

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK June 21-27, 2021

By the Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, pollination of plants is vital to healthy lands, which in turn provide natural resources for the Nation, including habitat for fish and wildlife; water, mineral, and energy resources; and abundant recreational opportunities for the public; and

WHEREAS, pollinating species help to pollinate approximately three-quarters of the world's plant species; and

WHEREAS, the decline of some North American pollinators is concerning and impacted by the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior (Department) and its Bureaus, as stewards of public lands for the American people, have made and continue to make significant contributions to the conservation and understanding of pollinators; and

WHEREAS, both public and private lands provide habitats for pollinating species that are critical to healthy ecosystems and the supply of diverse foods; and

WHEREAS, pollinators, found across America in urban and rural areas, including on Tribal lands, can connect children and communities to nature, engaging all generations in stewardship activities; and

WHEREAS, the Department's efforts—working closely with States, Tribes, industries, businesses, other Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and communities across the country to support the health of pollinators in North America—are important examples of collaborative conservation and efforts to restore balance to nature.

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the importance of pollinators and their habitats to healthy ecosystems and their value to the Nation's economy, I, Deb Haaland, Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, do hereby proclaim June 21-27, 2021, as National Pollinator Week at the Department. I call upon the American public to join the Department in recognizing the importance of pollinators and the stewardship role the Department plays in providing valuable pollinator habitats throughout the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of June 2021, the two hundred forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

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Secretary of the Interior