



State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

Doug Burgum
Governor

PROCLAMATION
GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH® 2017
MAY 2017

WHEREAS, North Dakota is blessed with outstanding opportunities for safe and healthy fun in the great outdoors, enjoying our natural splendors in the company of family and friends; and

WHEREAS, our kids spend an average of 10 hours a day in front of a screen. Outdoor activity is championed by many leading health organizations as a remedy for the adverse effects caused by our increasing inactivity; and

WHEREAS, diverse Great Outdoors Month® events including National Trails Day®, National Get Outdoors Day, the Great Outdoors Day of Service, the Great American Campout®, Kids to Parks™ Day, and more help connect citizens of all ages to healthy, fun outdoors; and

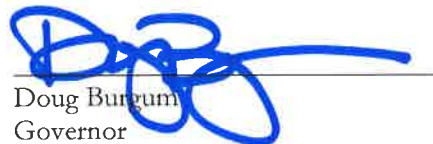
WHEREAS, other events during Great Outdoors Month® such as National Fishing and Boating Week, National Marina Day, and Get into Your Sanctuary Days provide all of us, especially our children, with exciting opportunities for recreation on the great waters of our state; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's 13 State Parks and three National Parks attract millions of visitors each year and reflect every facet of our state's rich natural and cultural history. The economic impact of outdoor recreation is large and growing nationally, exceeding \$650 billion in annual expenditures, with our state's impact estimated at approximately \$2.8 billion supporting over 38,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, enjoyment of our great outdoors allows us to celebrate the commitment of our state to conserve and protect our air, water, wildlife and lands; contributing to conservation efforts through various licenses, taxes and fees; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month® allows us to celebrate the partnership of federal, state, and local agencies with the recreation and tourism industries which make outdoor recreation opportunities available.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 2017 **GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH®** in the State of North Dakota.


Doug Burgum
Governor

ATTEST:


Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State