UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK
June 18–24, 2012

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

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS pollination by animals such as bats, birds, and insects, plays a vital role in the health of diverse ecosystems on our public lands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, water, mineral, and energy resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

WHEREAS public lands are held in trust for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations; and

WHEREAS public lands, when managed with pollinators in mind, can benefit the public and adjacent lands by providing critical safe havens for pollinating species and botanical treasures; and

WHEREAS the Department's participation through four bureaus; the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management; in the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (www.pollinator.org), a public-private partnership endeavoring to increase pollinator awareness and promote pollinator-friendly practices, is an important example of cooperative conservation; and

WHEREAS the Department protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities and special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and affiliated island communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of the importance of pollinators to healthy ecosystems on public lands, I, Ken Salazar, Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, do hereby proclaim June 18–24, 2012, as National Pollinator Week at the Department of the Interior. I call upon the people of the United States to join us in celebrating the vital significance of pollinators to public lands and healthy ecosystems as well as the Department's stewardship of the nation's public lands and its management of ecosystems providing valuable pollinator habitats throughout the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 5 day of May, 2012, the two-hundred thirty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

Ken Salazar

Secretary