



US Army Corps  
of Engineers ®



## Alpena Harbor, MI

### Harbor Features

- Located at the mouth of Thunder Bay River, which empties into Thunder Bay, Lake Huron
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 19 Sep 1890, 2 Mar 1919, 22 Sep 1922, 30 Aug 1935, 27 Oct 1965
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Project depths: 25 feet from deep water in Thunder Bay to a point 300 feet lakeward of the Alpena Light, then 24 feet to 700 feet upstream from the light, 23 feet to the Second Avenue Bridge, then 18.5 feet to the upstream limit of the federal project
- 2.4M tons of material shipped and received in 2021
- Ranked 25<sup>th</sup> in tonnage among the Great Lakes harbors in 2021
- Approximately 700 feet of breakwater structures
- Approximately 12,000 feet of maintained channel
- Dredged material is typically placed in upland sites as it is unsuitable for nearshore placement.
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Decorative Panels International (DPI), Everett Goodrich Trucking, Lafarge, Alpena Oil, and Seaway Marine Transport

### Project Requirements

- Approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material must be dredged on a 5-to-10-year cycle. Dredging requirements vary relative to shoaling patterns, usage, placement site and environmental coordination efforts.
- The harbor was last dredged in 2017.
- A Dredged Material Management Preliminary Assessment is underway to identify long-term material placement strategies. Funding was received for this action in 2022.



- Sediment sampling, analysis and environmental coordination is needed. Funds were included in the FY24 President's Budget.
- Maintenance dredging is currently needed pending sediment sampling results and placement solution. Funds were included in the FY24 President's Budget.
- Routine maintenance of navigation structures is primarily conducted by government floating plant.
- Funding was received in 2023 to conduct critical structure safety maintenance.

### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- If the harbor were closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail. This would increase annual emissions rates by 18.6M lbs. of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$4.2M due to increased railroad related accidents and \$2.8M due to increased truck related accidents.
- A loss of 1 to 2 feet of channel depth results in light loading causing increased transportation costs ranging from \$5.6M to \$14.1M annually.

**Transportation Importance**

- The harbor is a regionally significant shipping and receiving port on the Great Lakes and a critical harbor of refuge.
- Commodities include cement, coal and petroleum products, sand, gravel, salt and limestone.
- The harbor receives large shipments of salt to supply many local municipalities for road deicing.
- Waterborne transportation facilitated by the harbor supports \$111.2M in business revenue, 551 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$35.7M in labor income to the transportation sector.
- Commodities handled by the harbor support \$1.3B in business revenue, 7,389 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$374.1M in labor income.
- U.S. Coast Guard Station Alpena is located in the harbor.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, 2023, and 2024  
Alpena Harbor, MI – Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$1,000)**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>FY22 Requirement</b>	<b>FY22 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY23 Requirement</b>	<b>FY23 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY24 Requirement</b>	<b>FY24 President’s Budget</b>
Maintenance Dredging	1,892	0	1,892	0	1,452	1,452
Sediment Sampling, Analysis, and Environmental Coordination	0	0	200	0	200	200
Dredged Material Management Preliminary Assessment	300	300	0	0	0	0
Critical Structure Safety Maintenance	25	0	25	25	0	0
Real Estate Management	5	5	4	4	5	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,222</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>2,121</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1,657</b>	<b>1,657</b>

**Congressional Interests**

- Representative Jack Bergman R-MI-1
- Senator Gary Peters D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI