

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Great Lakes Iron Ore Trade Down 5 Percent in September

CLEVELAND – Shipments of iron ore from U.S. ports on the Great Lakes totaled 5.9 million tons in September, a decrease of 5 percent compared to a year ago. However, shipments did outpace the month's 5-year average by 4.9 percent.

Year-to-date the iron ore trade stands at 38.9 million tons, a decrease of 2.8 percent compared to the same point in 2017. The gap has been decreasing over the course of the shipping season. At the end of April, iron ore shipments were down nearly 14 percent.

Through September iron ore loadings are 6.8 percent ahead of their 5-year average for the first three quarters.

About Lake Carriers' Association

Lake Carriers' Association ("LCA") represents 13 American companies that operate 45 U.S.-flag vessels ("lakers") 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, its members can transport more than 90 million tons of dry-bulk cargo per year and employ more than 1,600 men and women, all of whom are U.S. citizens or legally admitted aliens, and provide annual wages and benefits of approximately \$125 million. In turn, those cargos create and sustain nearly 116,000 jobs in the eight Great Lakes states and generate more than \$20 billion in economic activity, \$8.3 billion in personal income, \$16.4 billion in business revenue, \$4.1 billion in local purchases and \$3.7 billion in taxes.

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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.

20325 Center Ridge Rd., Ste. 720 ♦ Rocky River, OH 44116-3572 ♦ www.lcaships.com

The Association Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes

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GREAT LAKES FLEET • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY • LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC.
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