



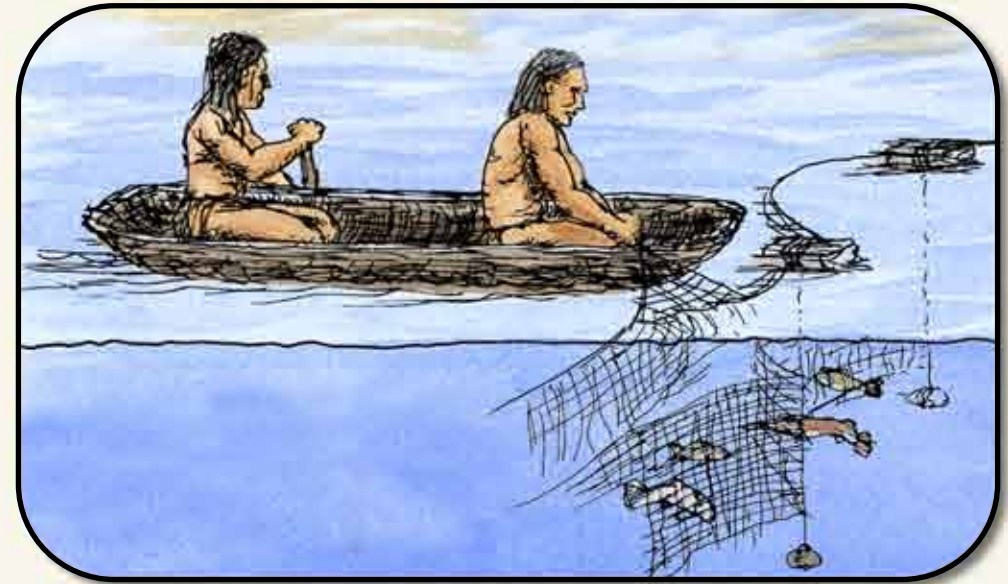
# PEOPLE IN THE DUNE ECOSYSTEM

## HISTORY OF HUMAN USE

### VALUED AT FIRST SIGHT

From Native Americans who found abundant food supplies and early explorers who sheltered in the bays and competed for territorial dominance to early settlers who harvested the ice and marsh hay and city people who were attracted by the beautiful beaches, this dune ecosystem has attracted people from the very start.

#### NATIVE AMERICANS



The Sandy Pond area was once known as Wigwam Cove for its use as an Onondaga fishing camp. Native fishermen trapped and netted salmon behind weirs and also speared them from canoes.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT



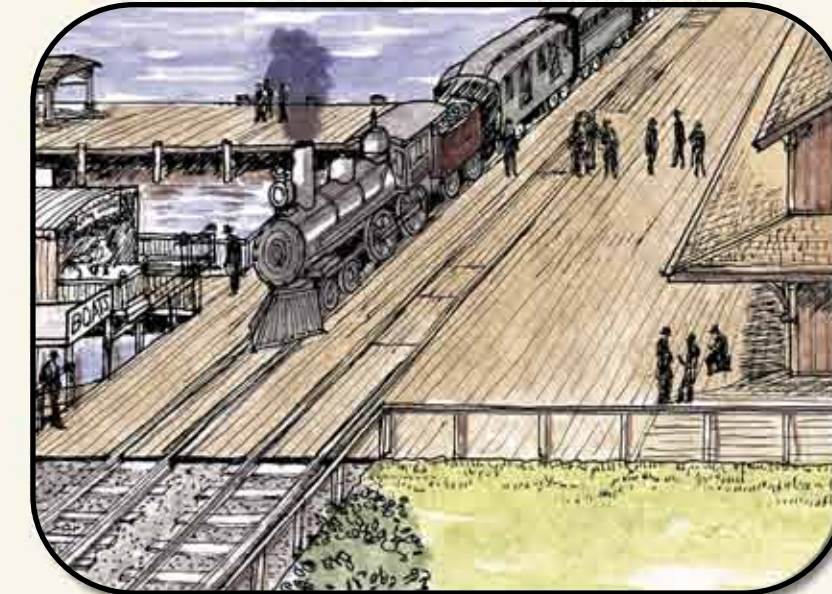
Early settlers cut and burned the trees to clear the land for farms. They built sawmills and homes, harvested marsh hay for their cattle, and cut ice for use in the summer.

#### EARLY EXPLORERS



French explorers probed the harbors and bays seeking shelter, Native allies, and inroads to the interior of the continent.

#### EARLY RECREATION



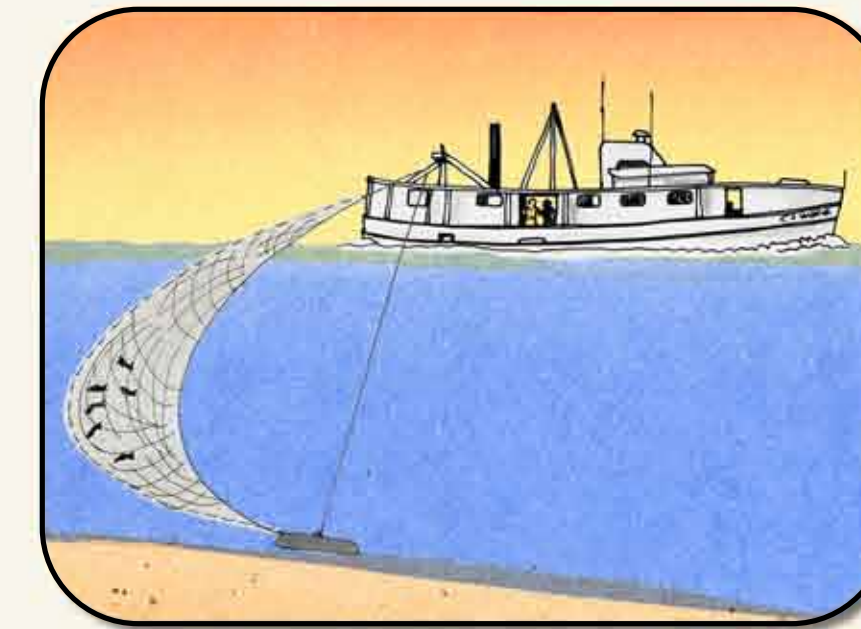
The shore became a very popular tourist destination. Hotels and restaurants were located around North Pond. Thousands of people arrived on the newly opened Syracuse Northern Railroad (1871).

#### BOOTLEGGING



During Prohibition, smugglers received shipments of Canadian alcohol along the lakeshore, hiding it in the dunes to avoid the "revenue officers."

#### COMMERCIAL HARVEST



Settlers harvested the abundant whitefish using seines from the shore. 1000-foot sections of the beach were leased to commercial fishermen who kept their boats there and used the beach as a base of operations. The heyday of commercial fishing was the 1910s-1940.

#### COTTAGE DEVELOPMENT



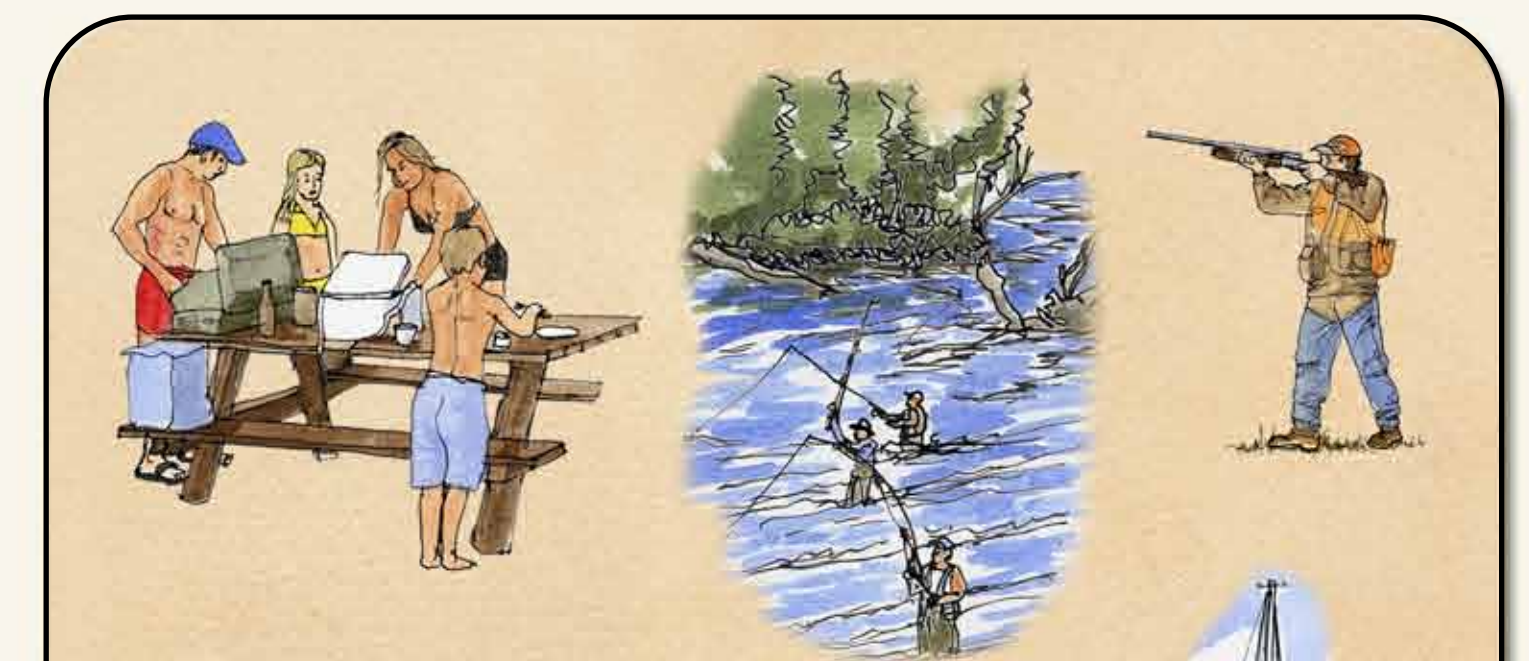
Several waves of cottage development in the 20th century have resulted in all the land along the beach and dunes being either developed or under some form of conservation ownership.

#### CONSERVATION

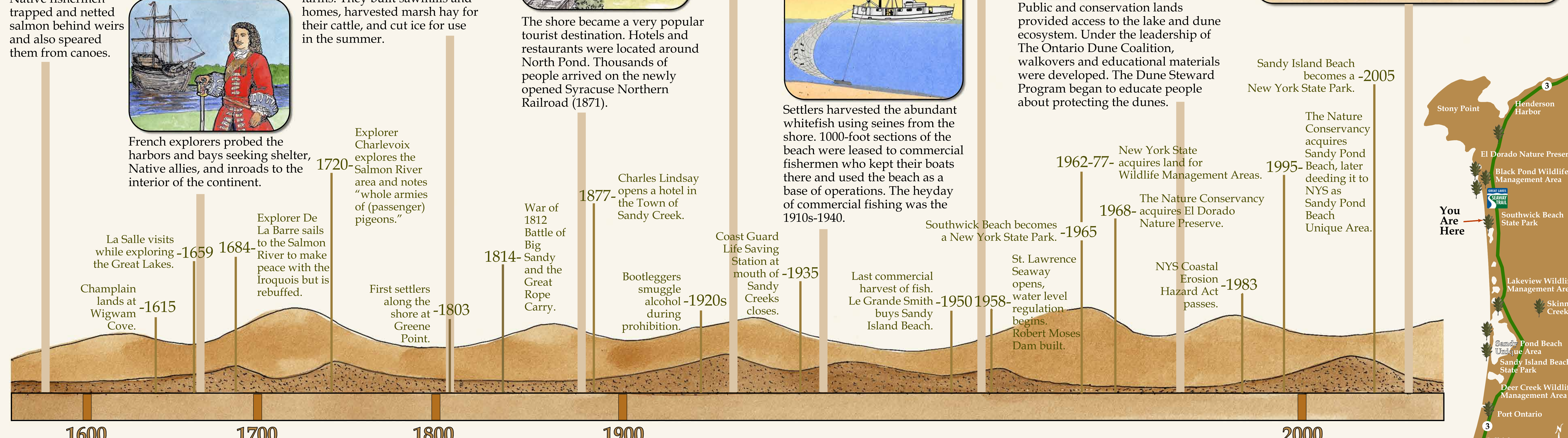


Public and conservation lands provided access to the lake and dune ecosystem. Under the leadership of The Ontario Dune Coalition, walkovers and educational materials were developed. The Dune Steward Program began to educate people about protecting the dunes.

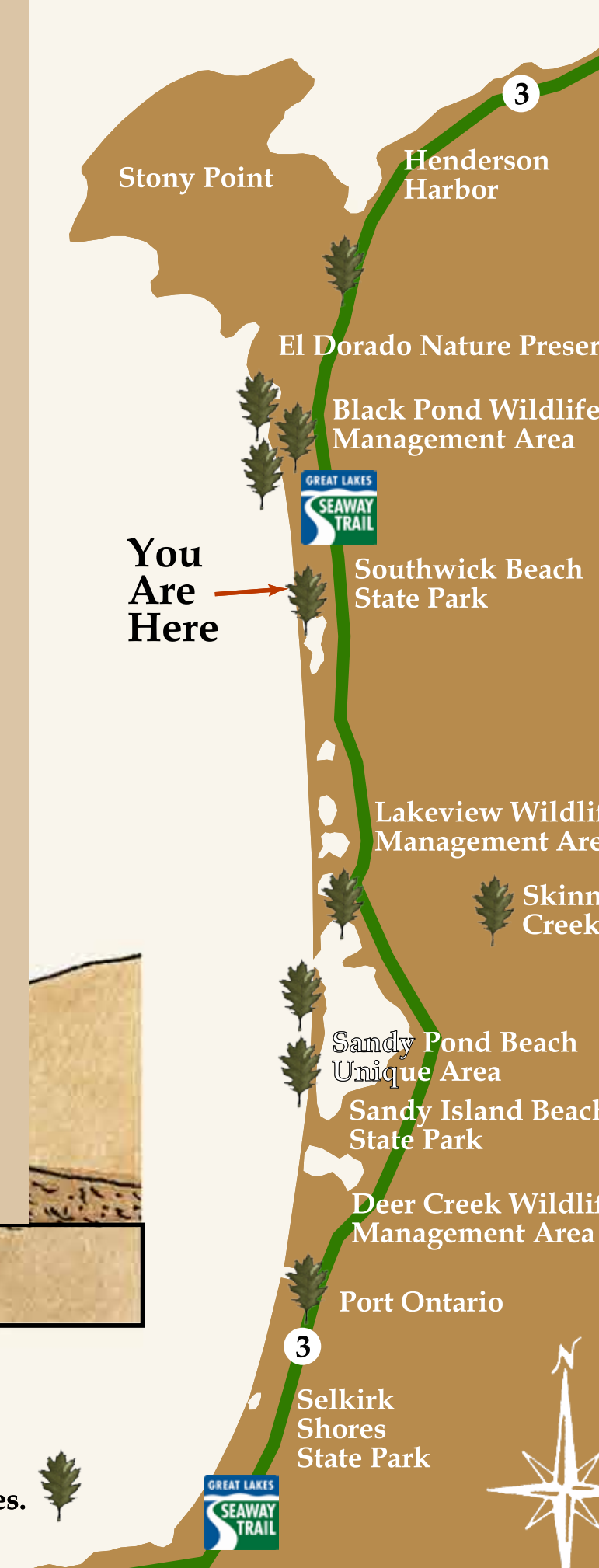
#### 2010 ACTIVITIES



Today the primary uses of the eastern Lake Ontario dunes and wetlands area are recreation and wildlife related, including hunting, trapping, fishing, boating, camping (in designated sites), birding, nature study, hiking, cross-country skiing and wildlife observation.



TIMELINE OF HUMAN PRESENCE IN THE DUNE ECOSYSTEM



# Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes, Wetlands, Creeks, and Ponds