



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Grand Marais Harbor, MN

Harbor Features

- Located on the north shore of Lake Superior, about 110 miles northeast of Duluth, MN
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Act of 1879
- Deep draft harbor that currently serves recreational users
- Project depth of 20 feet at the harbor entrance, depths range between 16 to 18 feet within the harbor, and the project depth of the small boat harbor is 8 feet
- Federal small boat basin of approximately 38 acres makes up the major portion of the project. A small federal channel behind the west breakwater is approximately 500 x 100 feet.
- Over 1,600 feet of breakwaters
- Over 800 feet of concrete seawalls in the southeast corner of the harbor
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Minnesota DNR, City of Grand Marais marina, a private yacht club leasing land from the U.S. Forest Service, and North House Folk School

Project Requirements

- Requires periodic maintenance dredging on an infrequent basis
- The harbor was last dredged in 2008, when approximately 6,000 cubic yards of material were removed.
- Maintenance dredging is not currently required.
- Critical structure safety maintenance is currently required.
- Repairs to the navigation structure are required.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Reduction in wave attenuation, leading to significant storm damages and erosion within the harbor, including boat landings and other marine structures along public and private property
- Increased risk to the safety of tourists and residents who frequent the concrete navigational structures
- Marked reduction in local tourism, associated commerce, and summer residency, leading to significant impacts to the local tourism-based economy
- Loss of use by U.S. Coast Guard station, resulting in reduced response times to spills, search and rescue, and other maritime emergencies
- Loss of recreational and charter fishing in the area
- Loss of highly utilized boat launch for small crafts and recreational boaters
- Loss of important harbor of refuge
- Loss of local jobs

Transportation Importance

- This project serves as an important harbor of refuge as well as 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.
- This project provides access to Lake Superior for several governmental agencies with such functions as law enforcement, research, and search and rescue.
- Harbor is home to U.S. Coast Guard Station North Superior.
- Harbor is home to one of the remaining commercial fishing operations on Lake Superior.
- Harbor provides major recreational boat access.

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

Work Package	FY22 Requirement	FY22 Appropriation	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Appropriation	FY24 Requirement	FY24 President’s Budget
Navigation Structure Repairs - Engineering and Design	480	0	480	0	480	0
Critical Structure Safety Maintenance	50	25	25	0	25	0
Real Estate Management	6	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	536	25	505	0	505	0

Congressional Interests

- Representative Pete Stauber R-MN-8
- Senator Tina Smith D-MN
- Senator Amy Klobuchar D-MN