



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

January 14, 2013

Lakes Limestone Trade Down 3.6 Percent in 2012

CLEVELAND – Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled 27,145,219 tons in 2012, a decrease of 3.6 percent compared to 2011. The trade was 7 percent below its 5-year average.

Shipments from U.S. ports fell 2.4 percent when compared to 2011, and slightly more – 4.1 percent – when compared to their 5-year average. Loadings at Canadian quarries decreased 9 percent compared to 2011, and slipped almost 19 percent compared to their 5-year average.

Falling water levels and the dredging crisis took a toll in 2012. By year's end, a vessel that has carried as much as 35,457 tons in a single trip averaged only 29,796 tons on the three stone loads it moved in December. The cargos were loaded at a quarry on Lake Huron and that body of water has fallen to a new record low.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: DECEMBER 2007-2012 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE (net tons)

Ports	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average 2007-2011
U.S.	1,732,502	451,134	715,473	840,933	1,218,638	759,222	991,736
Canada	349,500	77,687	39,950	198,991	250,447	35,291	183,315
Total	2,084,009	530,829	755,423	1,039,924	1,469,085	794,513	1,175,051

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: 2007-2012 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE (net tons)

Ports	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Average 2007-2011
U.S.	27,961,091	25,691,214	18,611,577	22,331,486	23,121,059	22,567,501	23,543,285
Canada	6,040,375	6,676,299	4,892,555	5,548,687	5,032,583	4,577,718	5,638,099
Total	34,001,466	32,367,513	23,504,132	27,880,173	28,153,642	27,145,219	29,181,384

U.S. ports: Calcite, MI, Cedarville, MI, Drummond Island, MI, Kellys Island, OH, Marblehead, OH, Port Inland, MI and Presque Isle, MI. Kellys Island ceased shipping in fall 2009. Canadian ports: Bruce Mines, Manitoulin Island and Smelter Bay (all Ontario).

Lake Carriers' Association represents 17 American companies that operate 57 U.S.-flag vessels on the Great Lakes and carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy: iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, limestone and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation, as well as salt, sand grain. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year. The cargos these vessels carry generate and sustain more than 103,000 jobs in the United States and have an economic impact of more than \$20 billion. More information available at www.lcaships.com. Contact Glen Nekvasil, Vice President. Phone: (440) 333-9996.

-30-

Information based on data sources believed to be reliable. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Lake Carriers' Association assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this information. This report represents the views of Lake Carriers' Association and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.

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