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Detroit District

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Corps plans 12 dredging projects in 2009 for the Upper Great Lakes

DETROIT – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, plans in 2009 to award contracts for a dozen maintenance dredging projects for rivers and harbors in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

“The fiscal year 2009 dredging program represents a significant reduction from our efforts in fiscal year 2008. However, we still feel that we can maintain minimum functional channel requirements across the Great Lakes system,” said Wayne Schloop, chief of operations for the Detroit District.

In 2008, the Detroit District awarded contracts to dredge 39 projects. Some of the contracts awarded in 2008 were a direct result of the Congressional Omnibus Appropriations Bill, which provided for a much more comprehensive dredging program.

Maintenance dredging shoaled material is required in many of the harbors and rivers in order to keep shipping lanes open for local commerce and recreational boaters. If the river isn’t dredged, water depths decrease and commercial vessels must transport lighter loads, leading to more river trips by vessels and increasing the cost of transportation, goods and materials.

Here are the Corps’ planned 2009 dredging projects for the Upper Great Lakes:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount to be dredged</u>
Detroit River, Mich.	200,000 cubic yards
Duluth, Minn.-Superior, Wis.	120,000 cubic yards
Grand Haven, Mich. (outer harbor)	50,000 cubic yards
Grand Haven, Mich. (inner harbor)	30,000 cubic yards
Green Bay, Wis.	160,000 cubic yards
Holland, Mich. (outer harbor)	35,000 cubic yards
Ludington, Mich.	40,000 cubic yards
Monroe, Mich.	70,000 cubic yards
Ontonagon, Mich.	45,000 cubic yards

Rouge River, Mich.	80,000 cubic yards
Saginaw, Mich.	300,000 cubic yards
St. Joseph, Mich. (outer harbor)	45,000 cubic yards

For questions or more details, please contact the Detroit District Public Affairs Office at (313) 226-4680.