

**2015 TRAFFIC STATEMENT
ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL, SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, DETROIT DISTRICT**

The 2015 commercial navigation season through the United States locks began on March 25, 2015, and ended 297 days later on January 15, 2016. On March 23, 2015, the U.S. Coast Guard cutter MACKINAW passed through the Poe Lock for icebreaking operations.

The first commercial vessel for the season was the M/V EDWIN H. GOTT (U.S.-flag) on March 25 upbound for Two Harbors, Minnesota. The last commercial vessel was the tug ANGLIAN LADY pushing the barge PML IRON MASTER, which locked down through the Poe Lock on January 15, 2016, bound for Burns Harbor, Indiana.

Delays are defined as the elapsed time a vessel spends waiting to proceed with a lockage. Thirty-nine vessels were delayed by ice for a total of 30 hours 19 minutes. Lock and hardware malfunctions accounted for 32 vessels being delayed a total of 9 hours 48 minutes. Repairing lock or lock equipment accounted for 2 vessels being delayed a total of 24 minutes. Sixteen vessels were delayed by interference by other vessels for 7 hours 7 minutes. One vessel was delayed by lightning near the lock totaling 1 hour 12 minutes. Two vessels were delayed by ice on lock or lock equipment for 1 hour 12 minutes. Three vessels were delayed 1 hour 19 minutes by tow staff occupied with other duties. Other delays affected one vessel and accounted for 43 minutes.

The MacArthur Lock was down due to repairing lock or lock hardware for 18 days 22 hours between July 29 and August 17. During that time 136 vessels were delayed a total of 262 hours when all factors were incorporated into the delay time.

The largest cargo recorded for a single passage in the 2015 season was 71,537 tons of iron ore carried by the M/V EDWIN H. GOTT on August 4. The greatest seasonal cargo total transported by a single vessel was 3,034,799 tons of iron ore, again carried by the GOTT.

The smallest cargo for a single passage was 24 tons of iron ore carried by M/V BAIE COMEAU on November 16.

Cargo flow was greatest during the month of May with 9,164,312 tons passing through the locks. A total of 3,523 cargo carriers passed through the locks during the 2015 season, a decrease of 462 from the 2014 season. An annual total of 68,740,609 tons of freight was recorded. This was 8,811,677 tons below the 2014 total. Total vessel passages decreased from 7,284 in 2014 to 6,448 in 2015. Freight decreased by 11.36 percent and total passages decreased by 11.48 percent.

Comparing the movement of cargo in and out of Lake Superior, 20 commodities experienced decreases from 2014 with iron ore seeing the biggest: 6,840,959 tons. Eleven commodities experienced increases in volume from 2014 with slag seeing the biggest (269,750 tons), followed by wheat (220,620 tons). Several other cargos experienced increases or decreases of 100 percent; this was attributed to no cargo movement during the previous year or present year.

2015 Statistical Annual Report of Lake Carriers' Association

The periods of operation and total passages of all craft for each lock during the 2015 season are as follows:

LOCK	OPENING DAY	CLOSING DAY	DAYS IN OPERATION	TOTAL PASSAGES
MacArthur	April 19, 2015	December 13, 2015	221	2,597
Poe	March 25, 2015	January 15, 2016	297	3,851

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
2006	4,412	2011	4,040
2007	4,730	2012	4,082
2008	4,245	2013	3,799
2009	3,098	2014	3,985
2010	4,422	2015	3,523

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

MONTH	2014 (NET TONS)	2015 (NET TONS)	INCREASE / DECREASE
March	0*	26,837	26,837
April	1,261,213	4,902,766	3,641,553
May	9,314,897	9,164,312	-150,585
June	9,432,964	8,111,666	-1,321,298
July	9,981,352	8,341,384	-1,639,968
August	9,971,058	7,710,058	-2,261,000
September	8,944,435	7,850,637	-1,093,798
October	9,347,111	7,739,001	-1,608,110
November	8,108,479	6,548,663	-1,559,816
December	8,421,330	6,429,600	-1,991,730
January 2015/2016	2,769,447	1,915,685	-853,762
TOTAL	77,552,286	68,740,609	-8,811,677

* No lockages due to heavy ice.

**Table of Maximum Records of Freight Tonnage for One Day Passing Through the Canal
By Lock at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, for the Season of 2015**

Lock	Day	Tonnage	Cargo Passages	Avg. Lockage Time (Hour/Minute)	
MacArthur	8/21/2015	119,385	5	1	6
Poe	9/10/2015	487,606	16	0	57
All Locks	9/10/2015	540,364	20	0	57

**STATISTICAL REPORT OF LAKE COMMERCE PASSING THROUGH
THE ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
2015 SEASON**

(net tons)

COMMODITY	DIRECTION		TOTAL NET TONS	PREVIOUS 3 SEASONS' AVERAGE
	WESTBOUND	EASTBOUND		
Animal Feed, Prep.....	0	1,271,945	1,271,945	881,512
Asphalt, Tar and Pitch	79	68,252	68,331	78,921
Barley and Rye.....	0	0	0	1,820
Cement and Concrete	310,989	0	310,989	314,086
Clay, Refrac. Material.....	35,455	10,585	46,040	96,190
Coal.....	1,432,492	11,011,726	12,444,218	13,913,922
Coal Coke	208,740	186,275	395,015	310,370
Distillate Fuel Oil	2,521	0	2,521	47,471
Dredged Material.....	0	0	0	10
Electrical Machinery	286	0	296	3,432
Fabricated Metal Products	3,375	0	3,375	3,811
Flaxseed.....	0	44,398	44,398	129,699
Gasoline	11,871	0	11,871	67,709
Iron and Steel Bars and Shapes	359	0	359	65,940
Iron and Steel Pipe and Tubes.....	15,568	0	15,568	10,590
Iron and Steel Plates and Sheets	13,526	470,835	484,361	416,451
Iron and Steel Primary Forms	25,947	9,023	34,970	53,449
Iron and Steel Scrap.....	78,465	87,643	166,108	117,660
Iron Ore	414,664	37,856,083	38,270,747	44,280,258
Limestone.....	4,529,957	33,350	4,563,307	4,717,561
Machinery (Non-electric)	44,026	190	44,216	25,092
Manganese Ore	0	0	0	1,827
Manufactured Products (Not elsewhere classified) .	14,438	997	15,435	3,165
Oats.....	0	119,121	119,121	181,890
Oilseeds (Not elsewhere classified)	0	1,406,535	1,406,535	1,137,612
Petroleum Coke.....	0	0	0	7,759
Potassic Fertilizer	0	301,858	301,858	352,876
Primary Iron & Steel (Not elsewhere classified)	0	0	0	164
Pulp & Waste Paper.....	24,341	0	23,341	7,237
Residual Fuel Oil.....	0	0	0	65
Salt.....	756,377	0	756,377	602,816
Sand & Gravel	0	0	0	7,315
Slag.....	0	588,248	588,248	271,128
Soybeans	0	38,067	38,067	57,292
Vegetables and Produce.....	0	188,480	188,480	104,930
Vehicles & Parts	0	0	0	37
Wheat.....	0	7,123,522	7,123,522	6,115,935
Freight.....Net Tons	7,923,476	60,817,133	68,740,609	74,388,002
Vessel Passages.....Number	3,510	2,938	6,448	7,152
Lockages.....Number	2,864	2,491	5,355	5,883

**COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF LAKE COMMERCE
PASSING THROUGH THE ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
2014 AND 2015 SEASONS**

(net tons)

ITEM	SEASON 2014	SEASON 2015	INCREASE/ DECREASE	INCREASE/ DECREASE
Vessel Passages.....Number	7,284	6,448	-836	-11.48%
Cargo Carriers.....Number	3,985	3,523	-462	-11.59%
Non-Cargo CarriersNumber	3,299	2,925	-374	-11.34%
LockagesNumber	6,073	5,355	-718	-11.82%
Animal Feed.....	1,488,875	1,271,945	-216,930	-14.57%
Asphalt, Tar and Pitch	128,025	68,331	-59,694	-46.63%
Cement and Concrete	316,569	310,989	-5,580	-1.76%
Clay, Refrac. Material	55,779	46,040	-9,739	-17.46%
Coal Coke	538,883	395,015	-1,386,027	-26.70%
Coal	13,830,245	12,444,218	-143,868	-10.02%
Distillate Fuel Oil.....	16,055	2,521	-13,534	-84.30%
Electrical Machinery	2,088	286	-1,802	-86.30%
Fab. Metal Products	0	3,375	3,375	100.00%
Flaxseed	176,054	44,398	-131,656	-74.78%
Gasoline.....	69,520	11,871	-57,649	-82.92%
Iron and Steel Bars and Shapes.....	67,936	359	-67,577	-99.47%
Iron and Steel Pipe and Tube	0	15,568	15,568	100.00%
Iron and Steel Plates and Sheets	448,300	484,361	36,061	8.04%
Iron and Steel Primary Forms.....	160,264	34,970	-125,294	-78.18%
Iron and Steel Scrap.....	165,431	166,108	677	0.41%
Iron Ore.....	45,111,706	38,270,747	-6,840,959	-15.16%
Limestone	4,895,902	4,563,307	-322,595	-6.79%
Machinery (Non-electric)	4,494	44,216	39,722	883.89%
Manufactured Products (Not elsewhere classified)	4,142	15,435	11,293	272.65%
Oats	159,560	119,121	-40,439	-25.34%
Oilseeds (Not elsewhere classified).....	1,280,423	1,406,535	126,112	9.85%
Potassic Fertilizer	320,431	301,858	-18,573	-5.80%
Pulp & Waste Paper	4,418	24,341	19,923	450.95%
Residual Fuel Oil	194	0	-194	-100.00%
Salt.....	693,054	756,377	63,323	9.14%
Sand and Gravel.....	21,946	0	-21,946	-100.00%
Slag.....	318,498	588,248	269,750	84.69%
Soybeans	160,806	38,067	-122,739	-76.33%
Vegetable & Produce.....	209,786	188,480	-21,306	-10.16%
Wheat	6,902,902	7,123,522	220,620	3.20%
TOTAL FREIGHT	77,552,286	68,740,609	-8,811,677	11.36%

**STATISTICAL TABLE OF FREIGHT TONNAGE AND PASSAGES BY LOCK AND DIRECTION
PASSING THROUGH THE CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGIAN
2015 SEASON**

(net tons)

MONTH	MacARTHUR	POE	WESTBOUND	EASTBOUND	TOTAL
March.....	0	26,837	0	26,837	26,837
April.....	212,735	4,690,031	539,949	4,362,817	4,902,766
May	1,325,785	7,838,527	1,152,969	8,011,343	9,164,312
June	1,079,064	7,032,602	825,198	7,286,468	8,111,666
July	1,234,224	7,107,160	868,015	7,473,369	8,341,384
August.....	507,261	7,202,797	969,514	6,740,544	7,710,058
September	828,299	7,022,338	790,139	7,060,498	7,850,637
October	1,063,270	6,675,731	769,489	6,969,512	7,739,001
November	1,215,034	5,333,629	1,084,779	5,463,884	6,548,663
December	742,490	5,687,110	849,406	5,580,194	6,429,600
January 2016	0	1,915,685	74,108	1,841,667	1,915,685
TOTAL.....	8,208,162	60,532,447	7,923,476	60,817,133	68,740,609

**STATISTICAL TABLE OF FREIGHT TONNAGE AND PASSAGES BY LOCK AND VESSEL FLAG
PASSING THROUGH THE CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGIAN
2015 SEASON**

(net tons)

Net Tonnage				Passages		
VESSEL FLAG	MacARTHUR LOCK	POE LOCK	TOTAL NET TONS	MacARTHUR LOCK	POE LOCK	TOTAL PASSAGES
U.S.	3,105,208	46,239,307	49,344,515	1,647	2,451	4,098
Canadian.....	4,468,146	11,321,037	15,789,183	498	963	1,461
Foreign.....	634,808	2,972,103	3,606,911	113	281	394
Government	0	0	0	339	156	495
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	8,208,162	60,532,447	68,740,609	2,597	3,851	6,448

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DEEPEST MONTHLY DRAFTS
PASSING THROUGH THE CANAL AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
FOR THE SEASONS OF 2014 AND 2015**

Month	2014 Season			2015 Season			Increase/ Decrease	
	Vessel Name	Draft		Vessel Name	Draft		Feet	Inches
		Feet	Inches		Feet	Inches		
March	No lockages due to ice conditions.	--	--	JOHN G. MUNSON	26	3	26	3
April	PAUL R. TREGURTHA	27	7	PRESUE ISLE	28	2	0	6
May	GREAT LAKES TRADER	28	1	THUNDER BAY	28	7	0	6
June	LEE A. TREGURTHA	28	7	MESABI MINER	28	10	0	3
July	PAUL R. TREGURTHA	28	4	GREAT LAKES TRADER	29	0	0	8
August	THUNDER BAY	28	8	PAUL. R. TREGURTHA	29	2	0	6
Sept.	MESABI MINER	28	7	PAUL. R. TREGURTHA	29	1	0	6
Oct.	MESABI MINER	28	5	PAUL. R. TREGURTHA	29	0	0	7
Nov.	PRESQUE ISLE	28	4	PAUL. R. TREGURTHA	28	5	0	1
Dec.	LEE A. TREGURTHA	28	2	PAUL. R. TREGURTHA	28	4	0	2
January	HERBERT C. JACKSON	26	8	JAMES R. BARKER	28	4	1	8

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

Month	Year	Number of Lockages	Number of Passages	Total Net Tons
January	2004	252	253	3,827,480
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

*Federal government and industry were studying the possibility of year-round navigation.