Michigan has more natural features than it knows what to do with. Once used by fur traders and loggers, Michigan’s 300-plus rivers are now perfect paddling territory. Then there are the 5,149km (3,200 miles) of shoreline and 11,000 inland lakes, where you can hook hefty trout and monster salmon or take a cruise. Oh, and did we mention the 120,000 hectares (300,000 acres) of sand dunes? Backcountry adventures await in Isle Royale National Park on Lake Superior, a craggy wilderness home to wolves and moose. In winter, thousands of miles of forested cross-country trails bring skiers out in force. Michigan is blessed with some of the most beautiful and tallest coastal sand dunes on the planet. Below is a list of the tallest dunes as measured about the level of the adjoining lake elevation, many of these freshwater dunes top out at skyscraper heights. Please note that this is not meant to be all-inclusive. If you would like to learn more about Michigan’s incredible dunes, here are three visual links for books that are available through Amazon. (*see note at bottom of images). *A small commission is earned from purchases that are made using these links to Amazon. As an Amazon Associate I earn from qualifying purchases.

**SOURCES.**


Michigan sand dunes are being exported to provide jobs in other states. Foundries that make metal parts are the primary users of dune sand, and for years sand dune mining has been justified as a necessity to support Michigan's auto industry. Reports show, however, that 63 percent of the sand mined from Michigan is exported to foundries outside the state and that viable alternatives to dune sand do exist. As part of a partnership with West Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC) to develop a complete picture of the impact of sand mining on Michigan dunes, the Lake Michigan Federation: (see note at bottom of images). Reviewed a variety of previous industry, government, academic and other reports that focused on aspects of sand mining.