



Rouge River, MI

River Features

- Rouge River originates in Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, MI. The river is 30 miles long, flows southeast through Wayne County, and joins the Detroit River at the westerly limit of the city of Detroit. The navigation channel is located on the lower 2 ½ miles of the river.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 8 Aug 1917, 30 Aug 1935, 3 Jul 1958, 23 Oct 1962
- Deep draft commercial harbor
- Project depth is 21 feet in the cut-off and main Rouge channel to 17 to 25 feet in the Old Rouge channel.
- 6.7M tons of material shipped and received in 2013
- Ranked 12th among the Great Lakes harbors, when considered separately from Port of Detroit
- Total of 4.5 miles of federal channels and one turning basin
- Pointe Mouille confined disposal facility is located in Lake Erie and has sufficient capacity to accommodate Rouge River dredged material for the next 25 years.
- Major stakeholders include Ajax Paving Industries Inc., Great Lakes Aggregates Inc., Harridon Terminal Inc., Honeywell International Inc., Jefferson Marine Terminal, Michigan Marine Terminal, Motor City Materials LLC, Nicholson Terminal & Dcko Co., Severstal North America, Marathon Oil, U.S. Gypsum, and Warner Petroleum.

Project Requirements

- Rouge River historically requires maintenance dredging of 50,000 to 60,000 cubic yards on a 2 to 5 year cycle; the river was last dredged in 2012 to address portions of the channel that experienced up to 3 feet of shoaling.



- The project currently requires maintenance dredging, and there are plans to dredge the harbor in 2016.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Reduction of bulk commodities that pass through the harbor that generate \$9.46B annually in business revenue while supporting 53,949 direct, indirect, and induced jobs that produce over \$2.58B per year in personal income in transportation and commodity related industries.
- If the channel were closed to commercial traffic, commodities would have to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by 548M lbs of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$3.8M due to increased railroad related accidents, and \$14.5M due to increased trucking related accidents.
- Light loading; loss of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth results in increased transportation costs of \$4M to \$8.6M annually.

Transportation Importance

- Major receiving port on the Great Lakes.
- Commodities include iron ore, petroleum products, coal, slag, cement, limestone, lignite, fuel oil, coke, salt, sand, and gravel.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 2016 and 2017
Rouge River, 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
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	960	960	900	900	0	
CDF Maintenance					0	
TOTAL	960	960	900	900	0	0

Congressional Interests

- Representative John Conyers Jr. D-MI-13
- Senator Gary Peters D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI