



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

Baltimore Harbor & Channels Maryland & Virginia

Type of Project: Navigation

Project Phase: Operation and Maintenance

Authorization: Section 101 of the River and Harbor (R&H) Act of 1958 and Section 327, of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996 (42-Foot Project), Section 101 of the R&H Act of 1970 (50-Foot Project), and Section 101a (22) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

Congressional Interest:

Senators: Barbara A. Mikulski (MD), Benjamin L. Cardin (MD)

Representatives: Wayne T. Gilchrest (MD-1), Dutch Ruppersberger (MD-2),
John Sarbanes (MD-3), Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5), Elijah Cummings (MD-7)

Non-Federal Sponsor: Maryland Port Administration (MPA)

Background:

50-Foot Project - The R&H Act of 1970 authorized a uniform main channel 50 feet deep, and generally 800 (in Maryland) or 1,000 (in Virginia) feet wide through the Chesapeake Bay from the Virginia Capes to Fort McHenry in the Port of Baltimore, a distance of 175 miles. Depths of 50, 49, and 40 feet are authorized in the 600-foot wide branch channels of Curtis Bay, Northwest Branch East Channel, and Northwest Branch West Channel, respectively.

42-Foot Project - The R&H Act of 1958 authorized a main channel 42 feet deep, southern approach and connecting channels 35 feet deep and 600 feet wide leading to the Inland Waterway from Delaware River to Chesapeake Bay, Delaware and Maryland, Chesapeake and Delaware Canal project, branch channels ranging from 22, 35 and 42 feet deep and 200 to 600 feet wide in Curtis Creek and Ferry Bar, and anchorages 30 and 35 feet deep. Section 327 of the WRDA 1996 provided for straightening of the Tolchester Channel S-Turn. The project was completed in January 2002.

For more information regarding the Baltimore Harbor & Channels Projects, contact Jeffrey A. McKee, CENAB-OP-NN, and (410) 962-5657 or e-mail jeffrey.a.mckee@nab02.usace.army.mil



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Anchorage and Channels – Section 101a (22) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 authorized construction of a 50-foot deep turning basin at the head of the Ft. McHenry Channel, deepening and widening of Anchorages Nos. 3 (to 42 feet deep) and 4 (to 35 feet deep), widening of the Dundalk and Seagirt Marine Terminal channels and construction of a new loop channel to South Locust Point. The project was completed in August 2003.

Issues: None

Status:

50-Foot Project - The Initial Phase of the modification was completed in October 1990 at a cost of \$227 million. Remaining work requires widening the Virginia Channels (York Spit and Rappahannock Shoal) from 800 to 1000 feet wide, widening the Maryland Channels (Craighill Entrance through Ft. McHenry Channel) from 700 to 800 feet wide, and widening the Curtis Bay Channel from 400 to 600 feet wide. Approximately 57 miles require dredging. The project provides an estimated \$111,570,000 in average annual benefits.

Annual Maintenance and Funding - Maintenance dredging is performed annually removing approximately three million cubic yards (mcy) of material (2.5 mcy from Maryland Channels and 0.5 mcy from Virginia Channels) at an average annual cost of about \$17 million. Hydrographic surveys of most channels are conducted semiannually to provide channel conditions to ship pilots and other navigation interests. Operation & Maintenance, General (O&M) funds in the amount of \$18,247,633 were expended on the project in FY 06. O&M funds in the amount of \$15,482,000 are expected to be appropriated in FY 07 for maintaining the project.

Commerce - Commerce in 2004 totaled 47.4 million tons, including 31.8 million tons of foreign cargo valued at \$31.2 billion. The Port of Baltimore generates 42,300 jobs in Maryland and approximately 86,100 jobs linked to Port activities, \$1.9 billion in business revenue, \$2.4 billion in personal wages and salaries, \$1.1 billion in local business purchases, \$507 million in Federal U.S. Customs receipts, and generates \$278 million in state, county and municipal taxes annually.

FY 06/07 Work

Maintenance Dredging Maryland Channels - A contract in the amount of \$21,629,280 was awarded to Weeks Marine Incorporated on August 23, 2005 to dredge 2,924,500 cy of material from the

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Craighill Angle, Brewerton Angle, Curtis Bay Channel, Curtis Creek Channel, Dundalk Marine Terminal East and West Channels, Brewerton Channel Eastern Extension, Tolchester Channel and Poplar Island Southern Access Channel and to place the material in the Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project and Hart-Miller Island Containment Facility. Dredging started on December 6, 2005 and was finished on July 9, 2006.

Maintenance Dredging Virginia Channels - A contract in the amount of \$1,917,335.00 was awarded to Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co. (GLDDC) on June 7, 2006 to dredge 392,700 cy from the Cape Henry Channel. Dredging started on June 15 and was completed on July 21, 2006.

Maintenance Dredging Maryland Channels - A contract in the amount of \$18,834,200 was awarded to GLDDC on August 23, 2006 to dredge 1,925,500 cy of material from the Craighill Entrance, Craighill Channel, Cutoff Angle, Brewerton Channel Eastern Extension, and Swan Point Channel and to place the material in the Poplar Island Environmental Restoration Project. Dredging is schedule to start in January 2007 and finish in April 2007.

Dredged Material Management Plan - The *Baltimore Harbor and Channels (MD and VA) Dredged Material Management Plan and Final Tiered Environmental Impact Statement* was finalized in December 2005 and the Record of Decision was signed on August 30, 2006.

FY 07/08 Work

Maintenance Dredging Virginia Channels - A contract to dredge approximately 1 mcy from the Cape Henry and York Spit Channels is scheduled for advertising in January 2007. Dredging is scheduled for March to May 2007.

Maintenance Dredging Maryland Channels - A contract to maintain additional Maryland channels is scheduled for award in June 2007. Dredging is scheduled to start in September 2007 and finish in March 2008.

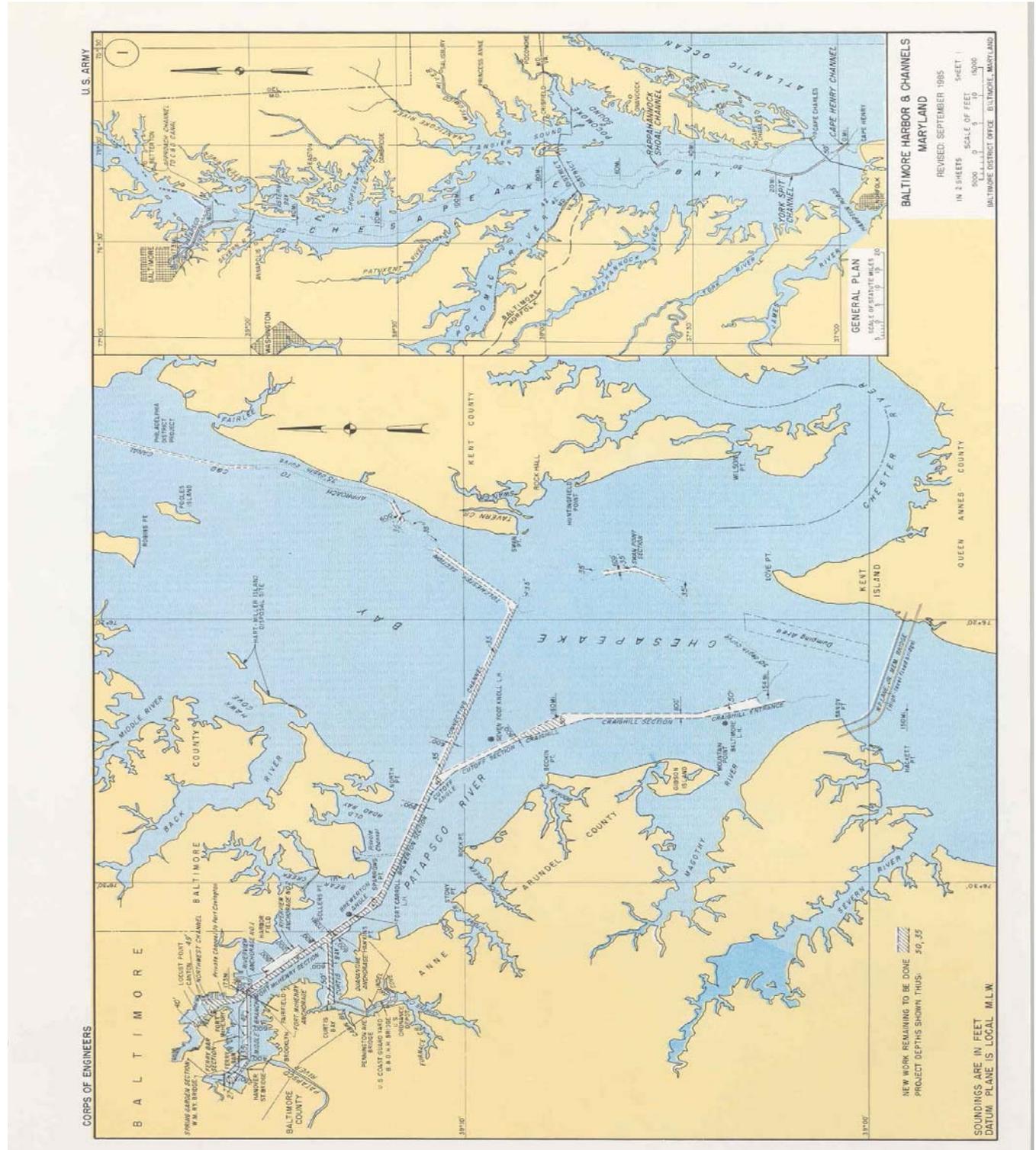
Funding: FY 2007 President's Budget \$15,482,000
FY 2008 \$16,655,000

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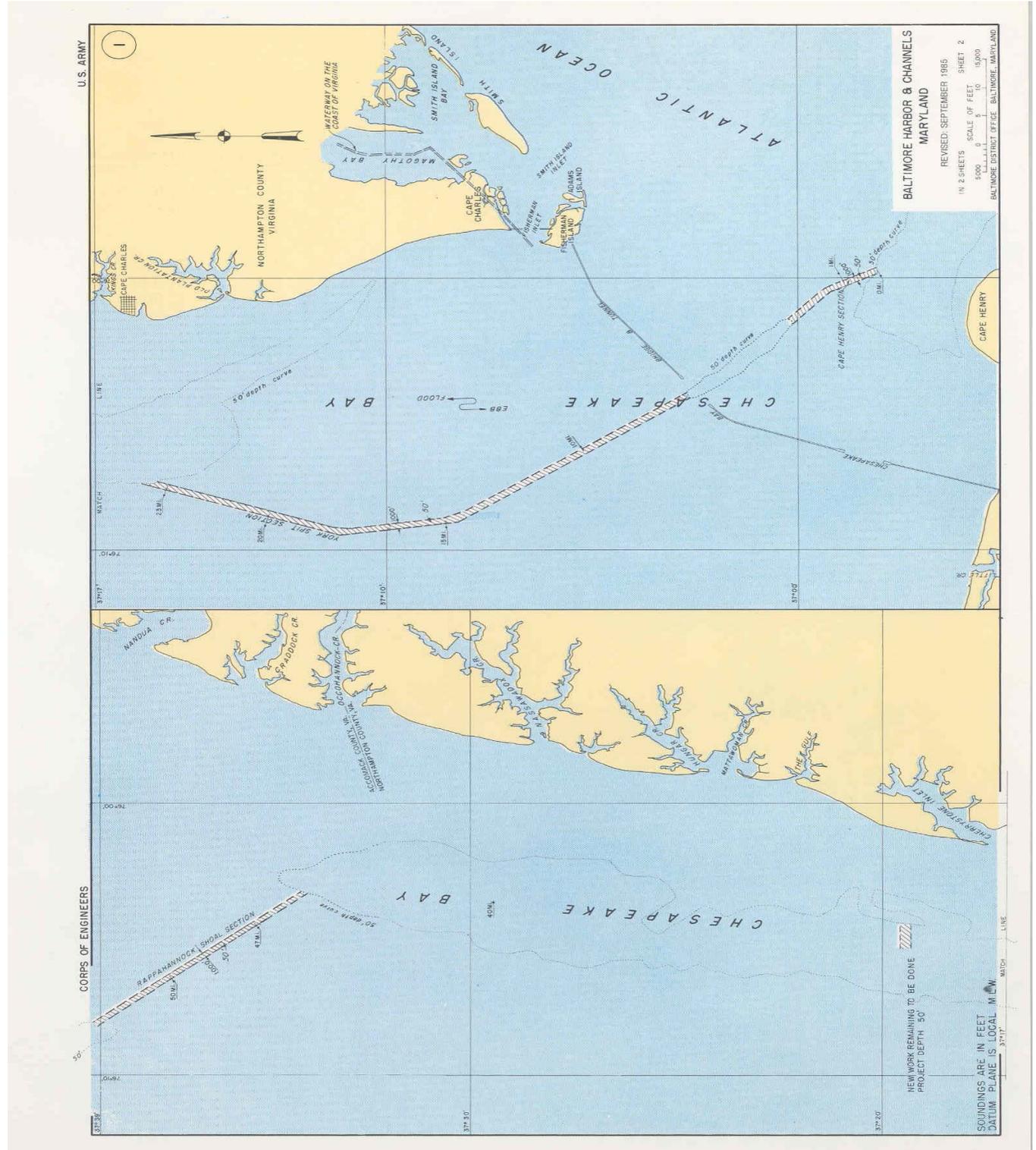
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