

WHEREAS; birds are a vital part of ecosystems across Wisconsin, and our state plays an impactful role in bird conservation efforts across North America; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to a critical habitat, with more than 90 designated Important Bird Areas that support over 225 breeding bird species as well as birds on their migratory journeys through the Mississippi and Great Lakes Flyways; and

WHEREAS; it is estimated that North America has lost 3 billion birds since the 1970s, amounting to one in every four birds, which is a sign that our environment's ability to support birds is under stress, and even Wisconsin's most common bird species are being put at risk from habitat loss; and

WHEREAS; a third of Wisconsin's population considers themselves to be birders, with hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites contributing to our state's strong tradition of bird monitoring, conservation, and community science; and

WHEREAS; over 100 cities across Wisconsin have expressed their commitment to bird conservation by becoming Bird Cities and working to establish protections for birds in their local areas, and an additional 175 organizations have endorsed the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Partnership; and

WHEREAS; programs like the annual Great Wisconsin Birdathon, hosted by the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, bring together hundreds of participants and thousands of donors to raise funds that support high priority bird conservation projects across our state, demonstrating a deep commitment to collaborative conservation efforts and showcasing how Wisconsinites can help our state's most imperiled species thrive; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin promotes bird conservation efforts and encourages all Wisconsinites to reflect on the importance of birds in our lives, to respect the natural world we share with them, and to celebrate the natural treasures that Wisconsin is home to, from birds to the habitats they depend on;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim May 16 through 20, 2021, as

## **WISCONSIN BIRD CONSERVATION WEEK**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State