



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Black River Harbor, MI

Harbor Features

- Located at the mouth of the Black River on the south shore of Lake Superior, 39 miles west of Ontonagon, MI and 47 miles east of Ashland, WI
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Act of 2 Mar 1945
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Project depths: 10 feet in the approach channel, 8 feet in the access channel, and 6 feet in the river channel
- Approximately 4,000 feet of maintained federal channel
- Approximately 1,300 feet of rubble mound breakwaters
- Dredged material is placed along the beach as beach nourishment
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Forest Service, Michigan DNR, Gogebic County, Marina concessionaire, along with charter, recreational, and Native American fishing interests

Project Requirements

- Approximately 4,500 to 7,500 cubic yards of material must be dredged on a 3- to-5-year cycle. Dredging requirements vary relative to shoaling patterns, usage, placement site and environmental coordination efforts.
- The harbor was last dredged in 2009.
- Maintenance dredging and sediment sampling are currently required.
- The rubble mound breakwaters require maintenance.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Further shoaling will limit or cease recreational and transient boating.
- Reduction in wave attenuation, leading to significant storm damage to wharfs, docks, boat landings, and piers within the harbor
- Decrease in local tourism
- Loss of jobs locally
- Loss of safe harbor during storm events
- Potential safety issues for recreational boating community
- Increased risk of loss or damages to marine structures including boat landings and docks and a pedestrian bridge

Transportation Importance

- This project serves as an important harbor of refuge in a remote area of Lake Superior and supports fishing and recreational navigation interests.
- The local community has established infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.

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

Work Package	FY22 Requirement	FY22 Appropriation	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Appropriation	FY24 Requirement	FY24 President’s Budget
Sediment Sampling and Environmental Coordination	200	0	200	200	0	0
Maintenance Dredging	960	0	960	0	1,030	0
Coastal Navigation Structure Maintenance	1,800	0	1,800	0	1,800	0
Real Estate Management	4	0	2	2	3	0
TOTAL	2,964	0	2,962	202	2,833	0

Congressional Interests

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