US Army Corps of Engineers ®

Great Lakes Navigation System

Channels in Straits of Mackinac, MI

Project Features
➢ One of the Great Lakes connecting channels; the Straits of Mackinac are located between Michigan's Upper and Lower Peninsulas and connect Lake Michigan with Lake Huron
➢ Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 30 Aug 1935 and 23 Mar 1956
➢ Deep draft commercial project that provides for a 1,250 foot wide channel between Mackinac Island and Round Island; and for removal of the Poe Reef shoal
➢ Project depth is 30 feet
➢ Approximately 3,500 feet in length
➢ Major stakeholder: Majority of Great Lakes shipping interests and U.S. Coast Guard

Project Requirements
➢ The channels were dug in hard bottom areas of the Straits of Mackinac; consequently, they require infrequent maintenance. It is anticipated that all future maintenance will consist of occasional strike removal operations.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project
➢ Significant loss of jobs locally, regionally, and internationally
➢ Access between Lake Superior and the lower Great Lakes would be cut off
➢ Key component of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway navigation system; disruption of service would have severe maritime and economic impacts.

Transportation Importance
➢ Key connecting channel between Lake Superior and the lower Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway
➢ This project is vital to both domestic and international maritime interests using the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway.
➢ Commodities transported through these channels include coal, iron ore, limestone, wood pulp, petroleum products, salt, and other general cargo.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, 2020, and 2021
Channels in the Straits of Mackinac, MI - Project Requirements and President's Budget ($1,000)

Work Package	FY19 Requirement	FY19 Appropriation	FY20 Requirement	FY20 Appropriation	FY21 Requirement	FY21 Appropriation
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

Congressional Interests

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