



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

May 15, 2013

Ice Slowed Resumption of Lakes Stone Trade

CLEVELAND—Heavy ice cover on the Lakes that stretched well into April slowed resumption of the limestone trade. Shipments totaled only 1.8 million tons, a decrease of 28 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings are 21 percent off the month's 5-year average.

Shipments from U.S. ports totaled 1.6 million tons, a decrease of 24 percent compared to a year ago. Loadings at Canadian quarries totaled 247,670 tons, a decrease of nearly 50 percent from last year.

Year-to-date the Lakes limestone trade stands at 2.1 million tons, a decrease of 22 percent compared to a year ago, and 12 percent below the 5-year average for the January-April timeframe.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: APRIL 2008-2013 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE (net tons)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Average 2008-2012
U.S. Ports	2,347,463	1,225,179	2,025,885	1,743,034	2,111,327	1,596,519	1,890,578
Canadian Ports	656,100	326,311	439,407	383,488	462,006	247,670	453,463
Total	3,005,571	1,553,499	2,465,294	2,126,522	2,573,333	1,844,189	2,344,041

YEAR-TO-DATE 2008-2013 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE (net tons)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013*	Average 2008-2012
U.S. Ports	2,506,716	1,241,551	2,042,805	1,793,218	2,291,394	1,889,379	1,975,137
Canadian Ports	656,100	326,311	439,407	383,488	462,006	248,141	453,463
Total	3,164,824	1,569,871	2,482,212	2,176,706	2,753,400	2,137,520	2,248,600

* Year-to-date total includes 292,860 tons shipped in March.

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, aggregate and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation, as well as salt, sand and grain. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year. More information is available at www.lcaships.com.

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Information based on data from knowledgeable sources. 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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