

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-sixth.



PROCLAMATION 4117

National Wildlife Week

March 18, 1972

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

For much of our history, Americans have confronted nature as a hostile force to be reckoned with and overcome. The wild creatures of forest and plains, mountains and swamp, were seen as threats to human life and progress on the edge of the wilderness. They were beaten back or disposed of accordingly.

More recently, Americans have come to see wild animals as co-inhabitants of a small planet, fellow creatures who have a rightful place in a healthy natural environment. Ecologist, philosopher, and outdoorsman alike have come to know the truth of Thoreau's words, "In Wilderness is the preservation of the World." Men and animals can and must share the earth. The various forms of wildlife which give life and variety and beauty to the environment can and must be recognized, appreciated, and protected.

But the hour is late, and the time to act is now. Already some species of wildlife have been extinguished forever, and many others have been sharply reduced in numbers. Economically, we can now afford to take humane action to reverse this tragic trend. Morally and esthetically, we cannot afford to do otherwise.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning March 19, 1972, as National Wildlife Week.

I call upon all our citizens to join during that week in support of the many organizations dedicated to preserving a suitable environment for the greatest possible number of wildlife species. In particular, I urge broad public support for, and prompt congressional action on, my recent proposals for better protection of endangered species.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-sixth.



PROCLAMATION 4118

Loyalty Day, 1972

By the President of the United States of America

March 22, 1972

A Proclamation

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands . . ." From earliest school days most Americans know these words as they know their own names. They constitute a solemn promise of loyalty signed in the heart and paid off life-long in the currency of daily deeds, great and small—from the ultimate sacrifice of the soldier, to the conscientious vote of the citizen, to the productive labor of the working man or woman and the precious trust of the parent. Once again this May 1, we pause as a nation to ask ourselves how we can live our loyalty better.

Loyalty Day, although a far newer national observance than Independence Day, is in a sense equally important. Our July 4 celebration of the "unalienable rights" which America owes to each of us has meaning only as we balance it with lively awareness of the unalienable allegiance which each of us in turn owes to America.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, in accordance with the joint resolution of the Congress of July 18, 1958, do call upon the people of the United States, and upon all patriotic, civic and educational organizations, to observe Monday, May 1, 1972, as Loyalty Day, with appropriate ceremonies in schools and other suitable places.

72 Stat. 369.
36 USC 162.

I further call upon appropriate officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day in witness of our "allegiance . . . to the Republic for which it stands."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two,