

2009 TRAFFIC STATEMENT
ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL, SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DETROIT DISTRICT

The 2009 commercial navigation season through the United States locks began on March 25, 2009 and ended 297 days later on January 15, 2010. On March 16, the U.S. Coast Guard cutter MACKINAW passed through the Poe Lock for icebreaking operations.

The first commercial vessel for the season was the ALGOSAR on March 25, upbound for Thunder Bay, Ontario. The last commercial vessel of the season, the ROGER BLOUGH, passed downbound through the Poe Lock on January 15, 2010.

Delays are defined as elapsed time a vessel spends waiting to proceed with a lockage. Nine vessels were delayed by ice for a total of 2 hours, 32 minutes. Lock and hardware malfunctions accounted for seven boats being delayed 6 hours, 32 minutes. Delays caused by interference by other vessels totaled 3 hours, 38 minutes. Vessel equipment malfunction accounted for 1 hour, 6 minutes. Vessels detained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Coast Guard accounted for 34 minutes. All other delays amounted to 3 hours, 42 minutes.

The largest cargo recorded for a single passage was 68,680 net tons of iron ore by the INDIANA HARBOR on August 22.

The greatest total seasonal cargo transported by a single vessel was 2,560,384 net tons, also carried by the INDIANA HARBOR.

The smallest cargo for a single passage was 1 net ton of electrical machinery by the TUG KELLI ANNE on September 23.

Cargo flow was greatest in October, with 6,673,940 net tons passing through the locks. A total of 3,098 cargo carriers passed through the locks during the 2009 season, a decrease of 1,147 from the 2008 season. An annual total of 53,351,256 net tons of freight were recorded. This was 25,123,601 net tons below the 2008 total.

Total vessel passages decreased from 7,558 in 2008 to 7,354 in 2009. Freight decreased by 32.01 percent and total passages decreased by 27.02 percent.

Comparing the movement of cargo in and out of Lake Superior, 23 commodities experienced decreases from 2008 ranging from 9.39 percent for barley and rye to 100 percent for iron and steel pipe tube, manganese ore, paper and paperboard, pulp and waste paper, residual fuel oil, and sodium hydroxide. Commodities increasing in volume ranged from salt at 0.34 percent to grain mill products at 345.32 percent.

The greatest single gain in cargo tonnage was 836,888 net tons of wheat, while the most significant decrease was 19,874,776 net tons of iron ore.

The canal has not witnessed cargo movement this low since the 1938 navigation season when 40,042,739 net tons of cargo passed through the Soo Locks. The last time the canal saw a decline in cargo tonnage of this magnitude was between the 1981 and 1982 navigation seasons (96,237,836 net tons and 66,461,686 net tons respectively, a decline of 29,776,150 net tons). The largest yearly decline ever was between the 1937 and 1938 navigation seasons, when cargo fell from 87,633,699 net tons to 40,042,739 net tons, a decrease of 47,590,960 net tons.

TABLE OF MAXIMUM RECORDS OF FREIGHT TONNAGE FOR ONE DAY
PASSING THROUGH THE SOO LOCKS FOR THE 2009 SEASON
 (net tons)

Lock	Day	Tonnage	Passages	Average Lock Time	
MacArthur	October 08	164,046	7	0 hours	54 minutes
Poe	October 14	381,599	11	1 hour	4 minutes
All Locks	August 08	420,043	16	0 hours	57 minutes

2009 Statistical Annual Report of Lake Carriers' Association

The periods of operation and total passages of all craft for each of the three operational locks during the 2009 season are as follows:

LOCK	OPENING DAY	CLOSING DAY	DAYS IN OPERATION	TOTAL PASSAGES
MacArthur	May 3	December 13	225	4,157
Poe	March 25	January 15, 2010	297	3,195
Davis	Used only occasionally.		1	2

The following tabulation shows the number of cargo vessel passages recorded for the past 10 navigation seasons through the American canal:

YEAR	NUMBER OF PASSAGES	YEAR	NUMBER OF PASSAGES
2000	4,845	2005	4,312
2001	4,309	2006	4,412
2002	4,543	2007	4,730
2003	4,205	2008	4,245
2004	4,189	2009	3,098

The following is a comparative monthly statement of freight tonnage moved through the St. Marys Falls Canal during the past two navigation seasons:

MONTH	2008 (NET TONS)	2009 (NET TONS)	INCREASE / DECREASE
March	1,225,375	78,900	-1,146,475
April	7,466,794	4,268,711	-3,198,083
May	9,564,841	5,624,019	-3,940,822
June	9,677,871	5,731,472	-3,946,399
July	9,443,469	5,885,323	-3,558,146
August	9,701,406	5,989,718	-3,711,688
September	8,669,054	5,579,574	-3,089,480
October	8,979,462	6,673,940	-2,305,522
November	7,349,219	6,495,265	-853,954
December	5,421,266	5,465,138	+43,872
January 2009/2010	976,100	1,559,196	+583,096
TOTAL	78,474,857	53,351,256	-25,123,601

**STATISTICAL REPORT OF LAKE COMMERCE PASSING THROUGH
THE ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
2009 SEASON**

(net tons)

COMMODITY	DIRECTION		TOTAL NET TONS	PREVIOUS 3 SEASONS' AVERAGE	
	WESTBOUND	EASTBOUND			
Asphalt, Tar and Pitch	876	46,105	46,981	54,449	
Barley and Rye	0	119,848	119,848	91,919	
Cement and Concrete	303,862	5,779	309,641	436,503	
Clay, Refrac. Material	0	70,732	70,732	163,987	
Coal	1,566,752	15,772,301	17,339,053	20,824,575	
Coal Coke	101,418	92,853	194,271	391,228	
Corn	0	0	0	5,301	
Distillate Fuel Oil	89,000	4,686	93,686	159,415	
Dredged Material	70,967	0	70,967	29,811	
Electrical Machinery	5,080	0	5,080	13,192	
Flaxseed	0	229,411	229,411	522,231	
Gasoline	112,783	5,161	117,944	85,851	
Grain Mill Products	0	38,614	38,614	117,567	
Iron and Steel Bars and Shapes	4,648	8,503	13,151	94,065	
Iron and Steel Pipe and Tubes	0	0	0	62,302	
Iron and Steel Plates and Sheets	83	324,139	324,222	392,459	
Iron and Steel Primary Forms	0	0	0	6,253	
Iron and Steel Scrap	28,679	19,552	48,231	101,360	
Iron Ore	51,311	22,126,465	22,177,776	42,943,367	
Limestone	3,084,048	0	3,084,048	4,292,508	
Lumber	0	0	0	2,420	
Machinery (Non-electric)	12,561	255	12,816	33,371	
Manganese Ore	0	0	0	18,779	
Multi-commodities in Containers	0	0	0	832	
Oats	0	251,058	251,058	239,442	
Oilseeds (Not elsewhere classified)	0	909,229	909,229	921,540	
Paper and Paperboard	0	0	0	11,255	
Petroleum Coke	8,571	8,600	17,171	10,720	
Pig Iron	0	0	0	2,860	
Potassic Fertilizer	0	186,077	186,077	469,056	
Primary Iron & Steel (Not elsewhere classified)	100	0	100	367	
Pulp & Waste Paper	0	0	0	10,722	
Residual Fuel Oil	0	0	0	13,960	
Salt	564,800	0	564,800	553,715	
Sand & Gravel	0	0	0	10,324	
Slag	20,154	611,638	631,792	571,421	
Sodium Hydroxide	0	0	0	16,304	
Soybeans	0	31,742	31,742	102,387	
Vegetables and Produce	0	248,430	248,430	435,116	
Vehicles & Parts	100	0	100	0	
Wheat	0	6,214,240	6,214,240	6,612,255	
Wood in the Rough	0	0	0	667	
Freight	Net Tons	6,025,793	47,325,463	53,351,256	80,825,858
Vessel Passages *	Number	3,786	3,568	7,354	8,054
Lockages	Number	3,015	2,823	5,838	6,682

**COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF LAKE COMMERCE
PASSING THROUGH THE ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
2008 AND 2009 SEASONS**

(net tons)

ITEM	SEASON 2008	SEASON 2009	INCREASE/ DECREASE	INCREASE/ DECREASE
Vessel Passages.....Number	7,558	7,354	-204	-2.70%
Cargo Carriers.....Number	4,245	3,098	-1,147	-27.02%
Non-Cargo CarriersNumber	3,313	4,256	+943	+28.46
LockagesNumber	6,335	5,838	-497	-7.85%
Asphalt, Tar and Pitch	54,314	46,981	-7,333	-13.50%
Barley and Rye	132,271	119,848	-12,423	-9.39%
Cement and Concrete	403,734	309,641	-94,093	-23.31%
Clay, Refrac. Material	133,904	70,732	-63,172	-47.18%
Coal	21,252,106	17,339,053	-3,913,053	-18.41%
Coal Coke	431,433	194,271	-237,162	-54.97%
Distillate Fuel Oil.....	153,122	93,686	-59,436	-38.82%
Dredged Material	0	70,967	70,967	100.00%
Electrical Machinery	14,815	5,080	-9,735	-65.71%
Flaxseed	511,865	229,411	-282,454	-55.18%
Gasoline.....	88,833	117,944	+29,111	+32.77%
Grain Mill Products	8,671	38,614	+29,943	+345.32%
Iron and Steel Bars and Shapes.....	64,152	13,151	-51,001	-79.50%
Iron and Steel Pipes and Tubes	88,310	0	-88,310	-100.00%
Iron and Steel Plates and Sheets	407,574	324,222	-83,352	-20.45%
Iron and Steel Scrap.....	57,134	48,231	-8,903	-15.58%
Iron Ore.....	42,052,552	22,177,776	-19,874,776	-47.26%
Limestone	4,354,205	3,084,048	-1,270,157	-29.17%
Machinery (Non-electric)	50,008	12,816	-37,192	-74.37%
Manganese Ore	27,725	0	-27,725	-100.00%
Manufactured Products (Not elsewhere classified)	0	45	+45	+100.00%
Oats	237,540	251,058	+13,518	+5.69%
Oilseeds (Not elsewhere classified).....	903,257	909,229	+5,972	+0.66
Paper & Paperboard	18,693	0	-18,693	-100.00%
Petroleum Coke.....	0	17,171	+17,171	+100.00%
Potassic Fertilizer	319,999	186,077	-133,922	-41.85%
Primary I&S (Not elsewhere classified)	0	100	100	+100.00%
Pulp and Waste Paper.....	14,860	0	-14,860	-100.00%
Residual Fuel Oil	7,237	0	-7,237	-100.00%
Salt.....	562,869	564,800	+1,931	+0.34%
Slag.....	413,607	631,792	+218,185	+52.75%
Sodium Hydroxide	16,497	0	-16,497	-100.00%
Soybeans.....	15,251	31,742	+16,491	+108.13%
Vegetable & Produce.....	300,967	248,430	-52,537	-17.46%
Vehicles & Parts	300,967	248,430	-52,537	-17.46%
Wheat	5,377,352	6,214,240	+836,888	+15.56%
TOTAL FREIGHT	78,474,857	53,351,256	-25,123,601	-32.01%

The St. Marys Fall Canal was opened on March 25, 2009, and closed on January 15, 2010, a season of 297 days.

**STATISTICAL REPORT OF FREIGHT TONNAGE TRANSITS BY LOCK
ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
2009 SEASON**

(net tons)

MONTH	MacARTHUR	POE	WESTBOUND	EASTBOUND	TOTAL
March.....	0	78,900	21,256	57,644	78,900
April.....	0	4,268,711	300,091	3,968,620	4,268,711
May	1,116,032	4,507,987	376,497	5,247,522	5,624,019
June	1,362,687	4,368,785	541,638	5,189,834	5,731,472
July	1,398,567	4,486,756	810,612	5,074,711	5,885,323
August.....	1,438,725	4,550,993	785,011	5,204,707	5,989,718
September	1,283,590	4,295,984	933,594	4,645,980	5,579,574
October	1,473,357	5,200,583	1,055,798	5,618,142	6,673,940
November	1,438,001	5,057,264	740,925	5,754,340	6,495,265
December	560,852	4,904,286	434,151	5,030,987	5,465,138
January 2010	0	1,559,196	73,298	1,485,898	1,559,196
TOTAL.....	10,071,811	43,279,445	6,072,871	47,278,385	53,351,256

**STATISTICAL TABLE OF FREIGHT TONNAGE AND PASSAGES BY LOCK AND DIRECTION
PASSING THROUGH THE CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
2009 SEASON**

(net tons)

VESSEL FLAG	MacARTHUR LOCK	POE LOCK	TOTAL NET TONS	MacARTHUR LOCK	POE LOCK	TOTAL PASSAGES
U.S.....	1,716,518	34,960,533	36,677,051	2,367	2,013	4,380
Canadian.....	7,775,782	7,043,080	14,818,862	944	737	1,681
Foreign.....	579,511	1,275,832	1,855,343	120	124	244
Government	0	0	0	726	323	1,049
All Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL.....	10,071,811	43,279,445	53,351,256	4,157	3,195	7,354

Note: Totals include 2 passages through Davis Lock.

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DEEPEST MONTHLY DRAFTS
PASSING THROUGH THE CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
FOR THE SEASONS OF 2008 AND 2009**

Month	2008 Season			2009 Season			Increase/ Decrease	
	Vessel Name	Draft		Vessel Name	Draft		Feet	Inches
		Feet	Inches		Feet	Inches		
March	FRONTENAC	26	0	GREAT LAKES TRADER	27	7	0	-5
April	REDERAL RHINE	26	7	GREAT LAKES TRADER	27	4	0	8
May	INDIANA HARBOR	26	10	AMERICAN MARINER	27	6	0	8
June	MESABI MINER	27	5	AMERICAN MARINER	28	0	0	7
July	MESABI MINER	27	7	PAUL R. TREGURTHA	27	10	0	3
August	AMERICAN MARINER	27	8	INDIANA HARBOR	27	11	0	3
September	STEWART J. CORT	27	7	GREAT LAKES TRADER	27	10	0	3
October	JAMES R. BARKER	27	4	PAUL R. TREGURTHA	27	7	0	3
November	ROGER BLOUGH	26	9	GREAT LAKES TRADER	27	6	0	9
December	OLYMPIC MERIT	26	7	GREAT LAKES TRADER	27	5	0	10
January	JOHN B. AIRD	26	6	CHARLES M. BEEGHLY	27	6	1	0

**MAXIMUM ALL-TIME FREIGHT RECORDS
FOR EACH MONTH OF NAVIGATION**

Month	Year	Number of Lockages	Number of Passages	Total Net Tons
February*	1978	101	102	968,280
March	2006	109	122	1,744,715
April	1953	1,990	2,533	12,323,048
May	1953	2,524	3,378	18,071,240
June	1953	2,059	2,812	18,317,886
July	1953	2,938	4,199	18,660,360
August	1953	2,980	4,167	19,106,798
September	1952	2,768	3,455	17,537,072
October	1943	2,520	3,435	16,502,946
November	1952	2,296	2,789	13,604,714
December	1994	640	707	9,974,983
January	2004	252	253	3,827,480

*Industry was studying the possibility of year-round navigation.

**FREIGHT BETWEEN LAKE SUPERIOR AND EACH OF THE OTHER LAKES AND OVERSEAS
PASSING THROUGH THE CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN 2009 SEASON**

Vessel Flag	Ports		EASTBOUND FROM LAKE SUPERIOR								
	From	To	Lake Michigan	Lake Huron	Lake Erie	Lake Ontario	St. Marys River	Detroit/ St. Clair Rivers	St. Lawrence River & Coastwise	Foreign	Total
American	American	American	11,751,363	281,222	6,300,361	0	0	12,960,412	0	0	31,293,358
	American	American	0	0	920,440	206,680	0	0	0	0	1,127,120
	Canadian	Canadian	90,949	3,718	0	0	0	0	0	0	94,667
Canadian	Canadian	Canadian	0	240,433	133,843	783,251	13,525	538,222	4,308,521	0	6,017,795
	Canadian	American	250,674	194,820	372,551	0	0	551,591	0	0	1,369,636
	American	Canadian	0	19,223	1,587,956	2,300,221	0	28,756	1,649,028	0	5,585,184
3 rd Flag	Canadian	Canadian	0	0	11,197	0	0	0	434,429	0	445,626
	Canadian	Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	436,979	436,979
	American	Canadian	0	0	0	0	0	0	481,399	0	481,399
	American	Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	473,699	473,699
Total Eastbound			12,092,986	739,416	9,326,348	3,290,152	13,525	14,078,981	06,873,377	910,678	47,325,463

Vessel Flag	Ports		WESTBOUND TO LAKE SUPERIOR								
	From	To	Lake Michigan	Lake Huron	Lake Erie	Lake Ontario	St. Marys River	Detroit/ St. Clair Rivers	St. Lawrence River & Coastwise	Foreign	Total
American	American	American	706,298	2,321,887	282,998	0	70,120	51,311	0	0	3,423,614
	American	American	28,956	8,233	542,242	0	896	35,038	0	0	615,365
	Canadian	Canadian	0	113,927	0	0	0	0	0	0	113,927
Canadian	Canadian	Canadian	0	300,164	7,176	35,234	100	83,011	0	0	425,685
	Canadian	American	0	280,681	3,370	124,573	0	31,840	0	0	440,464
	American	Canadian	959	366,040	564,412	0	0	48,687	0	0	980,098
3 rd Flag	Canadian	Canadian	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,875	0	4,875
	Canadian	Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,719	0	2,719
	American	Canadian	2,533	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,533
	American	Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,513	7,513
Total Westbound			738,746	3,390,932	1,400,198	159,807	71,116	249,887	7,594	7,513	6,025,793
Total Eastbound/Westbound			12,831,732	4,130,348	10,726,546	3,449,959	84,641	14,328,868	6,880,971	918,191	53,351,256

This report is subject to revision. Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District.