



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



## Ontonagon Harbor, MI

### Project Features

- Located about 140 miles east of Duluth, MN, on the south shore of Lake Superior, at the mouth of the Ontonagon River, MI.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 2 Mar 1867, 23 Jun 1874, 13 Jun 1902, 2 Mar 1907, 3 Mar 1909, 26 Aug 1937, Act of 1962
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Project depth is 23 feet in the entrance channel of Lake Superior, 22 feet in the inner harbor channel, 30 feet in the sedimentation basin, and 21 feet at the western upstream portion of the channel
- Over 4,800 feet of structures including piers and revetments
- About 4,000 feet of maintained channel
- Major stakeholders include Oldenburg Group, and Ontonagon County.

### Project Requirements

- Approximately 40,000 cubic yards of material must be dredged each year; the harbor was last dredged in 2011.
- Maintenance dredging is currently required within the harbor, and there are plans to dredge the harbor in 2016.
- Local interests have raised concerns that navigation structures are contributing to deteriorated wave conditions within the harbor and erosion adjacent to shoreline outside the harbor.



### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Lack of maintenance dredging is inhibiting development of new commercial users of the harbor.
- Significant loss of jobs both locally and regionally in an already economically depressed area.
- Failure to dredge will result in continued shoaling and reduced channel dimensions.

### Transportation Importance

- Harbor of Refuge
- There is local interest in re-establishing movement of wood products and copper out of the harbor via marine transportation.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 2016 and 2017  
Ontonagon Harbor, MI – Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$1,000)**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>FY15 Requirement</b>	<b>FY15 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY16 Requirement</b>	<b>FY16 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY17 Requirement</b>	<b>FY17 President’s Budget</b>
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	750		850	850	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Congressional Interests**

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