

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Little Change in U.S.-Flag Cargo Movement on Lakes in May

CLEVELAND — U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (lakers) moved 9.5 million tons of cargo in May, a virtual repeat of a year ago. The May float did trail the month's 5-year average by 4.3 percent.

Iron ore cargos for steel production totaled 4,912,951 tons, an increase of 27,078 tons, or roughly one load in a 767-foot-long laker.

Coal shipments were likewise little changed from a year ago. Loadings totaled 1,405,989, a decrease of 29,411 tons, again roughly one cargo a mid-sized self-unloader.

Limestone loads totaled 2,771,320 tons. The gain over a year ago was again slight – 50,199 tons.

Year-to-date U.S.-flag carriage stands at 18.9 million tons, a decrease of 9.4 percent compared to the same point in 2017. Iron ore cargos total 11.7 million tons, a decrease of 9.8 percent. Coal loadings total 2.2 million tons, a decrease of 23 percent. Limestone cargos now top 4 million tons, an increase of 3.3 percent.

About Lake Carrier's Association:

Lake Carriers' Association represents 13 American companies that operate 45 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 sand and grain. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 100 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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