

# Corn Belt Ports

## Update?

*Protecting the  
Integrity of  
Our Supply  
Chain*



*Regional  
Ports  
Within the  
Lock & Dam  
System*

*A Major Navigation & Ecosystem Sustainability  
Program (NESP) Enabler and Supporter...*

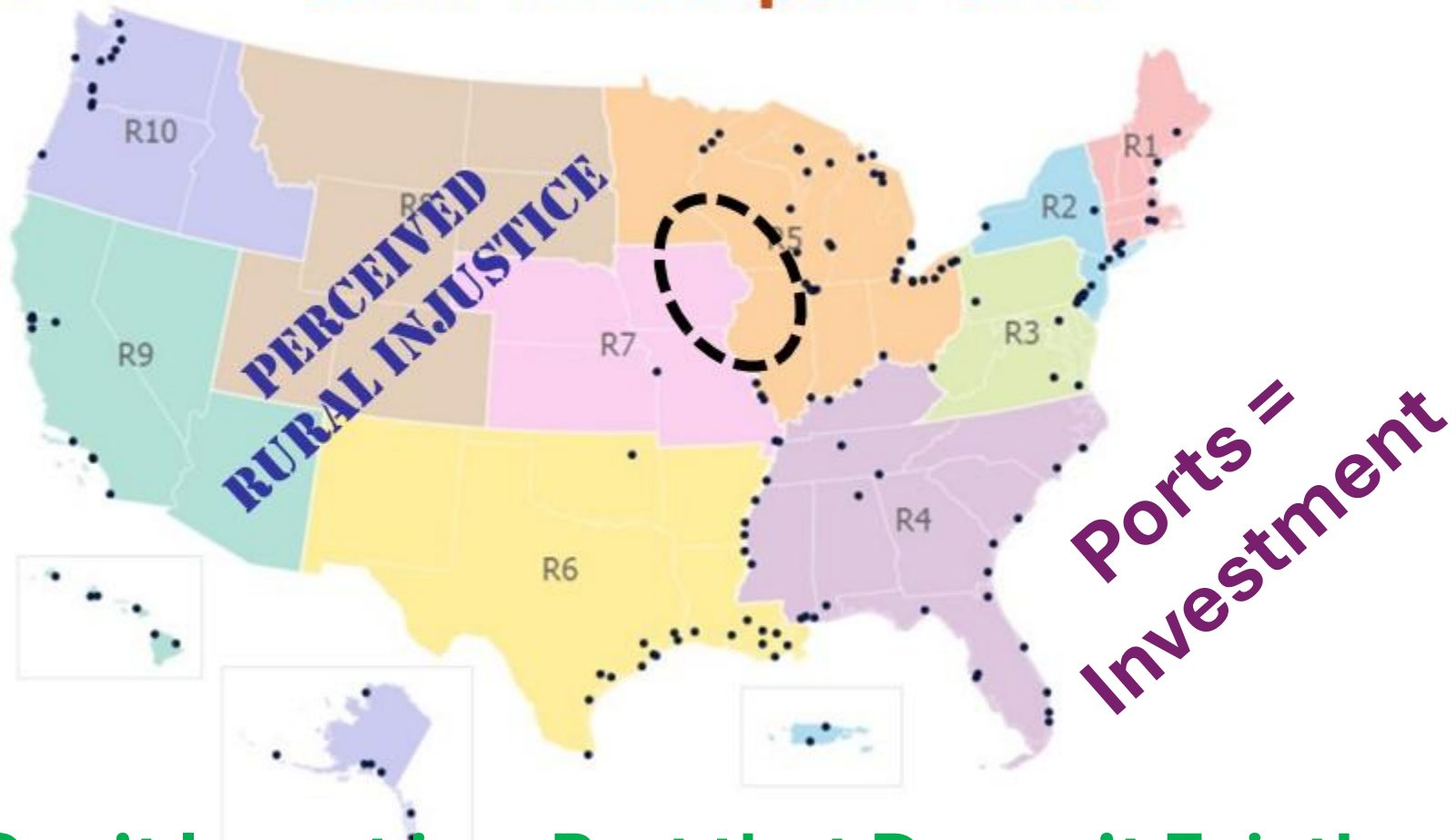
*17 Mar 2025*





# Inland Ports Black Hole

U.S. "Principal Ports"



**You Can't Invest in a Port that Doesn't Exist!**

*Pre-2020 Map Used by Federal Agencies*



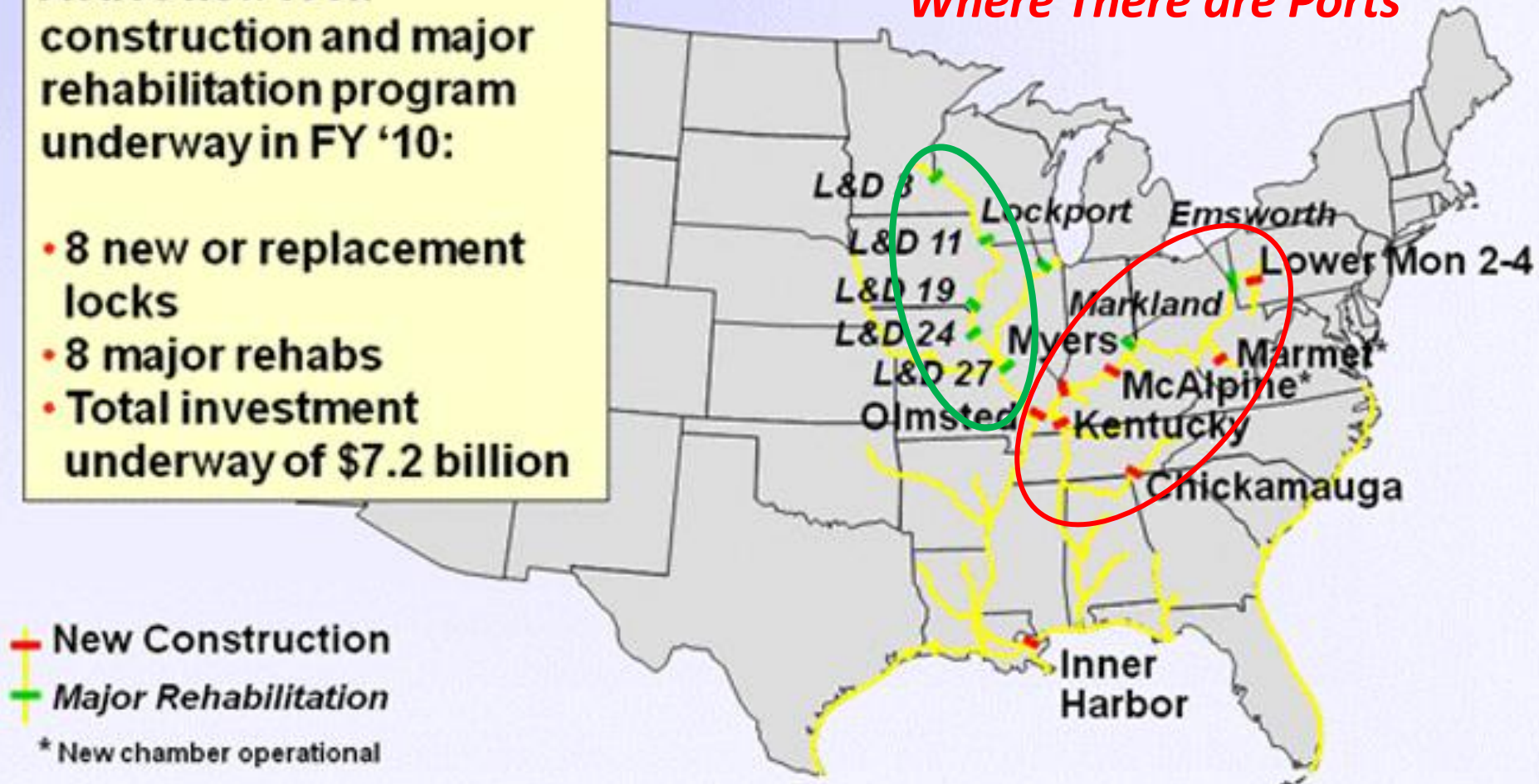
# Meeting the Challenge: Major Navigation Projects Underway

As of 2010

Active new lock construction and major rehabilitation program underway in FY '10:

- 8 new or replacement locks
- 8 major rehabs
- Total investment underway of \$7.2 billion

**New Locks Only Go To  
Where There are Ports**

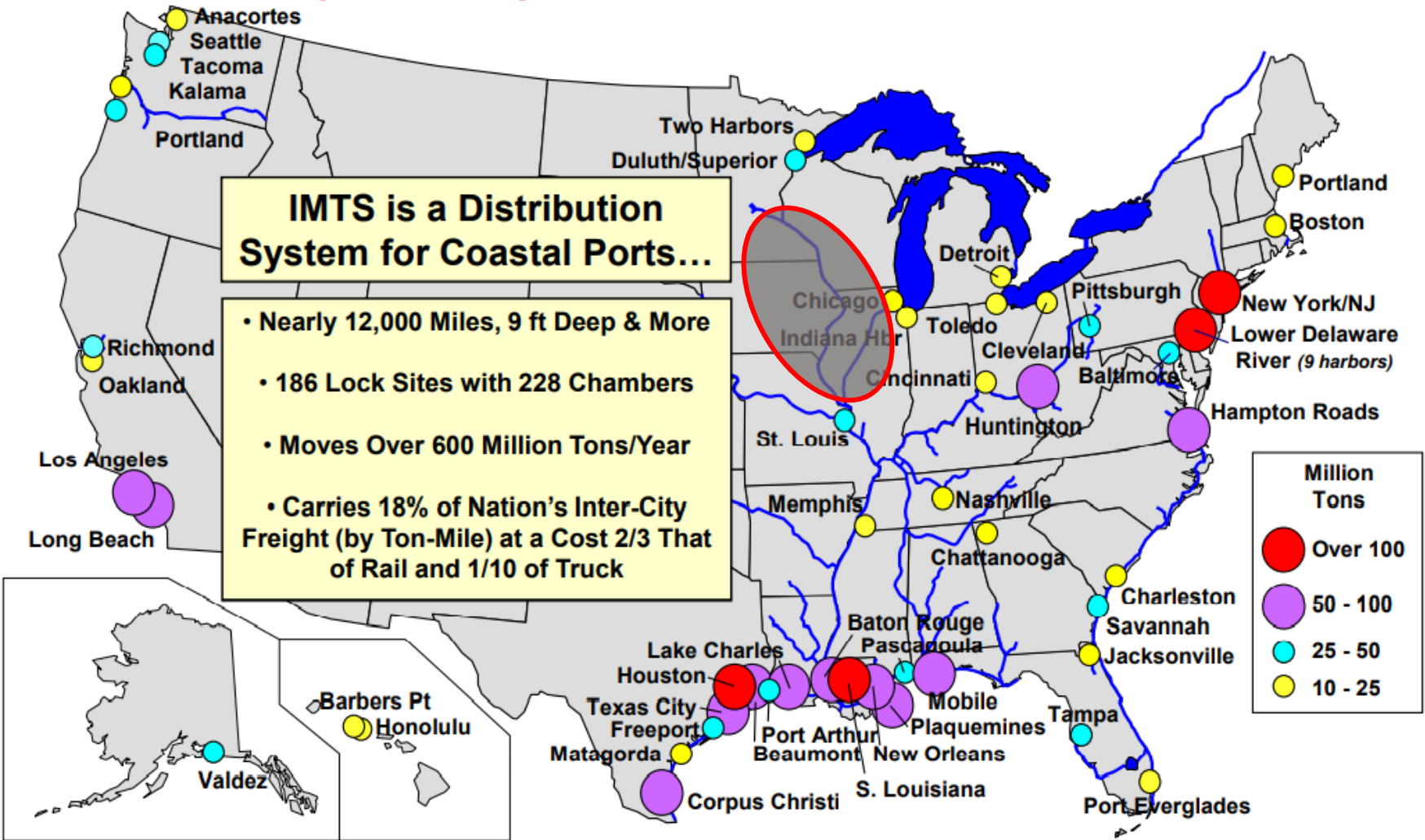




# A Port Shadow Zone

## The United States is a Maritime Nation

**Inland Marine Transportation System + Ports: Vital to US Trade and National Security**

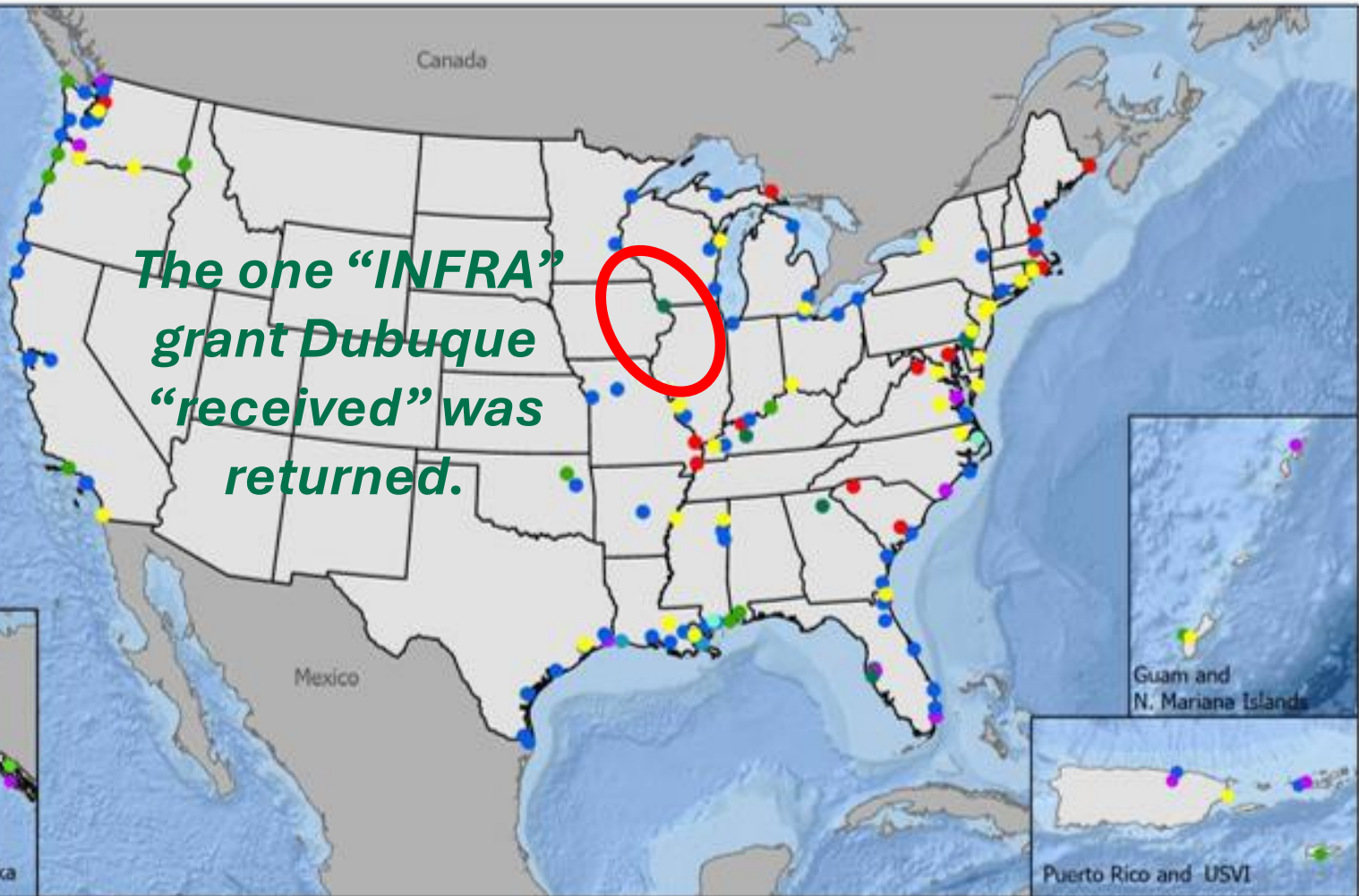


# Pre-2020 Situation

# NO PORTS = NO GRANTS



- PIDP
- RURAL
- RAISE
- BUILD
- MEGA
- INFRA
- TIGER
- FASTLANE
- MH Grants



*The one "INFRA" grant Dubuque "received" was returned.*



## Maritime Grant Awards

Source: MARAD Office of Policy and Plans, MARAD Office of Port Infrastructure Development.

Includes awards made through the following U.S. DOT grant programs: PIDP, INFRA, RAISE, MEGA, RURAL, and the Marine Highway Grant Program.

FY2010-  
2022



# ARRA



## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

*What We Hoped For*



*What We Got*





# A Formula that Delivers for Our Private Terminals & Our Riverfront Communities



*Increased Manmade  
& Natural Infrastructure  
Investment*

**Regional &  
Local  
Ports**

**(Local Public/Private  
Partnerships)**

**National  
Waterways**



# Corn Belt Ports

Rural, Regional, Multi-Modal, Inland Ports

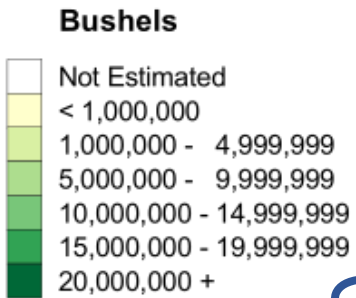
Ports  
Within the  
Lock & Dam  
System



Aligned with the  
Heart of the Corn Belt



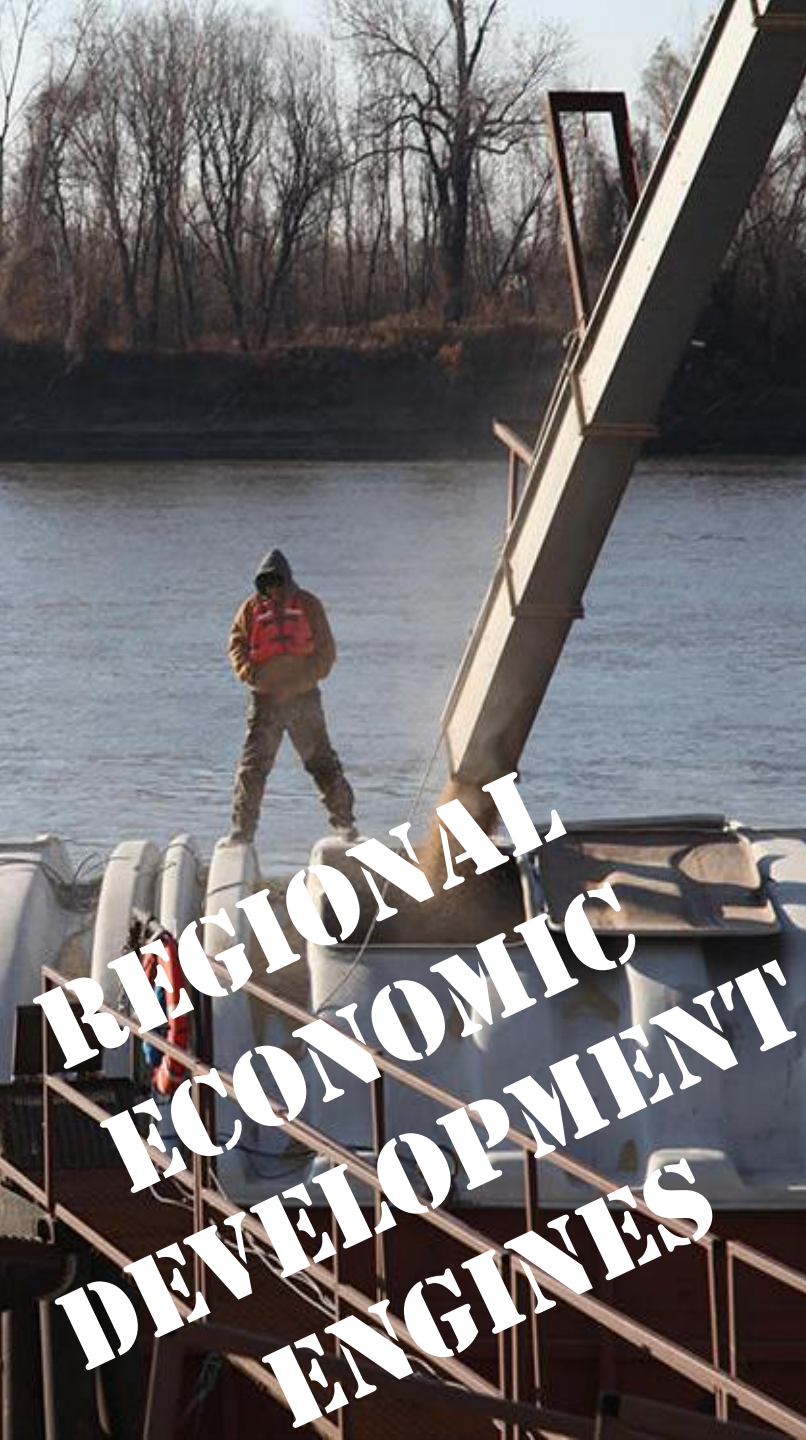
Formed  
2020-2022



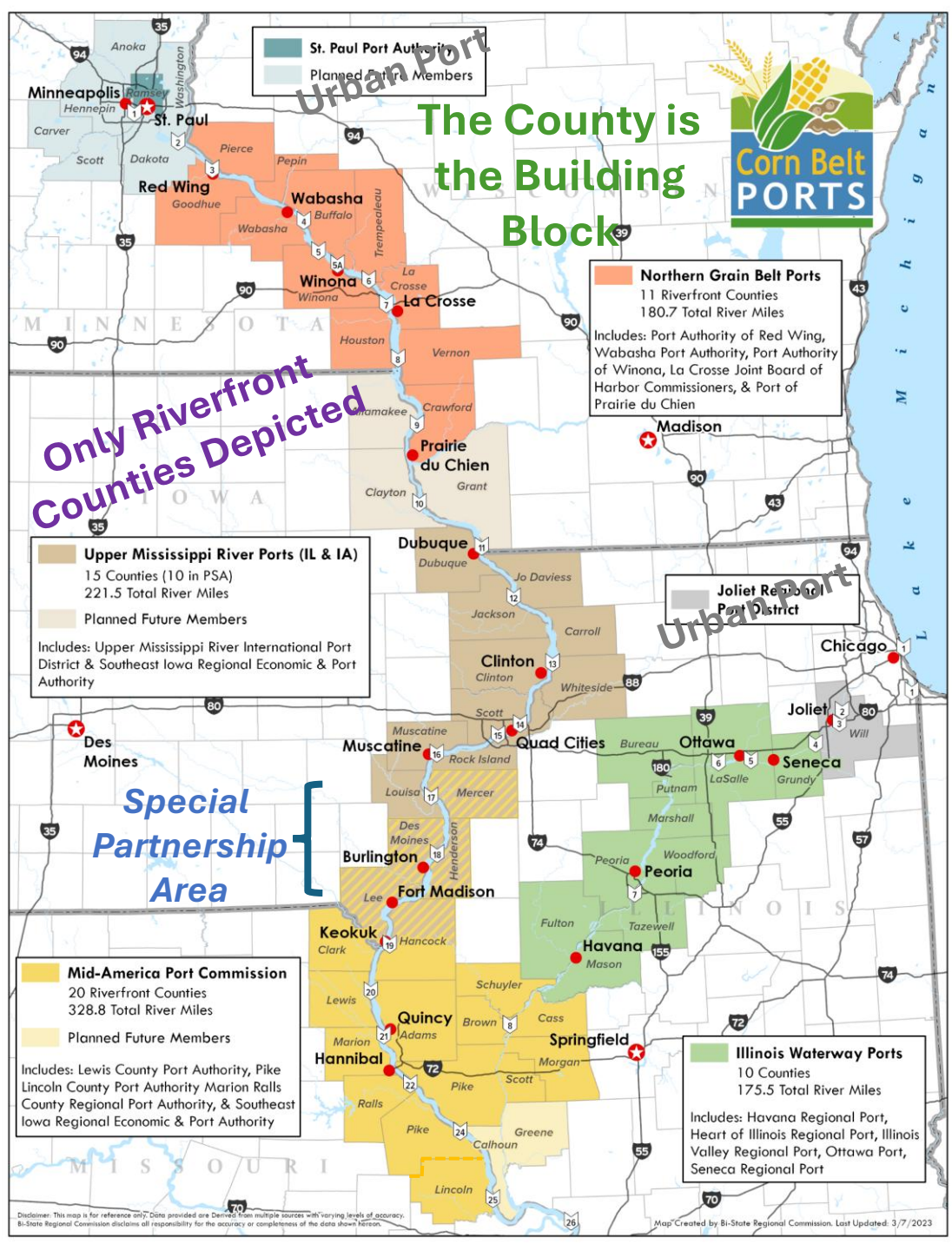
NESP  
Enabler

Corn for Grain 2018  
Production by County  
For Selected States





# REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENGINES



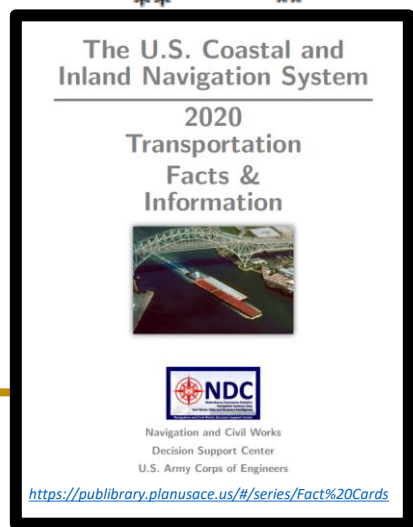
# Leading U.S. Ports in 2020

(Millions of Short Tons and Percent Change<sup>1</sup> from 2019)

Rank	Type <sup>3</sup>	Port	Domestic		Foreign		Total	
			Tons	%	Tons	%	Tons	%
39	I	Pittsburgh, PA Port of <i>(Model)</i>	15.5	-28.7	**	0.0	15.5	-28.7
40	I	New Bourbon Port Authority, MO <sup>2</sup>	15.5	24.7	**	0.0	15.5	24.7
41	I	Mid-America Port, IA, IL and MO	15.0	24.5	**	0.0	15.0	24.5
42	I	Illinois Waterway Ports, IL <sup>4</sup>	14.9	**	**	**	14.9	**
43	L	Two Harbors, MN	11.7	-12.4			13.5	-20.2
44	C	Boston, MA	3.4	-33.7			13.3	-16.7
45	C	Honolulu, O'ahu, HI	11.4	-10.4			12.3	-14.5
46	C	Galveston, TX	5.2	7.3			11.9	9.0
47	C	Port of Longview, WA	1.1	1.3			11.1	14.5
48	C	Port of Vancouver USA, WA	2.6	18.0			10.2	-6.9
49	L	Cleveland-Cuyahoga Port, OH	7.7	-24.4			9.4	-20.5
50	C	San Juan, PR <sup>2</sup>	4.6	-0.5			9.3	10.1
51	L	Illinois International Port, IL	7.2	-13.8			9.1	-9.4
52	L	Toledo-Lucas County Port, OH <sup>2</sup>	4.3	-21.0			9.0	-1.8
53	I	Memphis-Shelby County Port, TN	8.7	-2.6			8.7	-2.6
54	I	Joliet Regional Port, IL	8.6	-6.7	**	0.0	8.6	-6.7
55	C	PortMiami, FL	0.2	39.9	8.2	-5.5	8.4	-4.8
56	I	Iowa and W Illinois, IA IL	8.4	56.6	**	0.0	8.4	56.6
57	L	Detroit-Wayne County Port, MI	5.7	-44.0	2.4	-19.5	8.2	-38.4
58	C	New Haven, CT	4.8	-17.5	3.3	-5.1	8.1	-12.9
59	I	Louisville-Jefferson Port, KY <sup>2</sup>	8.1	-27.6	**	0.0	8.1	-27.6
60	I	Nashville, TN	7.5	8.7	**	0.0	7.5	8.7

**NATIONALLY RANKED**

Goal ↑



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# Global Trade

FOR U.S. COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS GLOBALLY



**The Case Against  
Manufacturing in Asia**

**THE A-TEAM  
OF E-COMM**

*The Tremendous  
Importance of the Aerospace  
& Defense Supply Chain*

**THE  
Top 50  
PORTS  
OF '22**

**GLOBALLY  
SIGNIFICANT**



## *Top 50 Power Ports*

41 Mid-America Port Commission

Previous year: 44  
Total tons: 15 million  
(+3 million)

42 Illinois Waterway Ports

Previous year: not ranked  
Total tons: 14.9 million

# 2023 Port Performance Freight Statistics Program: Annual Report to Congress



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation

**TABLE 2-3 List of Top 25 Ports by Dry Bulk Tonnage  
(Ranked by short tons)**

1. South Louisiana, LA, Port of	14. Huntington-Tristate, KY, OH, WV
2. New Orleans	15. Kalama
3. Plaquemines Port District	16. New Bourbon Port Authority, MO
4. Virginia, VA, Port of	17. Portland
5. Baton Rouge, LA	18. Mid-America Port, IA, IL and MO
6. Mobile, AL	19. Pittsburgh
7. Mid-Ohio Valley Port, OH and WV	20. Illinois Waterway Ports Terminals
8. Cincinnati-Northern KY, Ports of	21. Two Harbors
9. St. Louis Metro Port, IL and MO	22. Corpus Christi
10. Duluth-Superior, MN and WI	23. Seattle
11. Indiana (Northern District)	24. Longview
12. Houston Port Authority, TX	25. Tampa Port Authority
13. Baltimore	



**CRITICAL PART  
OF THE  
SUPPLY CHAIN**

# NESP Timeline

- 1993 Feasibility Study Begins
- 2004 Feasibility Report Complete, Chief's Report Signed
- **2005 Initial Receipt of PED (Pre-Engineering & Design) Funds**
- 2007 Program Authorized in WRDA
- 2008 Economic Reevaluation
- **2009 American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) \$0**
- **2009 – 2018 Decade of Death (No NESP Funding)**
- 2019 Navigation Economic Reevaluation
- **2020/1 \$9.5M Received in PED**
- **2021 Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA)**
- **2022 (Jan) Construction Start (\$829.1 M) (IIJA)**
- **2022 (Mar) Congress Directs Spending \$45.1 M**
- **2022 (May) Work Plan Appropriations (12.179 M)**
- **2023 (Dec) Congress Directs Spending \$49.3 M**
- **2023 (Feb) Work Plan Appropriations (18.397 M)**



## Waterways + Ports

1992

MARC  
2000

2003

2006

**NESP  
Nationalization**



\$

**The NESP Resurrection**

0



**NESP  
Local/  
Regional-  
ization**

**Decades of  
Portlessness**

**Failure  
to Start**

2020/1


# 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



We Got  
Some of  
What We  
Hoped For!  
& Still More  
to Get!



LIVE

Picture in picture 



2022  
**ACTION & RESULTS**

Retrofitting  
Lock and Dam  
25 with a 1200'  
Lock was  
Funded in the  
**Bipartisan  
Infrastructure Bill!**

PRESIDENT BIDEN SPEAKS IN MENLO

LOCAL 5 abc

3:18



60°

▶ ⏪ 🔊 33:36 / 59:54



April 12, 2022: President Joe Biden in Menlo, Iowa

***“Through modern locks, we are gonna help farmers get their products to markets faster, more efficiently, lower costs and keep American agriculture globally competitive,”***



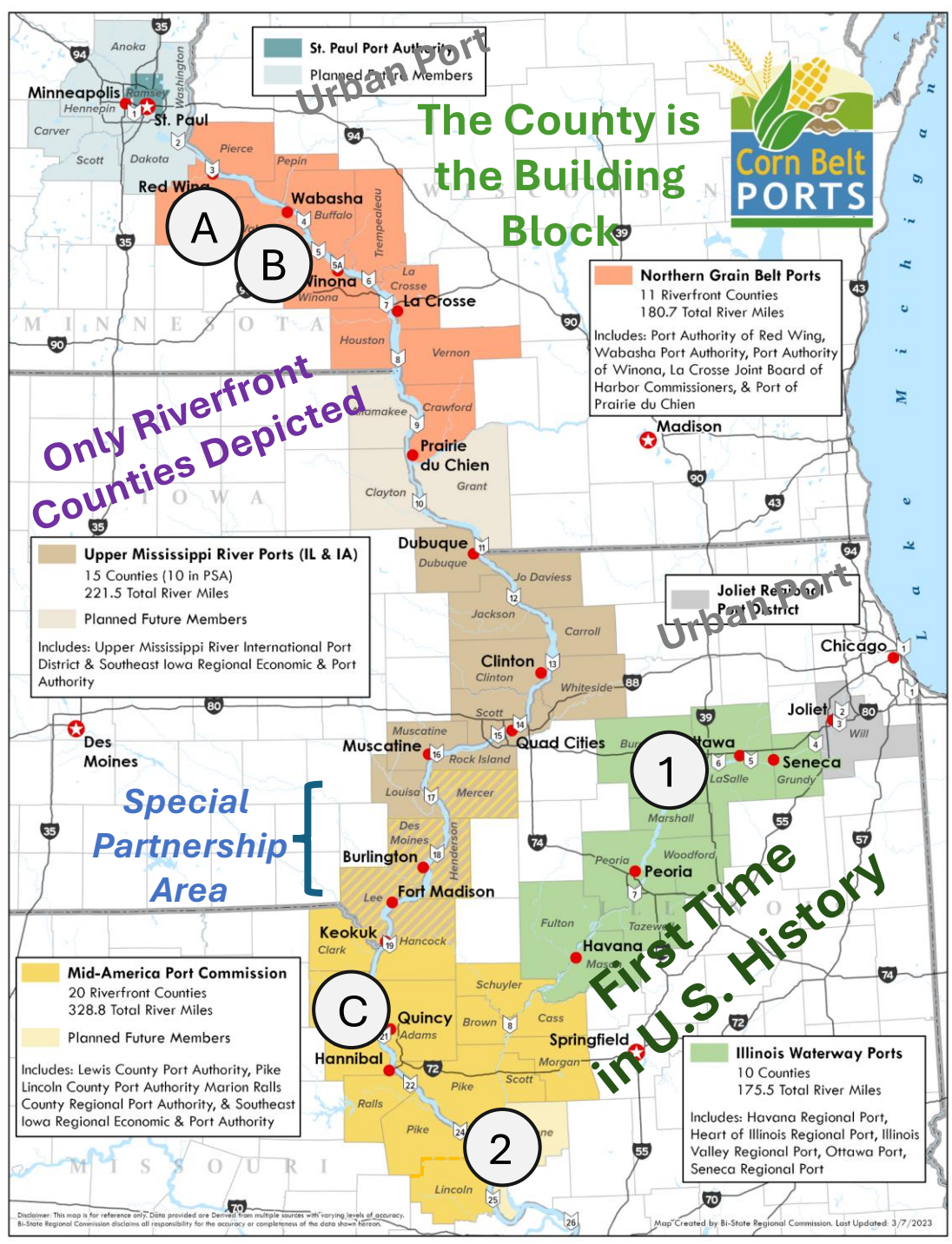
# 2024 Port Infrastructure Development Program Grants

15 November 2024

- ① Hennepin, IL \$38,582,711
- ② Hardin, IL \$9,000,000



**FIRST EVER ON THE ILLINOIS WATERWAY**





# Corn Belt Ports Leadership



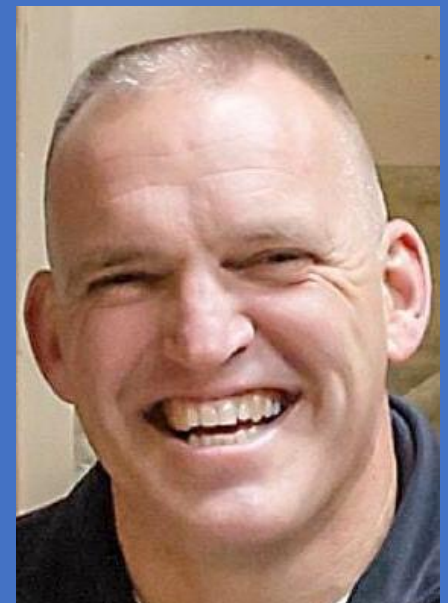
**Travis McGlasson**  
Chair, **Illinois**  
**Waterway Ports**  
**Commission**



**Blake Roderick**  
Chair,  
**Mid-America Port**  
**Commission**



**Mike Thoms**  
Chair,  
Rock Island Regional  
Port District



**Jim Irwin**  
Chair,  
Ports of Eastern Iowa  
Authority  
**Upper Mississippi River Ports (IA & IL)**



# “Illinois” Port Commissions

*Rural, Regional, Multi-Modal, Inland Ports*

## Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Update

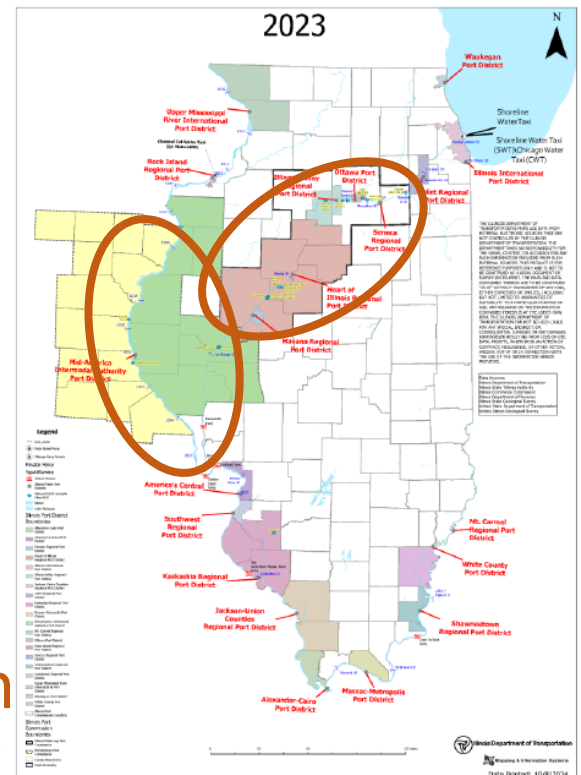


### IDOT IMTS Map

- 20 Port Districts
- 2 Port Commissions
- Auto Ferry: 2 IDOT Ferries, 4 Private Ferries
- 3 Passenger Ferries
- 19 Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Stockpile Sites

Mid-America Port Commission  
Illinois Waterway Ports Commission

Illinois Public Port Districts & IDOT Ferry Locations





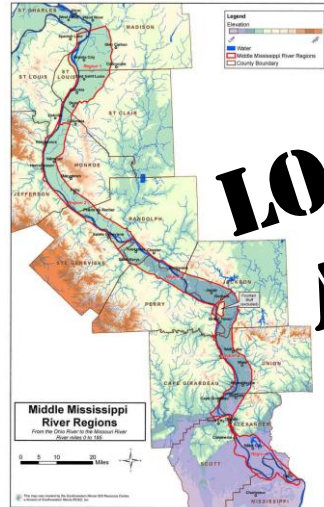
# Mississippi Valley Multi-Purpose “Projects” & Local Sponsors

**UMR & ILWW  
Lock & Dam System**



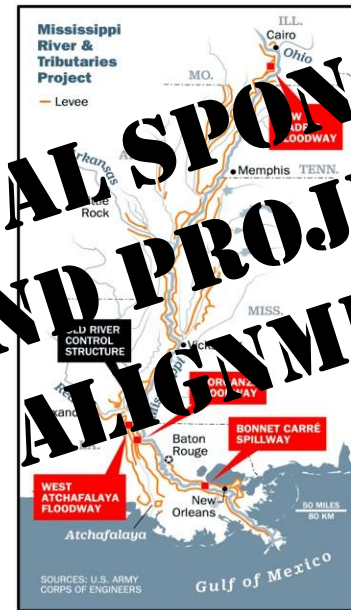
*New in 2020!*

## Regulating Works

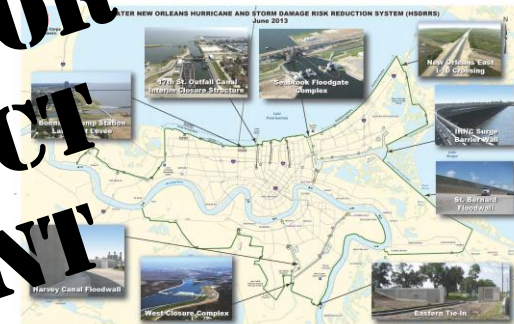


**Middle Mississippi  
River  
Partnership &  
River Resources  
Action Team  
(RRAT)**

## MR&T



## HSDRRS

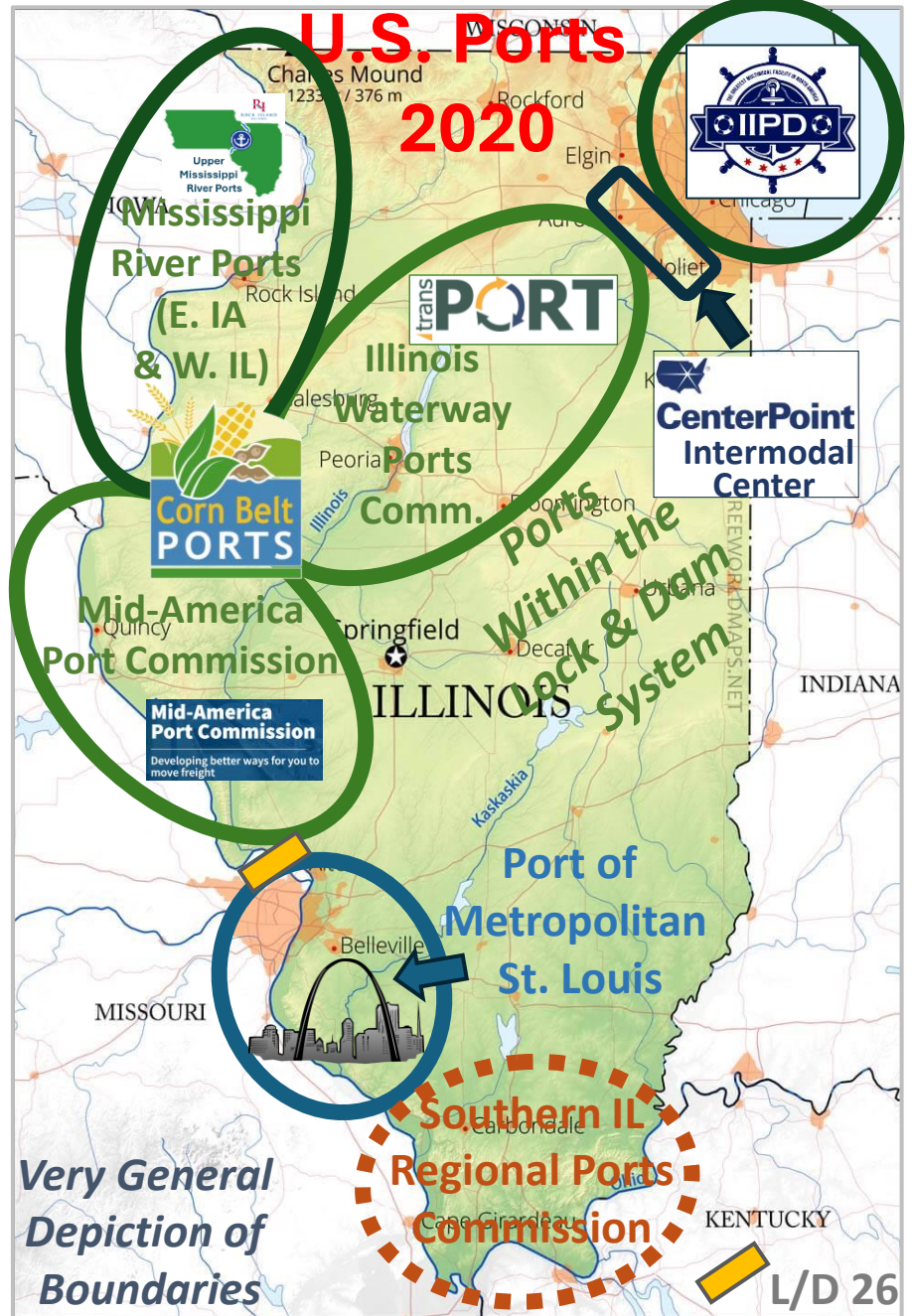
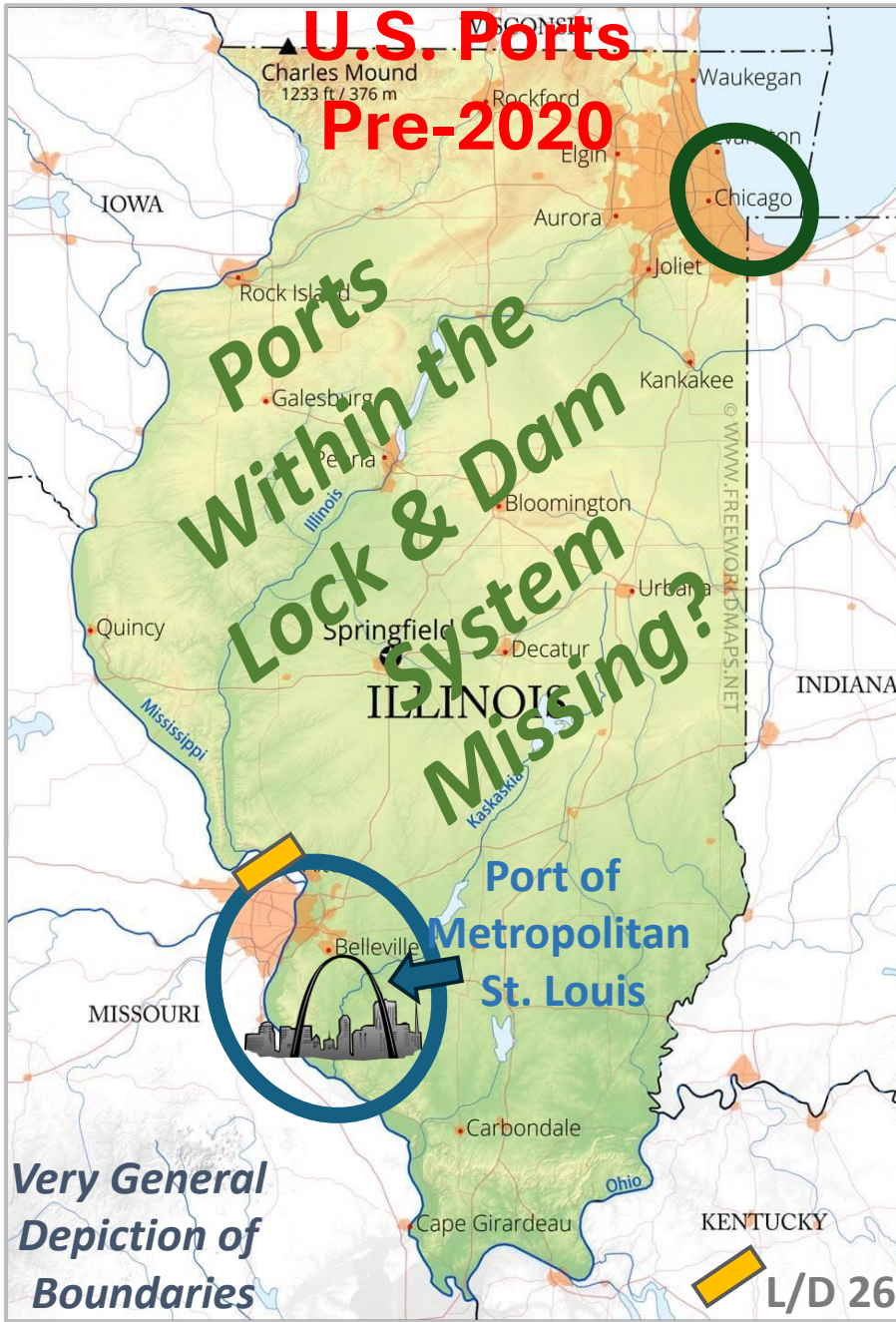


**LOCAL SPONSOR  
AND PROJECT  
ALIGNMENT**

# IOWA PORTS ASSOCIATION



*Serving the Rural, Regional, Inland Ports on  
Iowa's East and West Coasts*





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# U.S. Civil Works Priorities

*The Corn Belt Ports Support All*



Upgrade the Nation's Waterways & Ports



Build Innovative, Climate-Resilient Infrastructure



Modernize the Civil Works Program



Invest in Science, Research & Development



Strengthen Communication and Relationships







# *Corn Belt Ports Model*

*Rural, Regional, Multi-Modal, Inland*

## *Regional Partnership Port*

*Multi-Modal Regional Port Commission/Association*

*Lead Business/Industry Organization*

*Lead Economic Development Organization*

*Regional Planning Agencies (MPO Center)*

*Sustainability & Environmental Working Group*

*Riverfront Cities and Towns Collaboration*

*Flood Infrastructure Working Group*





# Corn Belt Ports Coordinating Team



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