



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR


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



PHILLIP D. ROOS
DIRECTOR

VIA EMAIL

TO: Senate Energy and Environment Committee Members
Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee Members
House Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism and Outdoor
Recreation Committee Members

FROM: Phillip D. Roos, Director 

DATE: April 15, 2024

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 2023.

If you need further information, please contact Adam W. Wygant, Director, Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division, at 517-897-4828 or WygantA@Michigan.gov; or you may contact me at 517-614-6873.

Attachment

cc/att: Kathryn Summers, Director, Senate Fiscal Agency
Mary Ann Cleary, Director, House Fiscal Agency
Jennifer Flood, Director, State Budget Office
Patti Tremblay, Director of Legislative Affairs, Governor's Office
Marc Rehmann, Policy Director, Governor's Office
Jonah Houtz, Senate Fiscal Agency
Austin Scott, House Fiscal Agency
Jacques McNeely, State Budget Office
Zach Hendrix, State Budget Office
Aaron B. Keatley, Chief Deputy Director, EGLE
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Sydney Hart, Legislative Liaison, EGLE
Paul McDonald, EGLE
Dale Shaw, EGLE
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Kathy Tetzlaff, EGLE
Mark Snow, EGLE
Jolene Melchiori, EGLE



Legislative Report

Sand Dune Mining Report

**Report Period:
Fiscal Year 2023**

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

If you need this information in an alternate format, contact EGLE-Accessibility@Michigan.gov or call 800-662-9278.

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Sand Dune Mining Report Fiscal Year 2023

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. Seven sites have active permits.

PERMITTING ACTIVITIES

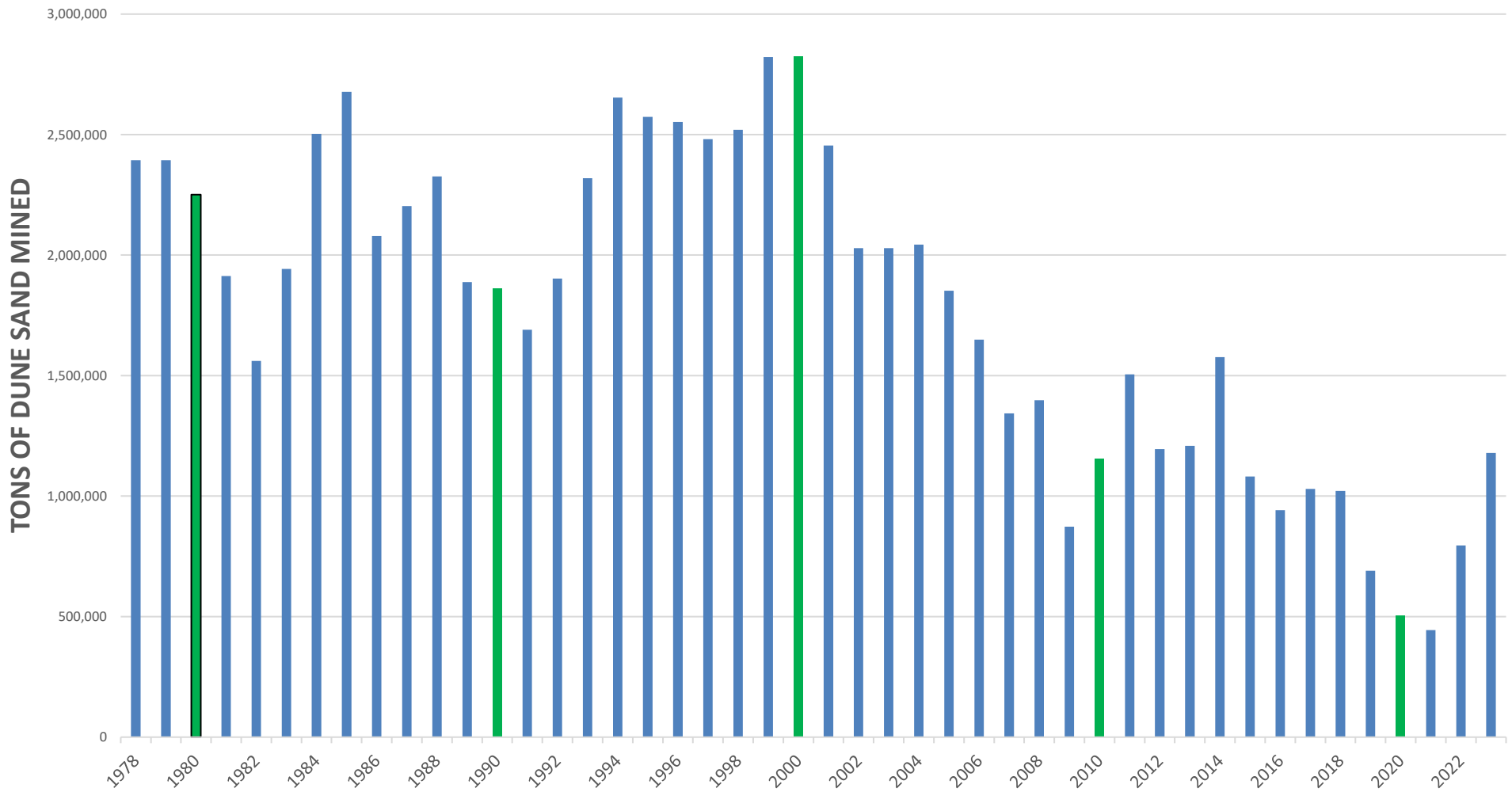
There were no permit renewal applications received in fiscal year (FY) 2023. There were no new permit applications received in FY 2023.

SURVEILLANCE AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

OGMD staff conducted a total of 16 on-site inspections at permitted sites in FY 2023 and responded to one complaint for a permitted site that was ultimately resolved between the permittee and an adjacent landowner. After receiving a complaint for a non-permitted location, OGMD staff conducted a joint inspection with staff from EGLE's Water Resources Division that resulted in a determination that the reported activities did not meet the definition of sand dune mining. There were no enforcement activities during FY 2023.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

Total money received from sand dune mining surveillance fees totaled \$50,000 for FY 2023. Expenditures totaled \$84,931. 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 year's 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 2023 was \$146,777.



YEAR MINING OCCURRED

Annual dune sand production, in tons, from 1978 through 2023
 During 2023: 1,178,690 tons of sand were produced from seven permitted sites.

1978-2023: 82,332,813 tons of dune sand have been produced.

**Part 637, Sand Dune Mining,
2024 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)	2025
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)	2026
NUS-LAS-109	Nugent Sand	Lincoln Avenue Site	Closed 2021	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)	2025
BON-LT-115	Bonzelaar, Jack J.B.	Laketown Site	Closed 2005	N/A
SPC-PS-116	Sand Products	Plateau Site	Active (Permitted 1983)	2026
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)	2026
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
CVH-VHS-134	Chad and Jenny Van Horn	Van Horn Site	Active (Permitted 2022)	2026

STATUS:

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

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

“**Renewal**” means the 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.