THE GREAT LAKES

The Great Lakes — Superior, Huron, Michigan, Ontario and Erie — make up the largest body of fresh water on Earth, accounting for one-fifth of the freshwater surface on the planet at 6 quadrillion gallons.



A 30 BILLION

-M- 95,160/SQ MI

\$ \$2.841 BILLION

35,000 3,500 170

Islands dotted throughout

Species of plants and animals

Species of fish

INTERESTING FACTS



The square mileage is larger than the state of Texas.



About 14,000 years ago, the Great Lakes area was covered with a glacier that was more than a half-mile (1 km) thick.



There have been a number of shipwrecks on the Great Lakes, as storms and reefs can make navigation treacherous.

Average depth (ft)

