



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Cornucopia Harbor, WI

Harbor Features

- Located at the mouth of the Siskiwit River on the south shore of Lake Superior, 49 miles east of Duluth, MN
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 26 Aug 1937, 3 Sep 1954
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Project depths: 10 feet in the approach channel and 8 feet in the turning basin and inner channels
- Approximately 1,500 feet of maintained piers
- Approximately 2,000 feet of maintained federal channel
- Major stakeholders: Siskiwit Marina, Town of Bell Marina, Halverson Fisheries, Red Cliff Tribe Fisheries, Black Warrior Marine, PMG charters, Dreamcatcher Sailing, the NPS, NOAA, US Border Patrol, USGS vessel Kiyi, US Coast Guard, and the Wisconsin DNR

Project Requirements

- Periodic maintenance dredging is needed on a 3- to 5-year cycle of approximately 5,000 to 10,000 cubic yards.
- Federal Channel does not currently meet authorized project depths. Last dredged by USACE in 2008.
- Funding received in FY23 for maintenance dredging.
- Recent local dredging activity occurred in 2011 (3,000 cubic yards), 2014 (12,500 cubic yards), and 2018 (5,144 cubic yards).
- Critical structure safety maintenance is required.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Further shoaling will limit or cease recreational and transient boating.
- Loss of local jobs
- Loss of recreational and charter fishing in the area
- Loss of summer residency and local tourism
- Loss of an important harbor-of-refuge
- Reduction in beach nourishment subjecting commercial, recreational, and residential properties to significant property damages
- Damages to marinas, economic or physical damages to local and regional businesses, and impacted boat landing

Transportation Importance

- The harbor supports \$6.3M in business revenue, and approximately 77 direct, indirect, and induced jobs.
- This project serves as an important harbor of refuge in a remote area of Lake Superior 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.
- Key tribal fishing access and harbor of refuge for the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- 12 business establishments directly rely on the harbor, with 7 waterfront shops, a museum, park, campground, and bed and breakfast.
- Provides key harbor access for first responders serving the south shore of Lake Superior, including the town of Bell, National Park Service, and the US Coast Guard.
- Cornucopia Harbor is home to two marinas, the Town of Bell Marina (a 35-boat slip) and Siskiwit Bay Marina (a 70-boat slip).
- Halverson Fisheries is the largest USA-based fishery on the Great Lakes and operates out of Cornucopia Harbor.
- Cornucopia is the nearest full-service harbor on the west side of the National Park Sea Caves/Apostle Islands.
- Cornucopia is the homeport to over 100 recreational vessels and provides marina service to over 200 private boaters.
- The US Coast Guard uses Cornucopia Harbor for area familiarization exercises, as a drop off point for survivors of search and rescue events, and as a transfer point to both ambulance service and life flights.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, 2023, and 2024
Cornucopia 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	1,120	0	1,120	1,120	0	0
Critical Structure Safety Maintenance	50	0	50	0	50	0
Real Estate Management	7	0	7	7	7	0
TOTAL	1,177	0	1,177	1,127	57	0

Congressional Interests

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