

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington's wildlife and wild places are a core part of life in this beautiful state; and

WHEREAS, Washington's forests, coastlines, and foothills harbor one of the largest populations of black bears in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Washington is one of only four lower-48 states that is still wild enough to harbor a small number of grizzly bears, a federally-protected threatened species both in the North Cascades and Selkirk Mountains; and

WHEREAS, by educating the public on the ecology, behavior, and conservation of bears, as well as simple safety precautions, it is possible for people and bears to coexist peacefully; and

WHEREAS, the people of Washington take great pride in their state's wildlife legacy and associated recreation, which attract tens of thousands of visitors to Washington annually and provide millions of dollars to local economies across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 27-June 2, 2018, to be

Bear Awareness Week

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance, which includes Bear Awareness Day on Monday, May 28, 2018, from 10:00-4:00 at Paradise Farm, Paradise Conservation Area, Paradise Lake Road in Woodinville, WA (free of charge), and culminate with the celebratory Bear Affair at Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle on June 2, 2018, from 9:30-3:00.



Signed this 18th day of April, 2018

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee