

Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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U.S.-Flag Cargo Movement on Lakes Up 23 Percent in April

CLEVELAND — U.S.-flag Great Lakes freighters (lakers) moved 7.5 million tons of cargo in April, an increase of 23 percent compared to a year ago. The April float was 20.7 percent above the month's 5-year average.

April iron ore cargos for steel production totaled 4.3 million tons, an increase of 9.2 percent from last year and an increase of 18 percent from the month's 5-year average.

Coal shipments rose 61.3 percent to 1.2 million tons. Limestone cargos increased 37 percent to 1.5 million tons.

Year-to-date U.S.-flag carriage stands at 11.8 million tons, an increase of 25 percent compared to the same point in 2018. Iron ore cargos total 7.7 million tons, an increase of 13.6 percent. Coal loadings nearly doubled to 1.6 million tons. Limestone cargos have also increased to 1.7 million tons.

About Lake Carriers' Association

Lake Carriers' Association ("LCA") represents 13 American companies that operate 46 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, the cargos its members carry 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. 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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