

WHEREAS; on September 26, 1970, the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore was officially established by the United States Congress as a national lakeshore, with the goal “to conserve and develop for the benefit, inspiration, education, recreational use, and enjoyment of the public”; and

WHEREAS; this national lakeshore, including the federally designated Gaylord Nelson Wilderness which covers approximately 80 percent of its land area, provides unparalleled views of Lake Superior, 21 islands, and 12 miles of mainland shoreline, with endless educational opportunities as well as opportunities for recreational fishing, boating, sailing, sea kayaking, camping, and hiking throughout the lakeshore; and

WHEREAS; the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is Wisconsin’s only national lakeshore and it hosts over 200,000 visitors each year, who make essential contributions to the economic vitality of our state by supporting more than 500 jobs and spending more than \$35 million annually in surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS; the National Park Service at the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is tasked with preserving and protecting some of Wisconsin’s most beautiful shorelines, bold sandstone cliffs, and sea caves, as well as Ojibwe homelands, historic lighthouses and fishing camps, and so much more; and

WHEREAS; in addition to the people who call the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore home, including the Ojibwe people who have inhabited the area since time immemorial, the area is home to hundreds of species of plants, migratory and non-migratory birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, and these rare communities, habitats, and species of plants and animals include some of the finest coastal wetlands, sandscapes, and remnants of ancient forests in the Midwest; and

WHEREAS; in 2020, more than 50 organizations, businesses, and individuals joined together to plan and implement a year-long, statewide celebration of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore’s founding with an eye toward encouraging the next century of conservation of Wisconsin’s only national lakeshore; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins the Red Cliff Band and Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and all other affiliated Native Nations, in continuing to utilize the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore for cultural, economic, and recreational purposes, alongside the people who live in nearby communities and tourists who visit throughout the year, and in reaffirming our commitment to working with the National Park Service to maintain Wisconsin’s Jewel of Lake Superior as a center of cultural, historical, and natural importance for the entire nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 26, 2021, as the

51ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE APOSTLE ISLANDS NATIONAL LAKESHORE

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 21st day of September 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State