

# OneFAB

Information Delivered on One Page, Front And Back

Sand Dune Mining

Jeff Mann, General Counsel and Chief Editor

The Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE's) Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division administers the sand dune mining program under Part 637 (Sand Dune Mining) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act. Part 637 prescribes requirements for the permitting, mining, and reclamation of sand dune mining operations in specified Great Lakes sand dune areas (generally, those up to two miles inland from the Great Lakes). The program's activities are funded by the collection of an annual surveillance fee assessed on the mine operators. Part 637 requires EGLE to calculate the surveillance fee rate such that the amount collected corresponds with the amount needed to cover program costs. The maximum fee that may be charged is \$0.10 per ton of sand mined for the previous calendar year. The fees are deposited into the Sand Extraction Fee Revenue Fund, and the Fund generally retains a balance equal to one to two years' operating expenses.

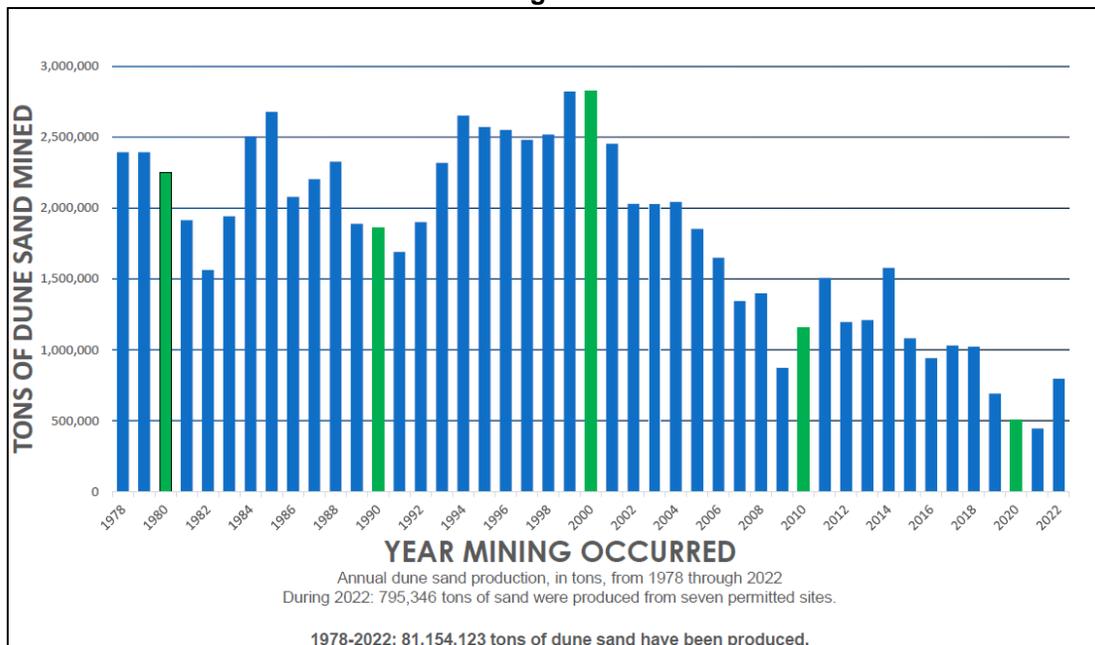
Revenue & Expenditures<sup>1</sup>

The total amount received from sand dune mining surveillance fees totaled \$15,158 for fiscal year (FY) 2020-21; in FY 2021-22, the amount collected totaled \$20,000. Expenditures in FY 2020-21 totaled \$43,625 and in FY 2021-22, they totaled \$57,273. Unspent money in the Fund remains in the Fund. At the end of FY 2021-22, the Fund balance was \$182,533 (down from \$220,488 in FY 2020-21).

Amount of Sand Mined & Mine Locations

As noted above, sand dune mining sites are located within two miles of Lake Michigan's shoreline. Seven sites have active permits. The total amount of dune sand mined in 2022 was 795,346 tons (up from 443,663 tons in 2021). Figure 1 shows the annual sand dune mine production from 1978 through 2022. Figure 2 shows the locations of the seven permitted mine sites.

**Figure 1**



Source: Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, "Sand Dune Mining Report, FY 2022".

<sup>1</sup> All amounts taken from EGLE's Sand Dune Mining Reports for FYs 2021 and 2022.

Figure 2

# ACTIVE COASTAL SAND DUNE MINING SITES



Source: Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, "Active Sand Dune Mining Sites".