



## Burns Waterway Small Boat Harbor, IN

### Project Features

- Located on Lake Michigan near the city of Portage, Lake County, Indiana.
- Authorization: Section 107 of the River and Harbor Act of 1960.
- Project depths are 11 ft. in the approach channel, 10 ft. in the inner harbor, and 6 ft. in the River Channel.
- Combined length of 1,688 linear feet of rubblemound breakwater structures.
- 5,200 ft of Federal channel in the harbor and channel leading to the public marina. The channel also serves numerous private marinas upstream of the public marina.

### Project Requirements

- Structural repairs to the North breakwater were completed in FY10 using USACE hired labor forces. Both the North and West Breakwaters remain in satisfactory condition.
- Due to the severe Hurricane Sandy storm on southern L. Michigan on 31-Oct-2012, the outer harbor entrance received approximately 20,000 CY of new sediment.
- Hydraulic dredging was completed in October 2013. Approximately 24,000 CY of clean sand was removed, and placed offshore adjacent to the community of Ogden Dunes.
- Erosion control along the slopes adjacent to Burns Ditch is critically needed to help reduce the rate of shoal accumulation within the channel.



### Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- The available depth within the navigation channel south of the harbor is slightly reduced by shoals resulting from slope erosion from the adjacent bluffs. Current shoaling could adversely affect some recreational users. Funding of channel maintenance in all recreational harbors is lower priority than commercial harbors.

### Transportation Importance

- The harbor provides berthing and launching for hundreds of recreational boats. Several marinas are located upstream of the federal project. In addition, the harbor and channel provide safe refuge for recreational boats on southern Lake Michigan traveling between Michigan City and Chicago's Calumet Harbor during periods of adverse weather. The commercial harbors in the immediate area, such as Burns Harbor, Gary Harbor and Indiana Harbor do not have any facilities for the protection of recreational boats during intense periods of rapidly developing summer/fall thunderstorms.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, 2015 and 2016  
Burns Waterway Small Boat Harbor, IN - Project Requirements and President's Budget (\$1,000)**

<b>Work Package</b>	<b>FY14 Requirement</b>	<b>FY14 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY15 Requirement</b>	<b>FY15 Appropriation</b>	<b>FY16 Requirement</b>	<b>FY16 President's Budget</b>
Project Condition Surveys / Caretaker Funds	25	0	0	0	0	0
Sampling/Testing of Harbor Channel for Maintenance Dredging						
Maintenance Dredging of Harbor and Channel						
Structural Repair - North and West Breakwaters						
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Congressional Interests**

- Representative Peter J. Visclosky, D-IN-1
- Senator Daniel Coats, R-IN
- Senator Joe Donnelly, D-IN