Navigational Dredging in the Detroit Harbor, Washington Island, Wisconsin Permitting and Management

WEDA 2015 Midwest Chapter Conference

March 11 -13, 2015 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Ken Potrykus, D. Roznowski, K. Aukerman, S. Kozicki of Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC; J. Gunnlaugsson of Town of Washington; and T. Drager of Roen Salvage Company.



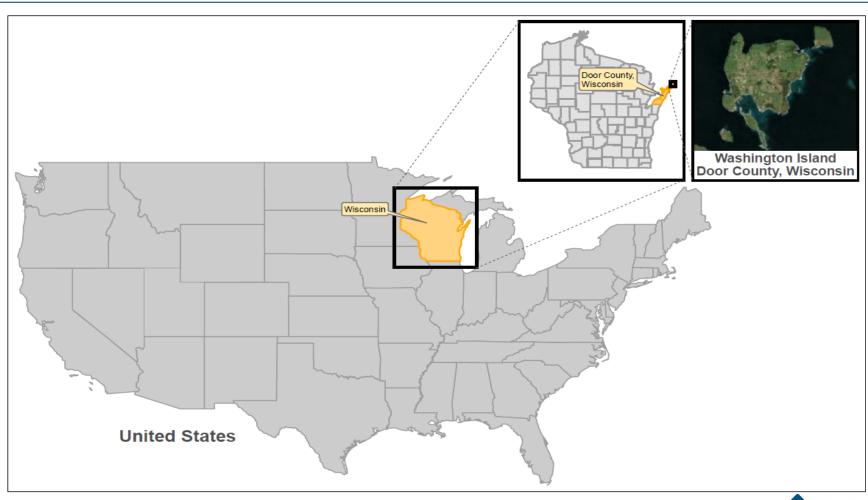
Overview

- Detroit Harbor History
- Harbor Issues/Project Objectives
- Permitting
- Dredging
- Fish Restriction Window
- Dredge Spoil Management
- Results/Lessons Learned



Project Location







Detroit Harbor





Detroit Harbor History

- Channel originally dredged in 1939
 - ▶ Authorization depth is 14 feet below low water datum (LWD), (577.5 – 14 = 563.5)
 - Channel width is 150 feet
- No maintenance dredging
- Washington Island Ferry
 - > started in 1940
 - servicing the Island





Death's Door





Harbor Issues/Project Objectives

- Ferry boat size increase
 - draft of up to 11 feet
- Lake Michigan water levels
 - ▶ 2013 water measured at about 575
 - boat draft at 564; 563.5 is channel depth
- Community reliance on ferry service
- Budget constraints
- Environmental aesthetics



Harbor Issues/Project Objectives

- Create a deeper and wider channel
 - Minimal sediment; a lot of rock
 - ▶ 134,500 cubic yards
- Material disposal
 - We are on an island
- Tourist destination
- Environmental sensitivity
- Secure funding
 - Wisconsin DOT Harbor Assistance Program



Permits

WDNR Chapter 30 Permit

- Dredge 134,500 cubic yards
- Fish restriction window
- Turbidity barriers
- Solid Waste exemption
- State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO)
- WPDES Carriage and Interstitial Water
 - Dewatering at dredge and disposal locations
- NOI Stormwater at construction site
- USACE Letter of Permission

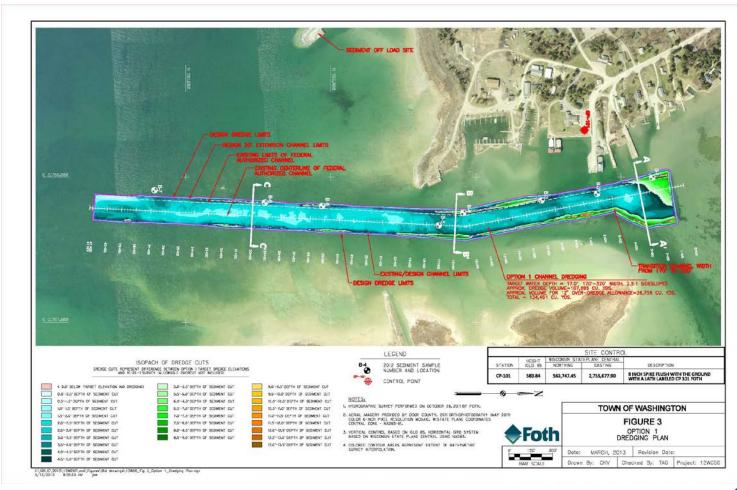


Dredging Specifics

- Pre-dredge survey identified dredge prism and material to be removed
- Roen Salvage selected project contractor
- No dredging during tourist season (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
- Intent to complete work in fall of 2013
- Dredge 134,500 cubic yards

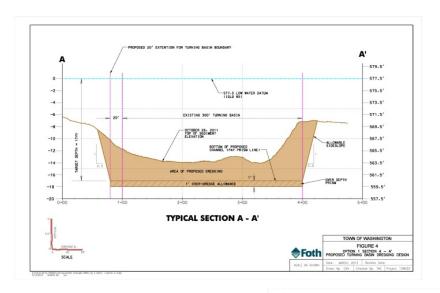


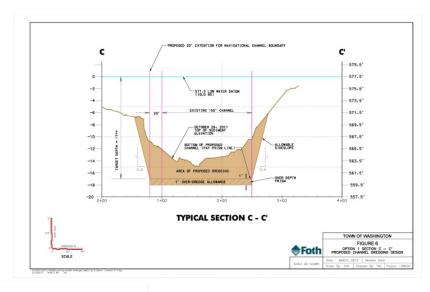
Project Area

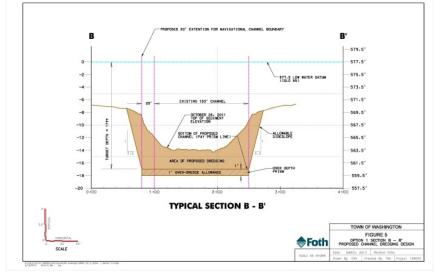




Dredge Prism

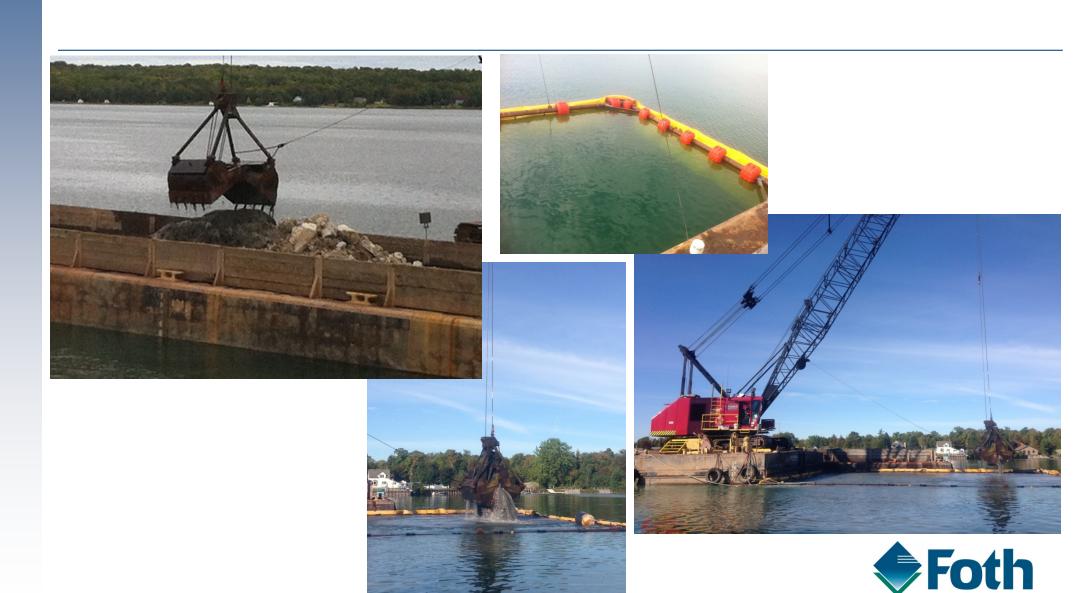








Dredging - Fall of 2013

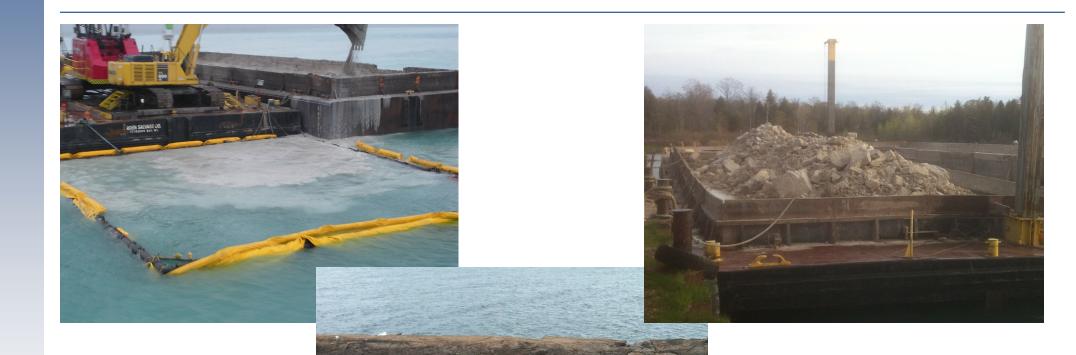


Dredging Challenges

- Dredged material rock and residuals
- Water conditions clear water and seiche effect
- Permit compliance
 - Turbidity barriers
 - Visual effect
- Weather
 - Ice and cold
 - Need to dredge in 2014



Challenges - Fall 2013





Winter Came Early







Dredging in the Fish Window

- Production shortcomings and early winter
- Spring/Summer of 2014
- Turbidity Monitoring Plan
 - Trigger level criteria
 - Inspect BMPs
 - Specific areas to monitor twice daily
- Amendment 2 Turbidity Monitoring
 - Multiple monitoring points



Visual Turbidity Sight





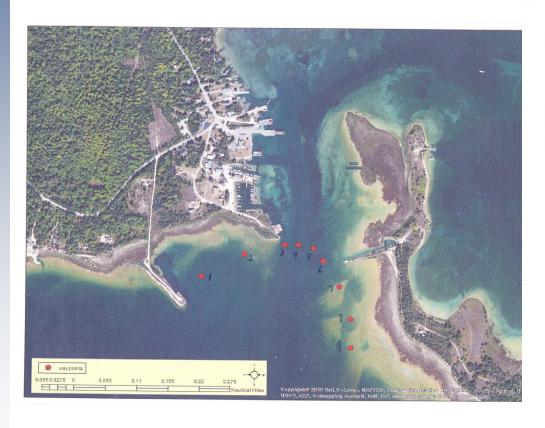
Cont. Turbidity challenges

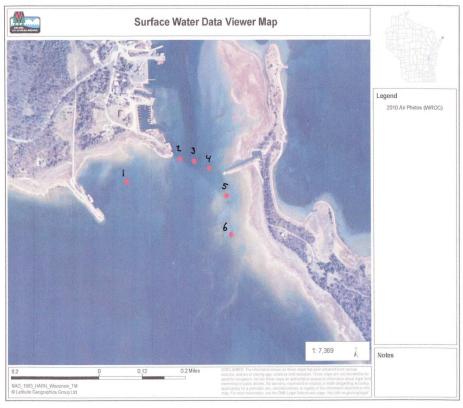






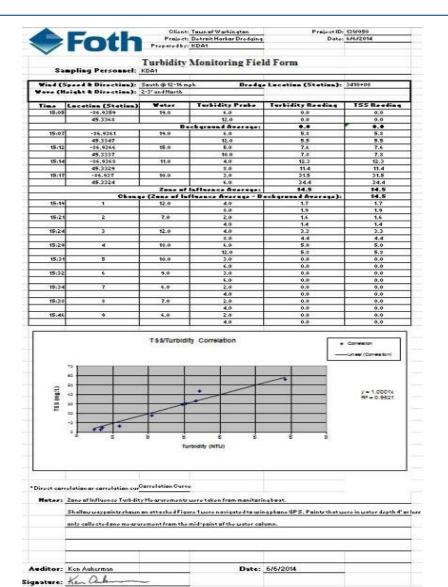
Turbidity Monitoring





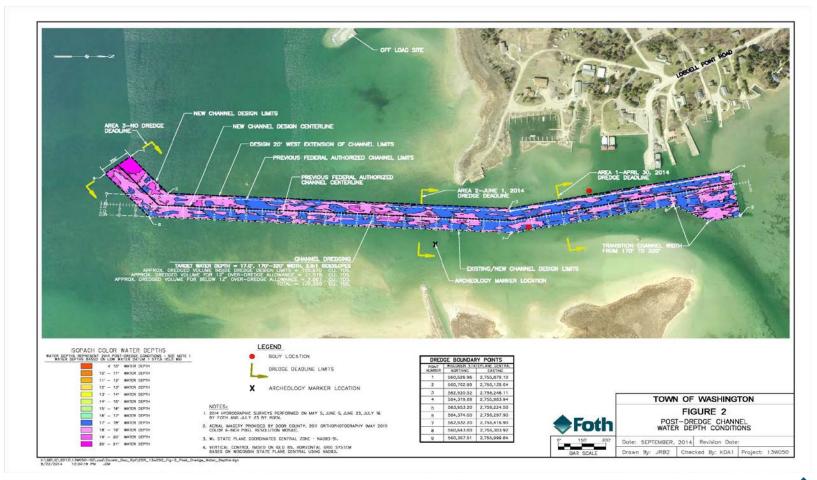


Turbidity Monitoring Report





Conditions after Dredging



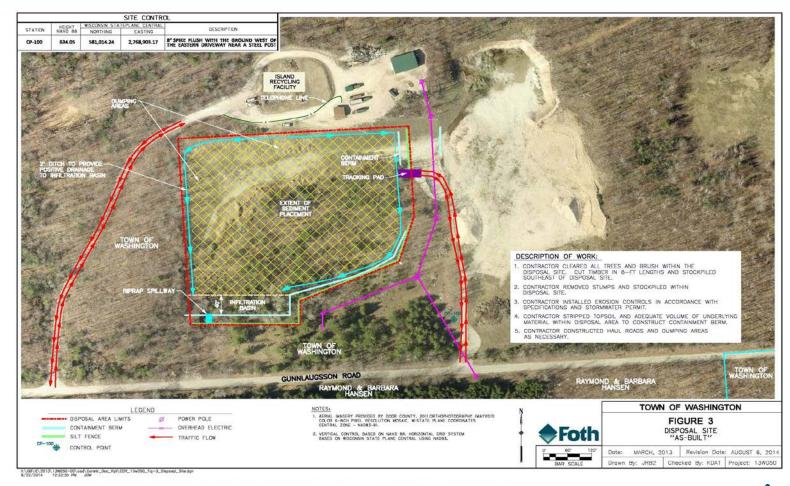


Dredge Spoil Management

- Distant from existing disposal cell
- Designed and constructed disposal cell on island
- Beneficially re-use material
 - Rocks used for breaker
 - Sand used for roads or concrete



Disposal Site





Disposal Cell



Beneficial Re-use





Lessons Learned

- Very successful project
- Dialogue with stakeholders
- Negotiate strategically
 - Can't wait for answers
 - Understand vision with agencies
- Think innovative
- Equipment maintenance





Ken Potrykus; Environmental Program Manager Green Bay, Wisconsin

Ken.potrykus@foth.com

920-496-6765, office; 920-883-7103, cell