



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Detroit District

## HARBOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORIES

### Whitefish Point Harbor, Michigan



**Harbor Location:** Whitefish Point Harbor is located on the south shore of Lake Superior, about 55 miles east of Grand Marais, MI and 40 miles west of Sault Ste. Marie, MI.

**Authority:** River & Harbor Acts of 2 Mar 1945, 17 Aug 1967.

**Project Description:** Whitefish Point Harbor is a shallow draft recreational harbor with more than 1,500 feet of breakwaters and approximately 8 acres of maintained Federal channel.

**Traffic:** No commerce reported

**Transportation Importance:** This project serves as an important Harbor of Refuge and supports charter fishing and Native American navigation interests. The local community has established infrastructure around the harbor facilities that generates income from harbor users and visitors to the area.

#### Congressional Interest:

- Representative Dan Benishek R-MI-1
- Senator Carl Levin D-MI
- Senator Debbie Stabenow D-MI

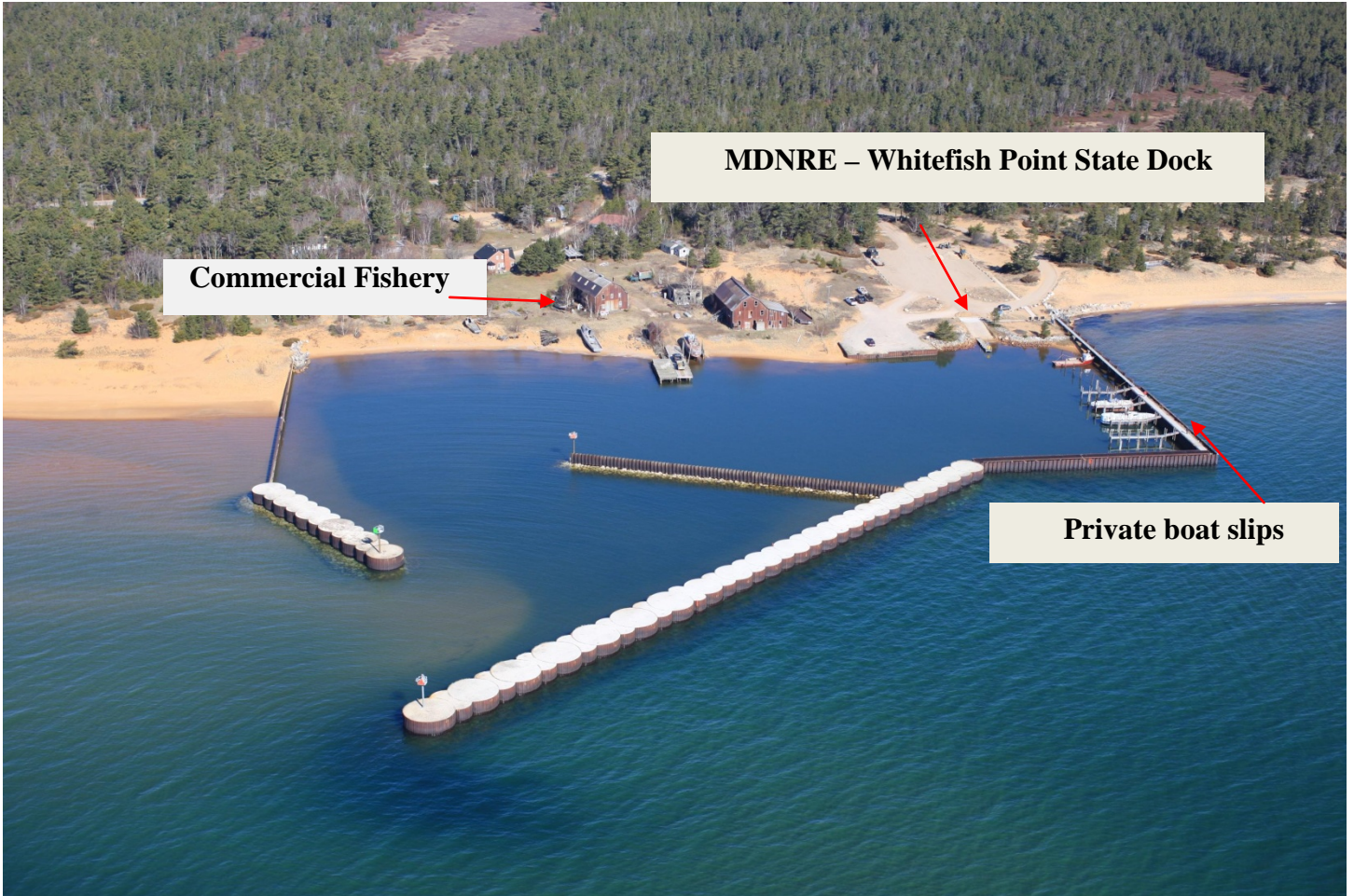
**Current Condition Assessment:** **B**



**Date of Site Visit:** 8 August 2013

**Summary of Impact:** Prevailing waves come from the northwest direction. Waves overtopping the breakwaters would roll into the harbor and could have an immediate impact on the MDNRE Marina and the private slips in the harbor. The wave activity associated with the overtopping could cause dangerous currents for boat launching at the MDNRE site as well as damage vessels moored at the marina. Presently, the marina is sufficiently protected, but could be exposed to greater wave heights under the right conditions. In both cases, an increased wave climate would likely result in damage to docked vessels and the docks themselves. In the event the structures are damaged and/or destroyed during a storm event, the MDNRE Marina and the private slips within the harbor would likely be impacted.

**Examples of Protected Infrastructure:**



**Potential Impact Area:** The following graphic displays property parcels that could be impacted within various zones defined by different setbacks from the shoreline behind existing Federal coastal structures. Values are based on real property tax assessments from these parcels, and don't reflect any detailed coastal zone damage assessments. Figures simply reflect property values at various setbacks.

