

UPPER SAGINAW RIVER, MICHIGAN DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (DMMP)

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Upper Saginaw River generally runs south to north within the southeast corner of Bay County and empties into the Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron, approximately 90 miles north of Detroit, Michigan (See Figure 1). The Saginaw River channel is a Federally authorized commercial navigation project. The entire channel extends from deep water, 14 miles out in Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron at the north end of the channel, through the mouth of Saginaw River and 22 miles upstream to the city of Saginaw.

The channel limits of the Lower Saginaw River Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) study are from a point 14 miles lakeward in Saginaw Bay to 4.7 miles upstream from the entrance of the Saginaw River. The channel limits identified as the Upper Saginaw River DMMP study (See Figure 2) are from a point 4.7 miles upstream from the entrance of the Saginaw River to 22 miles upstream from the entrance of the Saginaw River.

Currently, the dredged material from the Lower Saginaw River (defined above) is placed in the Saginaw Bay Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). Saginaw Bay CDF is located approximately 1.9 miles lakeward from the entrance of the Saginaw River, adjacent to the channel in Saginaw Bay. The dredged material from the Upper Saginaw River has no Dredge Material Disposal Facility (DMDF) identified. An Upper Saginaw River DMDF must be able to contain at a minimum, a 20-year dredged material capacity, which in this case is 3,100,000 cubic yards (cy).