



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

## HARBOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORIES

### Cheboygan Harbor, Michigan



**Harbor Location:** Cheboygan Harbor is located at the mouth of the Cheboygan River, emptying into western Lake Huron approximately 16 miles southeast of the Straits of Mackinac.

**Authority:** River & Harbor Acts of 3 Jun 1896, 2 Mar 1907, 26 Aug 1937, 17 May 1950.

**Project Description:** Cheboygan Harbor is a deep draft commercial harbor with approximately 775 feet of rubble mound breakwaters and 12,000 feet of maintained channel.

**Traffic:** 146,324 tons (5-Year average, 2006-2010)

**Transportation Importance:** This project is a significant receiving port on the Great Lakes with commodities of gasoline, fuel oil, and slag. It is the home port of the U.S. Coast Guard's only U.S. heavy ice breaking resource, the cutter Mackinaw; the Mackinaw also plays a key role in buoy tending in spring and fall. Cheboygan Harbor provides only ferry service to Bois Blanc Island and provides a marine bypass route for freight not permitted across the Mackinac Bridge. The ferry carries people, cars, trucks, commodities and mail. Approximately 4-5 ferry trips are made daily from early spring through late fall. The project also supports 40 charter fishing boats, 300 recreational boat slips and serves as a gateway to 43 miles of inland waters.

#### **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:** 15 Aug 2013

**Summary of Impact:** Prevailing waves come from the north-northeast direction. Incoming waves from the northeast could have an immediate impact on the Cheboygan County Marina located on the Cheboygan River upstream of the federal structure. Any significant wave activity along the river could damage vessels moored at the marina and affect operations at the Cheboygan U.S. Coast Guard Station and the U.S. Oil Company Terminal. Other shore structures subject to potential inundation are Durocher Marine, the Cheboygan Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Gordon Turner Park. The shoreline to both the east and west of the harbor is comprised mainly of undeveloped shoreline and private residences.

**Examples of Protected Infrastructure:**



**1. Cheboygan County Marina:** The marina is open for the boating season, which extends from 8 May to 16 October. The marina consists of floating docks with 30 seasonal slips, 54 transient slips and employs 8 workers. The marina is open daily from 7 am to 9 pm. Daily dockage rates range from \$24 to \$201. Amenities at the marina include water, electricity, restrooms, showers, gasoline, diesel, pump out, ice, boat launch and a playground with picnic tables and grills.



**2. City of Cheboygan Wastewater Treatment Plant:** The plant is located near the Cheboygan Harbor structure immediately adjacent to the Cheboygan River. The water treatment plant has a capacity of 5 MGD and serves current customers in Cheboygan and Inverness Township.



**3. Durocher Marine:** The company is a full line marine contractor specializing in submarine cables, pipelines and stone breakwaters. Durocher Marine is also well versed in the construction of marinas, harbors, steel sheet pile walls and bulkheads.



**4. U.S. Oil Company:** The company is one of the largest petroleum suppliers in the region. U.S. Oil handles all aspects of fuel supply in the Midwest, from branding retail gas stations and convenience store franchising to offering dependable wholesale and biofuel supply. Their terminal located on the Cheboygan River is equipped with computer-controlled security system to allow 24-hour access for customers.



**5. U.S. Coast Guard Station, Cheboygan:** The station is the home port for the U.S. Coast Guard ice breaking cutter Mackinaw. It is also the headquarters for the Coast Guard NESU Detachment, Electronic Support Detail, and Auxiliary Flotilla.



**6. Gordon Turner Park:** The park is located at the foot of the Cheboygan Harbor Breakwater. It offers a beach for swimming, picnic areas, a boardwalk to the breakwater, a sports complex including soccer fields and a playground for summer activities.



**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. Values are based on real property tax assessments from these parcels, and don't reflect any detailed coastal zone damage assessments. Figures simply reflect property values at various setbacks.

