



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



La Pointe Harbor, WI

Harbor Features

- Located on Madeline Island across from Bayfield, WI; approximately 85 miles east of Duluth, MN
- Authorization: 1960 Rivers & Harbors Act
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Subsistence harbor
- Project depth is 10 feet
- Approximately 200 feet of maintained federal channel
- Approximately 200 feet of breakwater
- 14,268 tons of material shipped and received in 2021.
- Dredged material is placed upland.
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, the town of La Pointe, Madeline Island Ferry Lines, and Nelson Construction

Project Requirements

- Requires maintenance dredging of approximately 1,200 cubic yards every 5 to 6 years
- The harbor was last dredged in 2014, when approximately 1,500 cubic yards of material were removed.
- Maintenance dredging and sediment sampling are currently required.
- Local interests requested project limits be expanded to allow for larger ferry vessels to access this harbor. FY23 funds will be used to initiate a Section 216 study to assess if changed conditions exist and warrant project modification.
- Critical structure safety maintenance is required.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Loss of ability to provide food and fuel to Madeline Island
- Abandonment of Madeline Island, leading to the displacement of over 300 permanent residents and over 2,500 seasonal residents
- Increased risk of damages to boat landings, docks, public and private marine structures
- Loss of only commercial transportation option to the mainland
- Loss of emergency and all essential services to the local community
- Loss of local jobs
- Loss of recreational boating and charter fishing in the area
- Loss of an important harbor of refuge
- Significant decrease in local tourism, impacting numerous local festivals

Transportation Importance

- This project serves as an important ferry hub, carrying commuters in the local community daily between Bayfield and La Pointe, WI.
- The subsistence harbor provides all essential services to Madeline Island. It is vital to emergency services, schools, and all supplies, provisions, and goods delivered to the island.
- This project serves as an important harbor of refuge and supports charter fishing and recreational boating interests.
- The local community has established significant infrastructure around the harbor that generates income from patrons and visitors to the area, including shops, restaurants, museums, lodging, a full-service marina, and more.
- Harbor serves as a gateway to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, 2023, and 2024
La Pointe 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 | 570 | 0 | 570 | 0 | 600 | 0 |
| Sediment Sampling, Analysis, and Environmental Coordination | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 0 |
| Critical Structure Safety Maintenance | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 |
| Section 216 Study | 20 | 0 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Real Estate Management | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 644 | 0 | 642 | 22 | 854 | 0 |

Congressional Interests

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