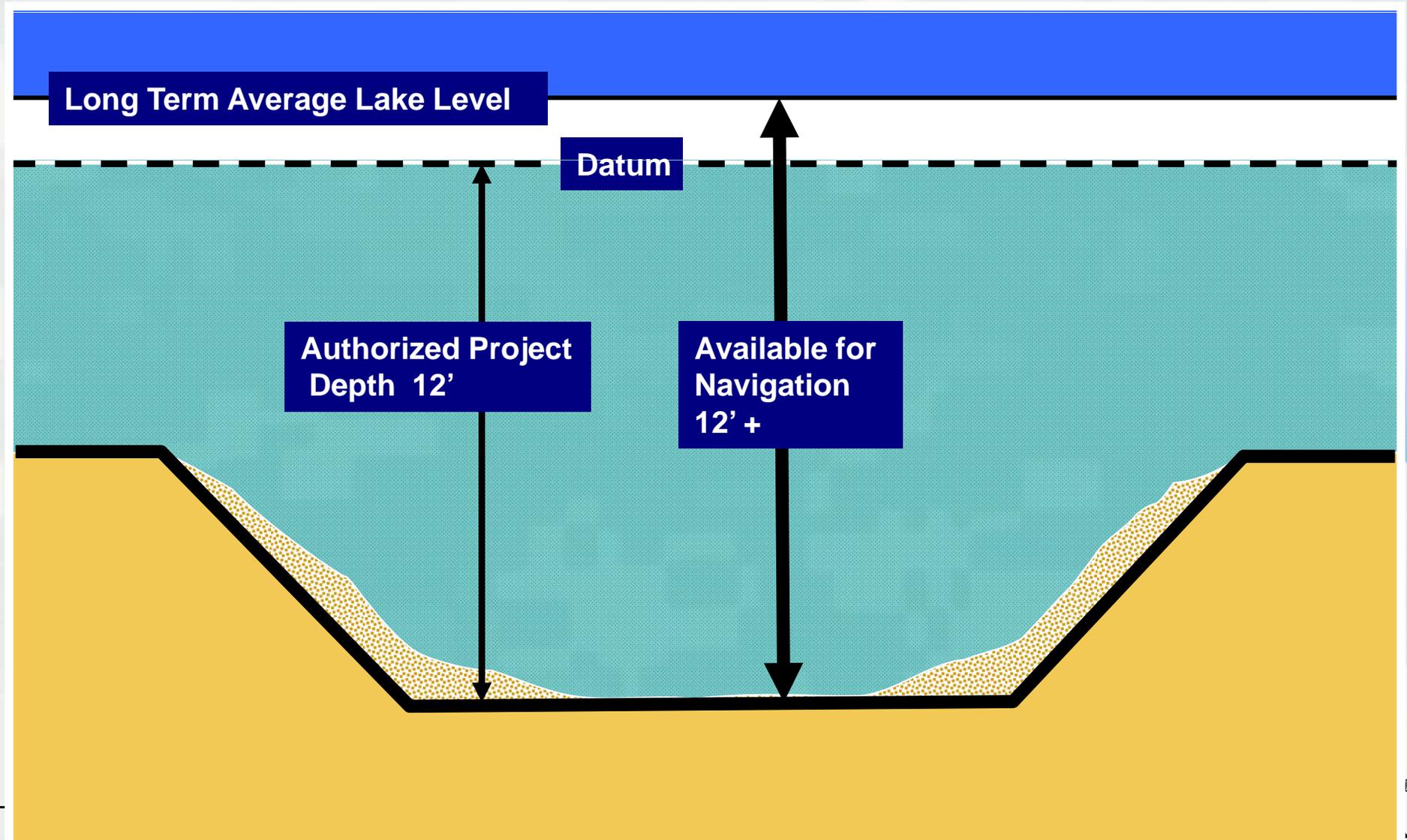
MAXIMUM **

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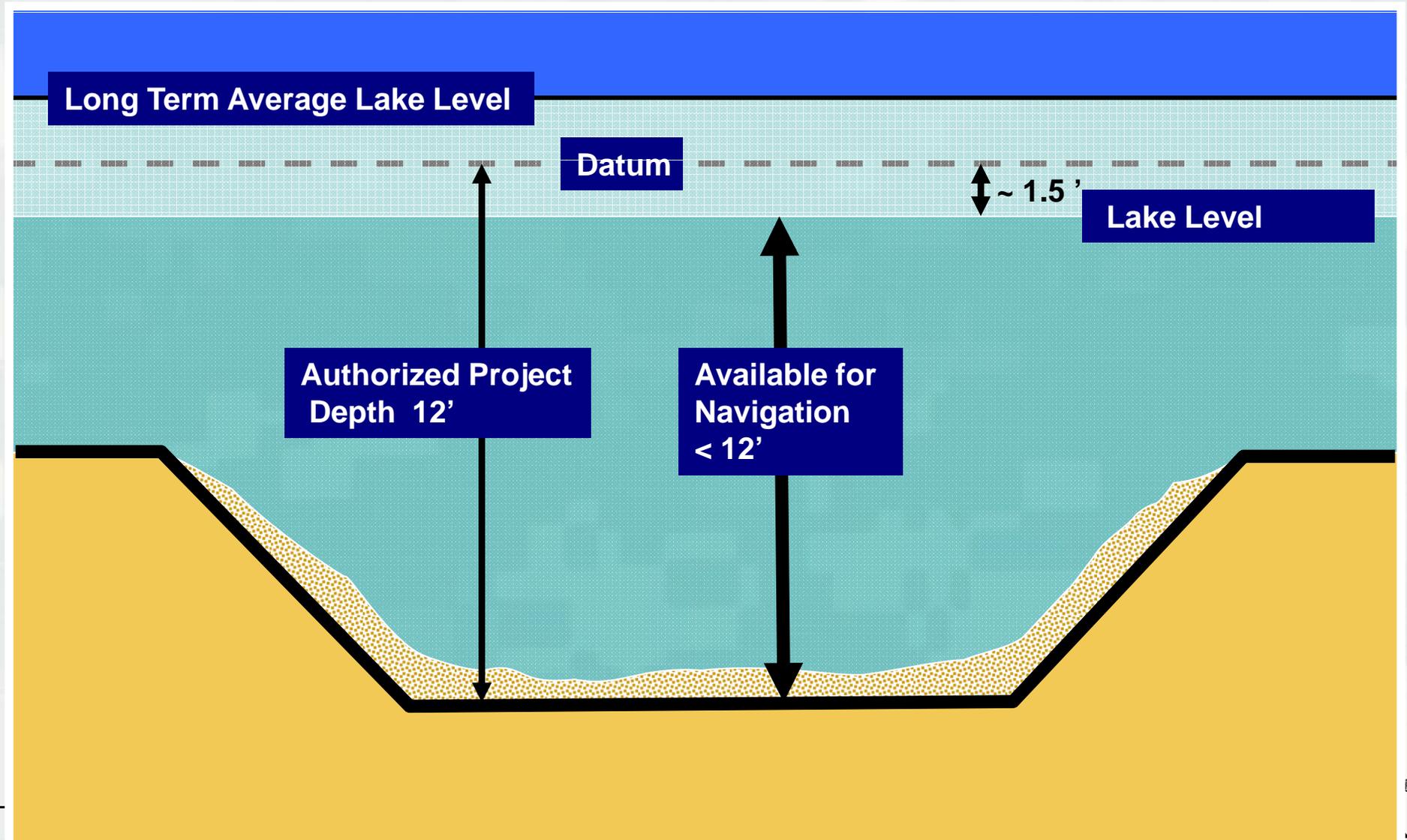


** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2011

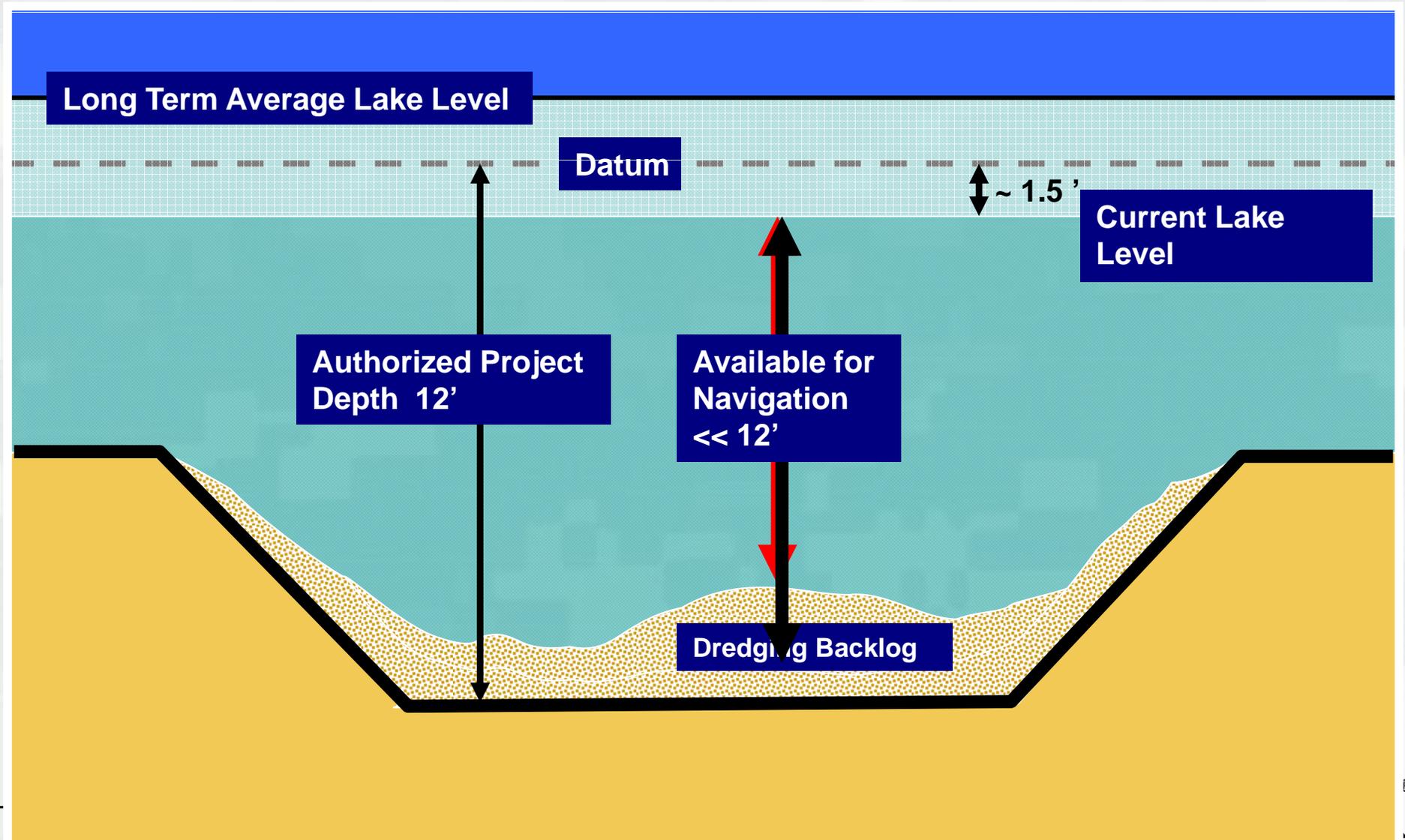
Historical Water Levels “Normal” Conditions



Condition: Water Level Below Datum



Condition: Water Level Below Datum w/Dredging Backlog



WRDA 2000 Section 343 Authority

- The Corps has the authority to dredge below project depths under certain circumstances

- WRDA 2000 Section 343:

(b) Dredging Levels.--In operating and maintaining Federal channels and harbors of, and the connecting channels between, the Great Lakes, the Secretary shall conduct such dredging as is necessary to ensure minimal operation depths consistent with the original authorized depths of the channels and harbors when water levels in the Great Lakes are, or are forecast to be, below the International Great Lakes Datum of 1985.

- This provides authority; O&M funding for the additional dredging would also be needed



Regional Risk Communication Meetings



Coastal Structure Communication Objective

Program Objective: Communicate the risk of breakwater and structure conditions to local stakeholders and navigation system users



Navigation structures are regularly subjected to extreme winds, waves and ice forces



St. Joseph Harbor, MI



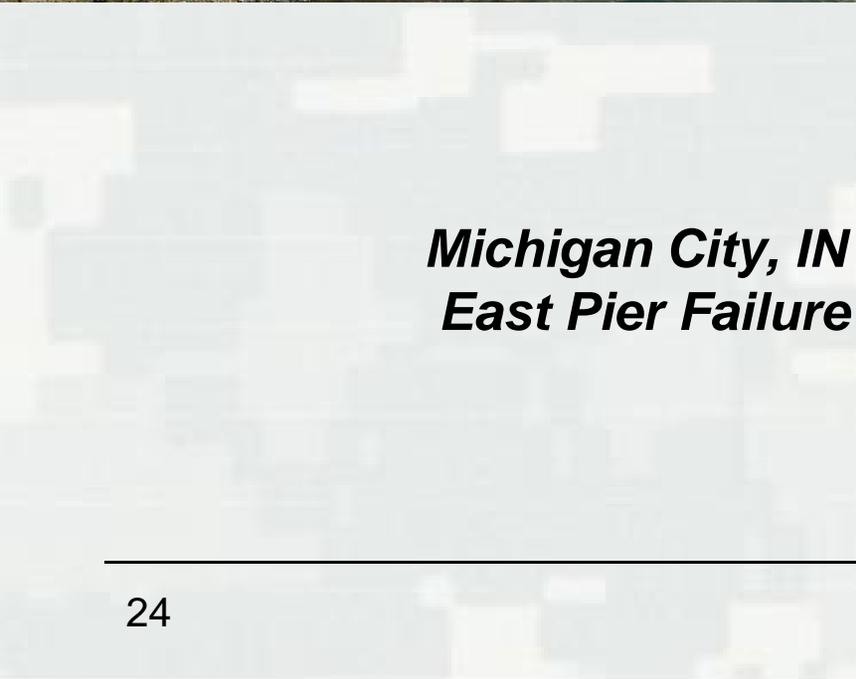
Cleveland Harbor, OH



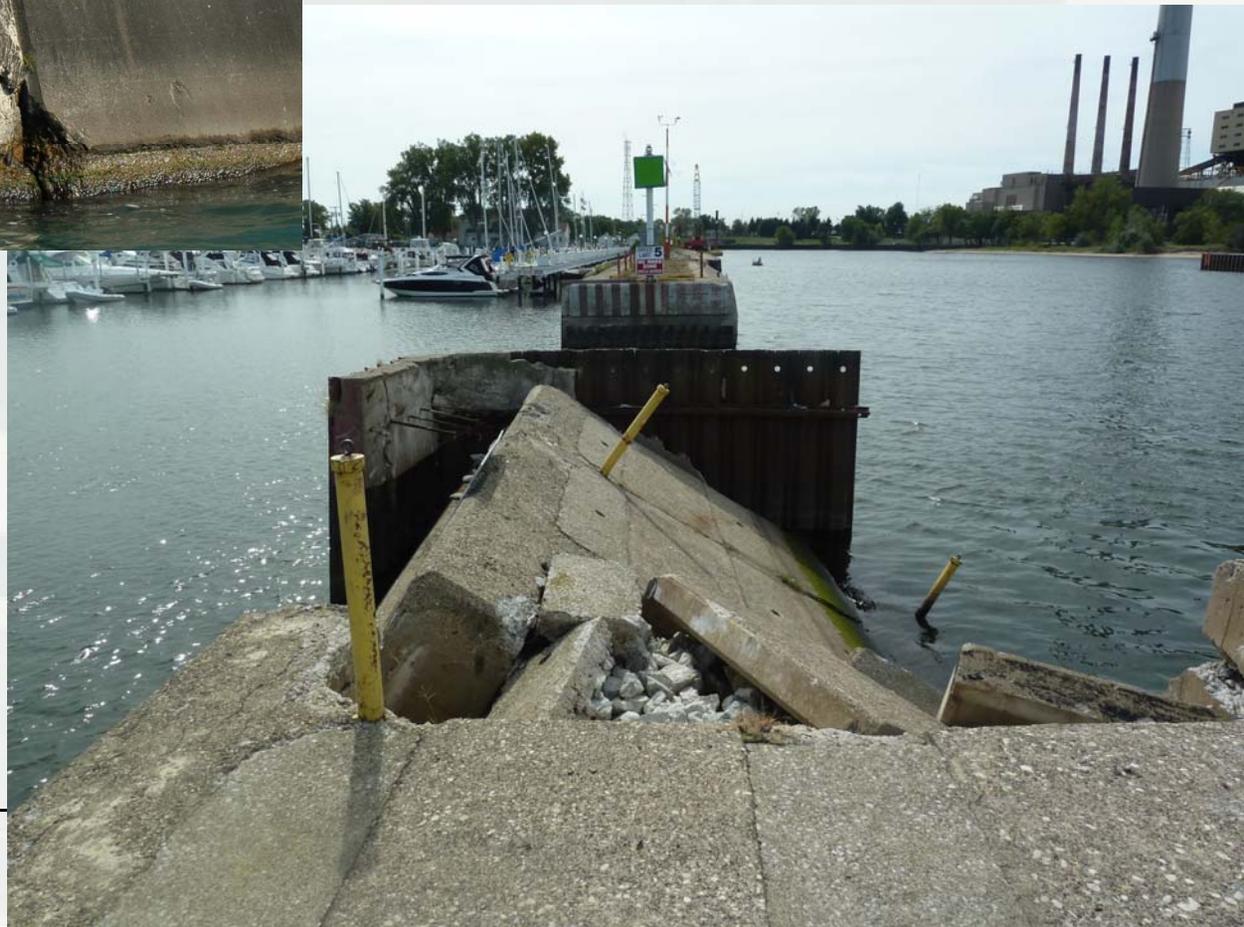
Some Great Lakes Navigation Structure Conditions are Failing



Port Washington Harbor, WI



*Michigan City, IN
East Pier Failure*



Stakeholder Involvement

- Identifying Harbor Requirements – Needs, impacts, economic value, jobs, etc.
- Stakeholder Involvement – Meetings, submit feedback
- Communication with Ops Chiefs and Great Lakes Navigation Team



Identifying Needs of Harbor Fact Sheets

- Identifying the Economic and Social Impacts Related to Maintaining the Authorized Project
- Identifying Other Critical Factors (Subsistence Harbor, Infrastructure Protected by Harbor)
- We will continue to refine the information with your help!



US Army Corps
of Engineers.



Great Lakes
Navigation System

Pentwater Harbor, MI

Harbor Features

- Located on the east shore of Lake Michigan, 146 miles northeast of Chicago, IL and 14 miles south of Ludington, MI.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 2 Mar 1867, 3 Mar 1873, 5 Jul 1884, 13 Jul 1982, 2 Mar 1907
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Project depth is 16 feet
- Approximately 2,500 feet of maintained Federal channel, between Lake Michigan and Pentwater Lake.
- More than 4,000 feet of maintained piers and revetments
- The North and South Harbor piers and revetments were reconstructed in 1999 and 1996, respectively. Wave attenuators were also added during reconstruction.
- Dredged material is placed along the beach as beach nourishment.
- Major stakeholders include Smug Harbor Marina, Charlie's Marina, the Village of Pentwater, Michigan DNR, Pentwater Yacht Club and local businesses and charter boats.



Transportation Importance

- This project serves as an important Harbor of Refuge and supports Lake Michigan recreational boating interests. Revenues from these activities flow into the local community, retailers and to the marine industry.
- The local community has established a significant infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.

Project Requirements

- Historically, has required maintenance dredging of approximately 12,500 cubic yards on a near annual basis; the harbor was last dredged in 2010 using Michigan regional dredging provision funding.
- Maintenance dredging is currently required.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Loss of jobs locally
- Loss of recreational and charter fishing in the area
- Decline of recreational boating
- Significant loss of seasonal retail, marina, and village revenues and jobs.
- Decline in local real estate values from reduced boating access

Stakeholder Involvement

- ✓ We need your input on critical system requirements at your harbor or project
- ✓ Operations Chiefs from each District are available today with condition surveys
- ✓ Updated Fact Sheets will be on the web after President's Budget is released in mid-March
- ✓ Webpage is an important mode of communication: meetings, presentations, data

www.lre.usace.army.mil/greatlakes/navigation



Key Great Lakes Contacts

GL Navigation Business Line Manager

Mike O'Bryan – (313) 226-6444

Marie Strum – (313) 226-6794

Shamel Abou-El-Seoud - Chicago Operations Chief

(312) 846-5470

Josh Feldmann - Buffalo District Operations Chief

(716) 879-4393

Dave Wright - Detroit Operations Chief

(313) 226-3573



Questions?

