



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Duluth-Superior Harbor, MN and WI

Harbor Features

- Located at the western end of Lake Superior
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Act of 3 Jun 1896
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Project depths: 28 to 32 feet in the entrance, 27 feet deep in the commercial route channels, and 20 to 23 feet in inner channels
- 33.7M tons of material shipped and received in 2019
- Ranked 1st in tonnage among Great Lakes harbors and 20th among U.S. ports in 2019
- Over 10,000 feet of structures including breakwaters, piers, and revetments
- Over 18 miles of maintained channel
- Erie Pier Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), located within the St. Louis Bay; has only 3 to 5 years of capacity remaining
- Since 2013, dredged material has been placed in the 21st and 40th shallow water embayments in the harbor, used locally as beach nourishment at MN Point, and in the construction of environmental remediation and endangered habitat projects.
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Azcon, BNSF, C. Reiss Coal, Calumet Superior, Canadian National, Cenex Harvest States, CHS, Cleveland-Cliffs, Cutler Magner, Duluth Lake Port, Gavilon Grain LLC, General Mills/Cargill, Greymont LLC, Hallet Dock, Hansen-Mueller Co., Holcim Inc., Lafarge, Marine Tech LLC, Midwest Energy, Murphy Oil, North American Salt Co., Northland Bituminous, and Riverland Aggregates



Project Requirements

- Approximately 110,000 cubic yards of material must be dredged each year.
- The harbor was last dredged in 2020 and is scheduled to be dredged again in 2021.
- Dredged material will be placed along MN Point beaches in 2021 to mitigate shoreline erosion.
- Outer portion of Superior Entry north pier repair is expected to be completed by contract during 2021, with FY19 and FY20 funds.
- Settling ponds at Erie Pier require excavation approximately every 3 to 5 years.
- CDF maintenance is required at Erie Pier.
- Repairs to Superior Entry north revetment completed in 2020.
- Design is needed for shoreline protection on north side of Duluth office facility due to high water and storm impacts.
- Steel sheet pile installation/repair was begun along the Corps of Engineers Vessel Yard South Pier during FY21. Additional funds are needed to continue design and repairs for North and East Piers.
- Facility maintenance required at vessel yard and area office.
- Visitor center grounds, doors and restroom repairs are required.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- If the harbor closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 272.2M lbs of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$60.9M due to increased railroad related accidents and \$40.7M due to increased trucking related accidents.
- Light loading; losses of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth results in increased transportation costs of between \$15.7M and \$30.0M annually
- Loss or relocation of over 11,500 jobs dependent upon port activities
- Cessation or relocation of commercial shipping activity in the region

Transportation Importance

- Major international port on the Great Lakes and harbor of refuge; westernmost harbor in the United States with direct access to the Atlantic Ocean
- Commodities shipped or received include iron ore, coal, forest products, petroleum, grain, general cargo, steel, scrap iron, and wind turbine parts.
- Waterborne transportation facilitated by the harbor supports \$1.6B in business revenue, 6,827 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$579.8M in labor income to the transportation sector.
- Generates \$240M in federal and state tax revenue.
- Port of International Trade
- Commodities handled by the Port and Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System at large support \$35B in business revenue, 237,868 jobs, and \$14.2B in wages throughout the US and Canada.
- Commodities handled by the harbor support \$33.5B in business revenue, 178,403 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$9.4B in labor income.
- Home port of U.S. Coast Guard's 225-foot-long cutter Alder. Home to U.S. Coast Guard auxiliary station and Marine Safety Unit, responsible for port safety and security, marine environmental protection, and commercial vessel safety missions under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security.
- Port of Call for Great Lakes Cruise Vessels

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, 2021, and 2022
Duluth-Superior Harbor, MN and WI - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY20 Requirement	FY20 Appropriation	FY21 Requirement	FY21 Appropriation	FY22 Requirement	FY22 President's Budget
Project Condition Surveys	627	627	646	646	775	775
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	3,000	3,000	2,350	2,350	2,655	2,655
Superior Entry N. Revetment Repairs	1,376	1,376	1,500	1,500	1,650	1,650
Superior Entry N. Pier Repair by contract	4,000	4,000	0	0	0	0
Regional Asset Management	250	250	150	150	250	250
Vessel Yard Structure Repair	6,000	6,000	0	0	13,250	0
E&D for Vessel Yard Repairs	0	0	300	0	250	0
Vessel Yard Facility Maintenance	0	0	0	0	3,890	0
E&D for Duluth Facility Shoreline Stabilization	0	0	480	0	250	250
Construction for Duluth Facility Shoreline Stabilization	0	0	0	0	4,000	0
Acquisition and Repairs – Stone Dock	0	0	0	0	8,000	0
Entry Revetment Maintenance	0	0	0	0	1,500	0
Erie Pier CDF Maintenance	0	0	0	0	1,980	0
Area Office Facility Maintenance	0	0	0	0	860	0
Industrial Hygiene Assessment	100	0	0	0	75	75
Cultural Resources Management (Env. Stewardship) for Nav	0	0	69	69	77	77
Duluth Facility Security - CIPR	300	0	300	0	300	300
Operation/Maint. of Visitor Center for Navigation	0	0	347	347	360	360
Real Estate Management	49	33	38	38	45	45
Environmental and Real Estate Coordination for Bungee Dock	0	0	50	0	50	0
Environmental Compliance	0	0	0	0	10	10
Other Business Lines						
Environmental Stewardship	68	68	0	0	0	0
O&M of Visitor Center	742	516	453	358	468	400
E&D for Visitor Foundation Repairs	120	0	125	0	2,500	0
Visitor Center Grounds Imp.	0	0	0	0	2,000	0
Visitor Center Windows and Door Replacement	0	0	0	0	1,000	0
Visitor Center Restroom Rehab and Storm Water Backflow Prevention	0	0	0	0	2,000	0
TOTAL	16,632	15,870	6,808	5,458	48,195	6,847

Congressional Interests

- Representative Pete Stauber R-MN-8
- Representative Tom Tiffany R-WI-7
- Senator Tina Smith D-MN
- Senator Amy Klobuchar D-MN
- Senator Ron Johnson R-WI
- Senator Tammy Baldwin D-WI