



Regional Project Profile



ICONS/ACRONYMS FOR THE REGIONAL PROJECT



Project location



Project owner



Approximate cost

| Acronym | |
|---------|--|
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| NYPA | New York Power Authority |
| NYS | New York State |
| NYSDOS | New York State Department of State |
| RDP | Regional Dredging Project |
| REDI | Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative |

REGIONAL DREDGING PROJECT

The objective of the Regional Dredging Project (RDP) is to provide a comprehensive approach to the ongoing dredging needs for harbor navigation channels along the south shore of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. In the near term, the RDP addresses the necessary maintenance dredging of 17 harbor navigation channels, utilized primarily for recreational boating and refuge, and to provide the counties with a roadmap for maintaining the channels in the future.



17 harbors in Niagara, Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, and Cayuga Counties; also open to Oswego, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence counties



NYS and Eight REDI Counties



15,000,000

Scope of Work

Proposed scope of work shall be phased according to the following bullets:

- Development of an updated planning document, including conducting surveys, design, development of dredge material placement alternatives, sediment testing (where needed) permitting, acquisition of dredging contracts, and one round of dredging
- Initial New York State (NYS) support will allow the counties to work out the long-term mechanisms, funding strategy, and harbor operations and maintenance needed to maintain recreational navigation channels in the future

Public Support and Asset Owner

The RDP concept was developed in cooperation with the counties of Orleans, Monroe, Niagara, Cayuga, Oswego, and Wayne, and the Town of Greece, City of Oswego, and New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) Division of Coastal Resources in 2014.

Permitting and Feasibility

Multi-jurisdictional permit review is needed. Where previously authorized channels exist, additional study is not anticipated for harbor channel dredging

and maintenance using traditional dredge disposal methods and locations. Sediment testing will be necessary as required by law and dependent upon the sediment type and disposal method. Additional feasibility studies may be required for previously unauthorized channels considered “new” dredging for sediment analysis and disposal, or for new beneficial re-use locations.

Benefits

Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative (REDI) resources would serve as a catalyst to address the current dredging backlog. The RDP will plan, organize, and execute dredging needs for participating harbors for long-term, sustained solutions. In addition, the RDP will maximize the safe use of Harbors of Refuge for public safety and will also facilitate strategic thinking regarding the beneficial re-use of dredge materials for a comprehensive sediment management program supporting natural protective features.

Flexibility

The administration and implementation of the RDP will be phased and milestones established.

Durability

A goal of the RDP will be to develop and implement a long-term solution to maximize and sustain resources.

Economic Development Potential

The harbors included in the RDP along the southern shore of Lake Ontario are estimated to generate \$94 million in economic activity, with \$3.8 million in state tax revenues with an additional \$3.8 million for local communities annually. These harbors support more than 1,350 local jobs.

Environmental Considerations

All dredging projects undertaken through the RDP will be evaluated for sediment suitability and beneficial re-use alternatives, as well as opportunities for sediment bypass. Sediments suitable for beneficial re-use should be used for ecosystem restoration or erosion management projects, with likely benefits to habitat, water quality, and beach nourishment. Upland placement, sand bypass and/or beneficial use of dredged material should be prioritized to reduce open lake placement and to preserve natural coastal function.

Alternatives Considered

No action; dredging (including permitting and coordination) of harbors would be undertaken on an individual basis.

