



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



Bayfield Harbor, WI

Harbor Features

- Located on the south shore of Lake Superior, 85 miles east of Duluth, MN
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Act of 17 May 1950
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Subsistence harbor providing ferry service to Madeline Island; ferries transport all food, fuel, and supplies to the island
- Federal small boat basin approximately 6 acres in area
- Project depth for the entire boat basin is 10 feet
- 14,200 tons of material shipped and received in 2021.
- Federal structures are cellular extensions of city piers by approximately 103 feet and 139 feet; USACE added two-foot-high parapets to the city piers in 1960
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, City of Bayfield, various marina owners, two private ferry services to Madeline Island, and Native American fishing interests

Project Requirements

- Requires maintenance dredging on an infrequent basis.
- The harbor was last dredged in 1973.
- Maintenance dredging is currently required.
- Sediment sampling and placement site identification are currently required prior to any dredging being completed.
- Critical Structure safety maintenance is required.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Loss of the only commercial transportation option to Madeline Island
- Significant decrease in local tourism impacting numerous local festivals with niche impacts on a national scale
- Loss of local jobs
- Loss of recreational and charter fishing in the area



- Loss of an important harbor of refuge
- Abandonment of Madeline Island supply line, increasing transportation costs, and potentially displacing over 300 permanent residents and over 2,500 seasonal residents
- Increased risk of loss or damages to marine structures on both public and private property, including boat landings and finger docks

Transportation Importance

- Commuting to Madeline Island via ferry
- Nearly 3,000 roundtrip ferry crossings from Bayfield Harbor to La Pointe Harbor on Madeline Island are made annually.
- This project serves as an important harbor of refuge and supports charter fishing and recreational navigation interests.
- The local community has established significant infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.
- A range of services are publicly provided including a boat ramp and 30 slips for overnight, transient, and seasonal moorings.
- The harbor provides recreational access to The Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

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

Work Package	FY22 Requirement	FY22 Appropriation	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Appropriation	FY24 Requirement	FY24 President’s Budget
Maintenance Dredging	450	0	450	0	450	0
Sediment Sampling, Analysis, and Environmental	0	0	200	0	200	0
Critical Structure Safety Maintenance	50	0	50	0	50	0
Real Estate Management	5	0	3	3	5	0
TOTAL	505	0	703	3	705	0

Congressional Interests

- Representative Tom Tiffany R-WI-7
- Senator Ron Johnson R-WI
- Senator Tammy Baldwin D-WI