



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

May 14, 2014

Lakes Stone Trade Stonewalled by Ice in April

CLEVELAND—Heavy ice cover on the Lakes significantly slowed the resumption of the limestone trade in April. Stone normally starts moving in earnest in early April, but only one cargo had been loaded by mid-month. The total for the full month - 983,000 tons - represents a decrease of nearly 47 percent compared to a year ago.

Shipments from U.S. ports totaled 968,000 tons, a decrease of 39 percent compared to a year ago. With only two stone cargos being loaded at Canadian quarries, shipments from Canada plummeted 94 percent.

No stone moved in the first quarter, hence the April float also represents the year-to-date total for the trade and amounts to a decrease of 54 percent compared to the same point in 2013.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: APRIL 2009-2014 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (net tons)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Average 2009-2013*
U.S. Ports	1,225,179	2,025,885	1,743,034	2,111,327	1,596,519	968,472	1,869,191
Canadian Ports	326,311	439,407	383,488	462,006	247,670	14,658	383,142
Total	1,553,499	2,465,294	2,126,522	2,573,333	1,844,189	983,130	2,252,333

* Excludes 2009.

YEAR-TO-DATE 2009-2014 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (net tons)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013*	2014	Average 2009-2013*
U.S. Ports	1,241,551	2,042,805	1,793,218	2,291,394	1,889,379	968,472	2,004,199
Canadian Ports	326,311	439,407	383,488	462,006	248,141	14,658	383,260
Total	1,569,871	2,482,212	2,176,706	2,753,400	2,137,520	983,130	2,387,459

* Excludes 2009.

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 Lakes and carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy: iron ore and fluxstone for steel production, aggregate and cement for construction, 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. Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President (440-333-9996).

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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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