



State of Wisconsin Department of Administration

Tony Evers, Governor
Kathy Blumenfeld, Secretary

Sent via email only

March 20, 2026

Charles A. Uhlarik
Department of the Army, Detroit District, Corps of Engineers
477 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48226-2550

Re: Coastal Zone Management Act Federal Consistency Determination for the Nearshore Placement of Dredged Material from the Saxon Harbor Federal Navigation Channel, Iron County, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Uhlarik,

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) received your letter, dated January 26, 2026, and supporting information, regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Detroit District, proposal to conduct dredging and nearshore placement of dredged material removed from the Saxon Harbor federal navigation channel, Iron County, Wisconsin, under our operations and maintenance authority. The proposed action includes maintenance dredging of the Saxon Harbor federal navigation channel, with placement of up to 17,000 cubic yards starting 600 feet west of the western harbor breakwater and extending for an additional 1,900 feet from the ordinary high water mark to the -8' underwater contour.

Under Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S. Code § 1456 and 15 CFR Part 930), federal consistency requires that federal actions with reasonably foreseeable effects on coastal uses or resources should be consistent with the state Coastal Management Program's enforceable policies. The proposed action will be undertaken by a federal agency and are within Wisconsin's Coastal Zone.

In the letter, USACE included a statement that the project would be undertaken in a manner which is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with Wisconsin's enforceable policies. WCMP's enforceable policies are included in [Attachment C: Specific State Coastal Policies of Wisconsin Coastal Management Program: A Strategic Vision for the Great Lakes](#), available on the WCMP website, <http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>.

WCMP published notice in the Wisconsin State Journal and the Ashland Daily Press. The public comment period ended on March 5, 2026. WCMP did not receive any comments.

WCMP reached out to colleagues at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR staff mentioned they have been in contact with USACE but that the Water Quality Certification has not yet been issued.

In accordance with Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act and 15 CFR 930, Subpart C, and 15 CFR § 930.4, WCMP is issuing a conditional concurrence. WCMP concurs with the consistency certification, if the following condition is met:

Condition: Water Quality Certification

USACE is proposing activities that may affect water quality of Lake Michigan and the Menominee River. The DNR's Water Quality Certification will ensure that the federal action is consistent with Wisconsin's enforceable policies. The condition will be met when DNR provides a Water Quality Certification.

Enforceable policies:

1.15.1) No person may conduct an activity for which the Wisconsin department of natural resources denies a required water quality certification. No person may violate a condition imposed by the department in a water quality certification. (See Wis. Stats. § 281.17(10))

1.3) Discharge of effluents, including industrial, municipal and agricultural wastes, into any waters of the state shall not be allowed if they exceed federal and state water quality standards. (See Wis. Stats. §§ 283.11-.31, and Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 221 to 297). (See also managed use #8).

1.4) Disposal in the waters of the state of the following defined pollutants shall be restricted: dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, refuse, oil, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive substance, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial, municipal and agricultural waste discharged into water. (See Wis. Stats. §§ 283.01(13), 283.31(1) and 29.601). (See also managed uses #8 and #9).

Please notify WCMP immediately if the condition cannot be met. If the condition is not met, as outlined in 15 CFR § 930.4, the conditional concurrence will be treated as an objection.

This conditional concurrence does not exempt the project from any other necessary permits that may be required under other federal, state, or local regulations. If you have any questions, please contact me at 608-267-7988 or kathleen.angel@wisconsin.gov.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Angel, Program Manager
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

cc: Hal Harrington, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Duncan MacDonnell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jillian Tomczak, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
James Killian, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources