



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



## Portage Lake Harbor, MI

### Harbor Features

- Located on the east shore of Lake Michigan, 146 miles northeast of Chicago, IL and 40 miles north of Ludington, MI.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Act of 3 Mar 1879
- Recreational harbor
- Project depth is 18 feet
- Over 2,000 feet of maintained federal channel, between Lake Michigan and Portage Lake
- More than 4,400 feet of maintained piers and revetments
- Dredged material is placed along the beach as beach nourishment
- Major stakeholders include the city (village) of Onekama, Michigan DNR, Michigan Boating Association, Portage Lake Harbor Commission, Three Harbor Marinas, and a variety of charter and sport fishing interests.

### Project Requirements

- Approximately 22,000 cubic yards of material must be dredged on a 3 to 5 year cycle. Harbor is currently in need of dredging.
- Local community completed dredging of the federal channel in 2013 with funding from State of Michigan.
- Recent condition assessments have identified serious structural deficiencies on both the north and south revetments. Design and physical repairs are required. However due to cost considerations, the structures may have to be repaired in phases over several years.
- The state of Michigan has submitted a letter of intent to contribute funds (\$800,000) for the USACE to complete design of the project and partial repairs to the navigation structures.



### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Loss of jobs locally; the harbor supports approximately 200 jobs.
- Loss of tourism, recreational and charter fishing in the area; the harbor supports 11 charter fishing boats and 4 commercial docking facilities.
- Potential safety issues for recreational boating community if channel closes.

### Transportation Importance

- This project serves as an important Harbor of Refuge and supports charter fishing and recreational navigation interests.
- The local community has established a significant infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.
- Supports approximately 250 recreational boat slips with more than 500 private on shore docks.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 2016 and 2017  
Portage Lake 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	215		215		220	
Structural Repair – by Contract	6,000		6,000		6,250	
Design for Revetment Repairs	250		0		0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,465</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,215</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,470</b>	<b>0</b>

**Congressional Interests**

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