



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Grand Traverse Bay Harbor, MI

Harbor Features

- Located on the south shore of Lake Superior at the mouth of the Traverse River on the eastern shore of Keweenaw Bay, about 20 miles northeast of the portage entry to the Keweenaw Waterway
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Act of 1945
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Project depth: 12 feet in the entrance channel and 12 feet in the Traverse River
- Approximately 1,500 feet of maintained federal channel
- Approximately 1,438 feet of piers
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Schoolcraft Township, Native American fishing interests, and local boating interests

Project Requirements

- Approximately 12,000 to 20,000 cubic yards of material must be dredged on a 3 to 5 year cycle.
- The harbor was last dredged in 2009, when approximately 29,000 cubic yards of material were removed.
- Limited local dredging occurred in 2016.
- Dredging of the federal harbor occurred in 2019 as part of an ongoing GLRI project to address migration of stamp sands from north of the harbor.
- A storm event in 2018 shoaled in the north breakwater concrete cap. Emergency funds were received in FY19 and repairs were made.
- Critical breakwater safety maintenance is required.
- Maintenance dredging is currently required.



- Approximately 5,000 tons of stone is needed to armor the lakeside of the exterior north and south piers.
- Replacement of north breakwater timber structure is needed.
- Installation of a structure or other retaining measure is needed to prevent further southward migration of sand. A funding need has been identified for a Section 216 study.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Damages to property and potential loss of privately owned docks and a public boat launch along riverfront
- Loss of local jobs
- Loss of recreational and charter fishing in the area
- Erosion and pollution of natural shoreline with migrating stamp sand materials, leading to habitat reduction for benthic, marine, and terrestrial organisms, and impacted wetlands

Transportation Importance

- This project serves as an important harbor of refuge and supports charter 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) 2019, 2020, and 2021 Grand Traverse Bay Harbor, MI - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)

Work Package	FY19 Requirement	FY19 Appropriation	FY20 Requirement	FY20 Appropriation	FY21 Requirement	FY21 President's Budget
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	500	0	610	0	610	0
Breakwater Repairs by Gov't. Floating Plant	250	250*	0	0	400	0
Critical Breakwater Safety Maintenance	25	0	25	0	25	0
Sec 216 Study – Sediment	0	0	0	0	200	0
Real Estate Management	0	0	0	0	4	0
TOTAL	775	250	635	0	1,239	0

**Funded with HQ Emergency Funding*

Congressional Interests

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