Sandy Island Beach Project

Sandy Bonanno, NY Sea Grant, seb84@cornell.edu
Dan Sawchuck, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, djsawchu@gw.dec.state.ny.us

- 1999 TNC acquisition of 150 acres
- History of intense public use
- Last seriously degraded ELO dune site
- Opportunity to protect sensitive natural resources, restore ecosystem function, and encourage compatible human use.

TNC – DEC Management Agreement



- Primary focus on Dune Restoration and Habitat Protection
- Managed by the Division of Lands & Forests
- Marsh and underwater lands transfered to DEC
- Beach and dune transferred to State Parks

Sandy Island Beach Dune Restoration Project



- •Uncontrolled use
- •Disappearance of Vegetation
- Dune Blowout / Wind Erosion





Dune Blowout

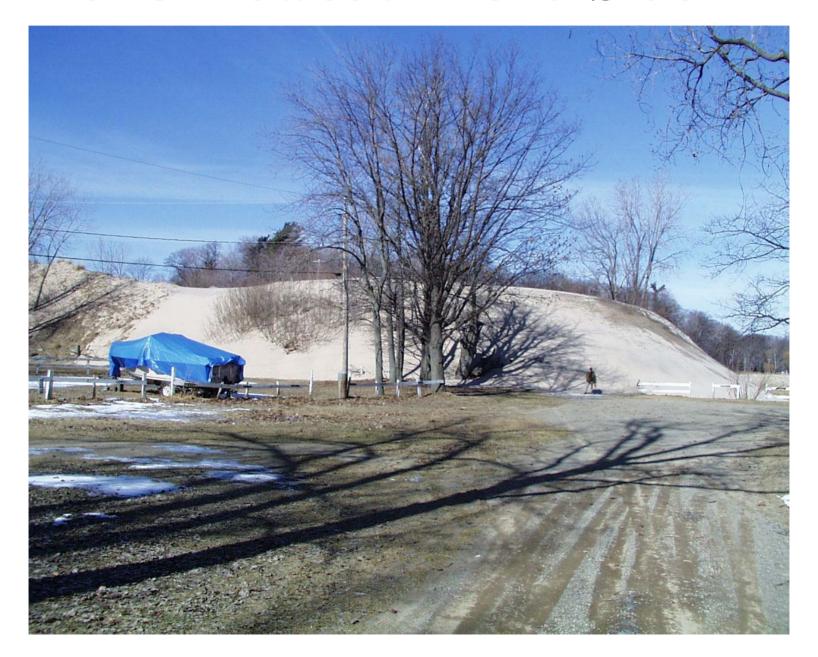
Sad State of Affairs



Dune Blowout – Beach Side



Dune Blowout - Pond Side



Moving the Dune



44,000 cu. yds. of sand 1 football field 25' deep

4 weeks to move

Total cost \$40,000.00 (EPA GLNPO funded)

2 Front end Loaders

1 Tracked Excavator

1 Bull Dozer







Dune Walkover



A day at the beach!

