

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK June 22-28, 2020

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 fish and wildlife habitat; water, mineral, and energy resources; and abundant public recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS pollinating species help to pollinate approximately three-quarters of the world's plant species; 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 thousands of pollinating species provide economic and ecological importance to American society; and

WHEREAS pollinators, found across America in urban and rural areas, can connect children to nature, engaging future generations in stewardship activities; and

WHEREAS the Department's participation through four of its Bureaus—the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Geological Survey—in collaborative partnerships, encourage the health of resident and migratory pollinating animals in North America.

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the importance of pollinators and their habitats to healthy ecosystems and their value to the Nation's economy, I, David L. Bernhardt, Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, do hereby proclaim June 22-28, 2020, as National Pollinator Week at the Department. I call upon the American public to join us 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 day of June 2020, the two hundred forty-fourth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Secretary of the Interior