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GOVERNOR


STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK
DIRECTOR

VIA E-MAIL

TO: Senate Environmental Quality Committee Members
Senate Natural Resources Committee Members
House Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Committee Members

FROM: Liesl Eichler Clark, Director 

DATE: March 10, 2021

SUBJECT: Report on Sand Dune Mining

In accordance with Section 63711(8) of Part 637, Sand Dune Mining, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, attached is the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) report on Sand Dune Mining for fiscal year 2020.

If you need further information, please contact Adam W. Wygant, Director, Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division, at 517-897-4828; or you may contact me at 517-284-6708.

Attachment

cc/att: Chris Harkins, Director, Senate Fiscal Agency
Mary Ann Cleary, Director, House Fiscal Agency
David Massaron, Director, State Budget Office
George W. Cook, III, Legislative Affairs Director, Governor's Office
Emily Laidlaw, Policy Director, Governor's Office
Ben Dawson, Senate Fiscal Agency
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Jacques McNeely, State Budget Office
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Dale Shaw, EGLE
Adam W. Wygant, EGLE
Kathy Tetzlaff, EGLE
Mike Sweat, EGLE



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

Legislative Report

Report on Sand Dune Mining

**Report Period:
Fiscal Year 2020**

**Authority:
Section 63711(8) of Part 637, Sand Dune Mining,
of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act,
1994 PA 451, as Amended**

For more information on the Sand Dune Mining Program, please contact:
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Report on Sand Dune Mining Fiscal Year 2020

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division (OGMD), administers the Sand Dune Mining Program under Part 637, Sand Dune Mining, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. Part 637 prescribes the requirements for the permitting, mining, and reclamation of sand mining operations in designated Great Lakes sand dune areas. Sand mined from these areas is used primarily for industrial and construction purposes. The program is funded entirely by the collection of an annual surveillance fee assessed to the sand dune mining operators. The amount collected is commensurate with the funds needed to cover program costs.

All sand dune mining sites are located within two miles of the Lake Michigan shoreline. Most of the currently active sites are located between Benton Harbor and Muskegon. One site is in Mackinac County in the Upper Peninsula. Six sites have active permits, and one site is in the process of completing final reclamation in 2020. Final reclamation status means mining has stopped, site reclamation and restoration is in process but has not been completed, and the bond, or financial assurance, has not been released.

PERMITTING ACTIVITIES

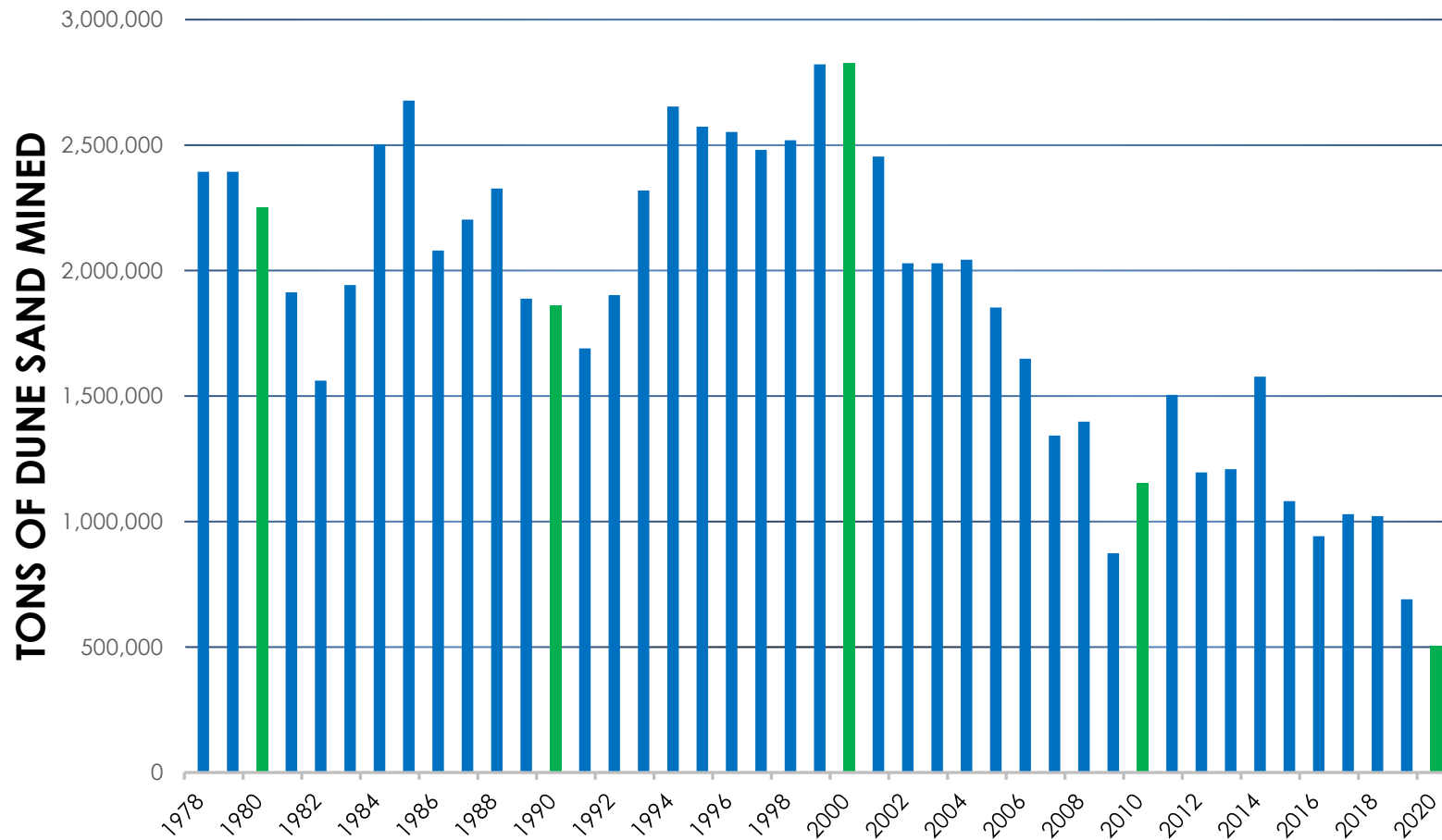
There were two applications for renewal received in 2020, one permit expired, and one application for a new sand dune mine was received in 2020.

SURVEILLANCE AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

OGMD staff conducted a total of 17 on-site inspections at permitted sites in fiscal year (FY) 2020 and responded to two complaints. No significant issues occurred that required enforcement action, and all companies were in compliance.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

Total money received from sand dune mining surveillance fees totaled \$27,518 for FY 2020. Expenditures totaled \$17,680. Part 637 requires EGLE to calculate the surveillance fee rate each year, up to a maximum of \$0.10 per ton of sand mined from a sand dune area for the previous calendar year. Fees are collected only to match actual costs for implementing Part 637 and are maintained such that the Sand Extraction Fee Revenue Fund (Fund) maintains a balance of approximately one to two years' operating expense. Owing to the nature of sand dune mining, even after production ceases, there is postproduction reclamation requiring some oversight until closure. Unexpended money in the Fund is carried forward each year. The balance in the Fund at the end of FY 2020 was \$249,140.



YEAR MINING OCCURRED

Annual dune sand production, in tons, from 1978 through 2020
 During 2020: 505,348 tons of sand were produced from six permitted sites.

1978-2020: 79,915,114 tons of dune sand have been produced.

**Part 637, Sand Dune Mining
2021 Site Status Summary**

Permit Number	Company Name	Site Name	Status	Renewal
TS-GP-100	Technisand, Inc.	Gulliver-Peters Site	Closed 2006	N/A
TS-BP-101	Technisand, Inc.	Busse Property	Closed 2014	N/A
TS-GS-102	Technisand, Inc.	Garage Site	Closed 1996	N/A
TS-NP-103	Technisand, Inc.	Nadeau Pit	Active (Permitted 1979)	2020
TS-RP-104	Technisand, Inc.	Rose Pit	Closed 1996	N/A
TS-BS-105	Technisand, Inc.	Bridgman South Site	Closed 1997	N/A
TS-BN-106	Technisand, Inc.	Bridgman North Site	Closed 1996	N/A
TS-NS-107	Technisand, Inc.	Nadeau Site (Taube Road)	Closed 2015	N/A
SAS-LS-108	Sargent Sand	Ludington Site	Active (Permitted 1981)	2021
NUS-LAS-109	Nugent Sand	Lincoln Avenue Site	Reclamation (Permitted 1981)	N/A
VCD-HH-110	Verplank's Coal & Dock Co.	Holiday Hills Site	Closed 2003	N/A
CWC-LHRS-111	CWC Castings	Lake Harbor Road Site	Closed 1987	N/A
JMC-SBS-112	Jackson-Merkey Contr. Inc.	Sherman Boulevard Site	Active (Permitted 1982)	2024
CAC-FBS-113	Ottawa Sand Company	Ferrysburg Site	Closed 2019	N/A
STS-RMS-114	Standard Sand	Rosy Mound Site	Active (Permitted 1982)	2020
BON-LT-115	Bonzelaar, Jack J.B.	Laketown Site	Closed 2005	N/A
SPC-PS-116	Sand Products	Plateau Site	Active (Permitted 1983)	2021
HJT-TP-117	Tanis, Harold J.	Tanis Property	Closed 1992	N/A
TS-AS-118	Technisand, Inc.	Austin Site	Closed 2001	N/A
TS-GAR-119	Technisand, Inc.	Garlanger	Closed 2001	N/A
WR-RS-120	Woodland Ridge II, L.L.C.	Rycenga Site	Closed 2006	N/A
SE-DS-121	Star Excavating	Dokter Site	Closed 1994	N/A
WFR-WRP-122	Rohn, Walter F	Walter Rohn Property	Active (Permitted 1991)	2021
WD-TSS-123	Woodland Development	Tiffany Shores Site	Closed 1995	N/A
Denied/124	Hart-Packing	Silver Lake Site	Closed 2001	N/A
CAC-NSS-125	Construction Aggregates	North Sag Site	Closed 2001	N/A
NLN-NLS-126	Genzink, Steve	New Life Nursery	Closed 2001	N/A
DPD-DP-127	Drooger, Dennis P.	Drooger Property	Closed 1994	N/A
OE-OES-128	Owens Excavating	Owens Excavating Site	Closed 2004	N/A
WGI-BSS-129	Waters Group, Inc.	Blair Street Site	Closed 2001	N/A
CB-CBS-130	Beasley, Charles	Charles Beasley Site	Closed 2005	N/A
HA-GBF-131	Aussicker, Harold	Gold Barn Farms Site	Closed 2007	N/A
DS-LWS-132	Slikkers, David	Legacy Woods Site	Closed 2006	N/A
MES-ES-133	Martin Emery	Martin Emery Site	Closed 2020	N/A

STATUS:

“Active” means mining has or could occur. Some sites might not be producing or are preparing to close.

“Reclamation” means mining has stopped, reclamation has not been completed, and the site bond has not been released.

“Closed” means mining has stopped, reclamation has been completed, and the site bond has been released.

“Renewal” means permit must be renewed by December 31st of the specified year.

Shaded cells indicate mines that have not renewed their permits and that are closed.

Please contact Jennifer Ferrigan, OGMD, at FerriganJ2@Michigan.gov or 517-290-6982, for comments or questions.