



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



Les Cheneaux Islands Channels, MI

Harbor Features

- Archipelago encompassing 36 islands aligning the northern shore of Lake Huron between Straits of Mackinac, Drummond Island & North Channel areas.
- Authorization: Authorized by the Chief of Engineers 15 Mar 1967, pursuant to Section 107 of the 1960 River & Harbor Act
- Shallow draft recreational harbor
- Project depth 7 feet
- Over 7.5 miles of maintained federal channel
- Dredged material placed at an upland site
- Major stakeholders include Michigan Boating Industries Association, U.S. Department of Interior (Government Island), Michigan DNR (State Lands-Island Property), marine historical properties, charter boats, recreational and tribal fisherman, as well as island residential populations.
- Historically, provided a protected passage for travelers from Mackinac Island to the St. Marys River and a Harbor of Refuge for tribal members, voyageurs, fishermen, ferries, water liveries and recreational boaters.

Project Requirements

- Requires infrequent maintenance dredging (every 20-30 years) of approximately 80,000 cubic yards; the harbor was last dredged in 2010.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Loss of recreational and charter fishing in the area
- Loss of only means of access to channel of islands



Transportation Importance

- Subsistence harbor – Waterborne transportation is sole linkage as infrastructure between island residential and mainland services community.
- Multiple harbors in this project serve as Harbors of Refuge. The project also supports charter fishing and recreational navigation interests.
- The local regional area has established a significant infrastructure around the channels that generates income from users and area visitors.
- The channels provide subsistence access to approximately 900 island homes and for barge/workboat service for the transportation of supplies.
- Supports approximately 2,800 recreational boat slips throughout the 36 Les Cheneaux Islands.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 2016 and 2017
Les Cheneaux Islands Channels, MI - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY15 Requirement	FY15 Appropriation	FY16 Requirement	FY16 Appropriation	FY17 Requirement	FY17 President's Budget
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

Congressional Interests

- Representative Dan Benishek R-MI-1
- Senator Gary Peters D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI