



— State of —
North Dakota

Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum
Governor

PROCLAMATION
YEAR OF THE BIRD
2018

WHEREAS, birds are present in every environment – urban or rural, wetland or prairie – and they are an ever-present reminder that nature is all around us; and

WHEREAS, from the Badlands to the Red River Valley, and from the northern Turtle Mountains to the Shyenenne National Grasslands, across the state and everywhere in between, North Dakota's natural resources support more than 400 bird species; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota provides safe passage and home to millions of birds, including 11 species of breeding waterfowl such as Northern Pintail and Canvasback, and distinctive grassland bird species such as Sprague's Pipit, Chestnut-Collared Longspur and Sharp-Tailed Grouse; and

WHEREAS, the spectacular bird migrations in North Dakota fill our skies, capture our imagination and distinctly mark the changing of our seasons; and

WHEREAS, approximately two-thirds of the North American duck population is produced in the Prairie Pothole Region, and North Dakota has a significant role in the continent's "duck factory"; and

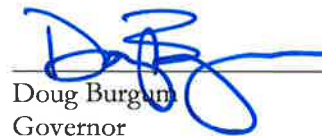
WHEREAS, 76 percent of North Dakota residents participate in outdoor recreation each year, contributing \$3.1 billion in consumer spending and \$179 million in tax revenue to North Dakota's economy and demonstrating that where birds thrive, people prosper; and

WHEREAS, private North Dakota farmers and ranchers play a pivotal role as stewards of remaining native habitats for birds; and

WHEREAS, 2018 is the centennial year of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act which protects birds in our backyards such as the Yellow Warbler and the Black-Capped Chickadee; and

WHEREAS, majestic Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons, and Whooping Cranes nest and/or migrate through North Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim the year of 2018, **YEAR OF THE BIRD** in the State of North Dakota.



Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:



Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State