



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK  
June 17-23, 2019

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 valuable 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 animals 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, have made and continue to make significant contributions to the conservation and understanding of pollinators; and

WHEREAS both public and private lands benefit the Nation by providing the habitat for pollinating species that are critical to healthy ecosystems and the supply of diverse foods; and

WHEREAS pollinating species are recognized for their 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 Bureaus – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Geological Survey – in the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign, whose mission is to encourage the health of resident and migratory pollinating animals in North America, is an important example of collaborative conservation; and

WHEREAS the Department protects and manages much of 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 and private lands 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 17-23, 2019, as National Pollinator Week at the Department of the Interior. 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019, the two hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Bernhardt", written in a cursive style.

Secretary of the Interior