



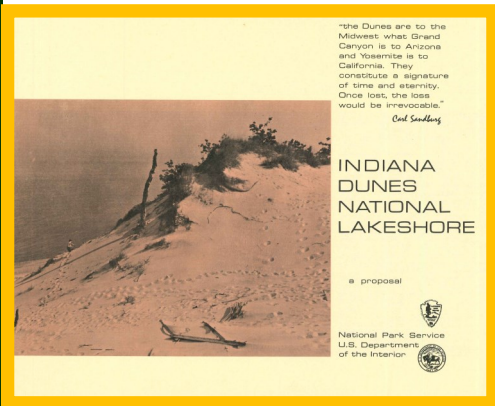
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On This Week in Indiana History

October 18, 1976:

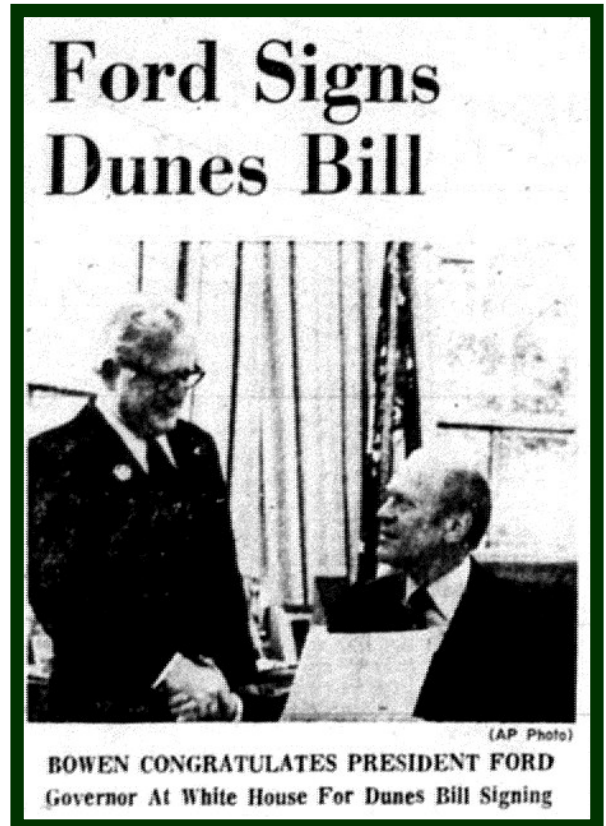
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Expanded

On this week in Indiana History, President Gerald Ford signed H.R. 11455, authorizing funds to expand the boundaries of the existing Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore by 3,662 acres.



Grass-roots efforts to "Save the Dunes" date to the early 20th century, and the 1925 creation of Indiana Dunes State Park in Porter County on 2,182 acres, across 3 miles of beaches, was a major victory for conservationists.

However, this unique dunes ecosystem was still under threat of encroachment by development. In 1966 Congress finally created the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, preserving 8,200 acres of shoreline, dunes, bogs, and marshes, administered by the U.S. Park Service. Today the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore boundaries include 15,000 acres along the southern shore of Lake Michigan, in Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties. The Indiana Dunes State Park is operated by the State of Indiana.



(AP Photo)
BOWEN CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT FORD
Governor At White House For Dunes Bill Signing

Want to learn more?

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore website:
<https://www.nps.gov/indu/index.htm>

Indiana Dunes State Park website:
<http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2980.htm>

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore : a proposal (1966), National Park Service. [ISLO 917.72 NO. 137]

"Ford signs Dunes bill," Indianapolis Star, Oct. 20, 1976, page 59. [microfilm]

Singing Sands Almanac [newsletter], Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, National Park Service, March-April, 1978, Vol. 1, No. 1. [ISLI 917.72 S617]

