

# Celebrating 40 Years



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### Stephen Mather Leads Tour of Indiana Dunes

Stephen Mather, first director of the National Park Service (far left) with Colonel Richard Lieber, Father of the Indiana State Park System, leads a tour of park advocates through the Indiana Dunes after the October 1916 hearings in Chicago for a "Sand Dunes National Park." Although World War I defense priorities crippled the Indiana Dunes national park movement, efforts to establish the dunes as a unit of the National Park System were revived after World War II.



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### The National Lakeshore's First Purchase

Ed's Trading Post, on the southwest corner of U.S. Highway 12 and Wagner Road in Porter, was the first tract purchased after the park's authorization. Businesses along U.S. 12 were among the first properties bought at fair market value and demolished for the park's long-term goal of natural restoration of the landscape.



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### Dorothy Buell Strives to Save the Dunes

Secretary of Interior Stuart Udall presents an award to Senator Paul H. Douglas and Dorothy Buell. Buell, an English teacher and Ogden Dunes resident, and a cadre of environmentalists rekindled the crusade for an Indiana Dunes national park, founding the Save the Dunes Council in 1952. President Buell and council members sought to preserve land in the dunes before more was commercially exploited for residential and industrial use.

### Paul H. Douglas Pushes His Dunes Bill

"I will feel that my life has not been in vain," said Illinois Senator Paul Douglas, hoping for the passage of his legislation for Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Douglas ensured that the Burns Waterway Harbor (Port of Indiana) could only happen if the U.S. Congress authorized the National Lakeshore, which the 89th Congress did in 1966.



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### Dorothy Buell (left) and James Whitehouse (right)

Pictured here with Dorothy Buell, in front of what would be the park's first visitor center, James R. Whitehouse became the first National Lakeshore superintendent in 1970. Whitehouse worked with Save the Dunes and others to combat potential threats to the lakeshore such as construction of the Bailly I nuclear power plant. Whitehouse managed park operations until the park's present superintendent, Dale Engquist, succeeded him in 1983.



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### Habitat Restoration Is Ongoing

Building demolition and habitat restoration started in 1970 soon after the National Lakeshore's establishment. As buildings and roads are demolished, exotic plants and trees are removed, and native vegetation is planted, the park land is returned to prairie, woodland, and wetland.