

STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: Native wildlife populations are an integral part of Minnesota's natural environment and serve as an indicator for the overall health of Minnesota's statewide ecosystems; and

WHEREAS: Each year in the United States, more than 200 people are killed in wildlife-vehicle collisions, 26,000 are injured, and more than 1.5 million animals are hit on roads; and

WHEREAS: The average cost of property damage from these collisions is over \$1 billion, and the total cost to society annually is \$8.4 billion; and

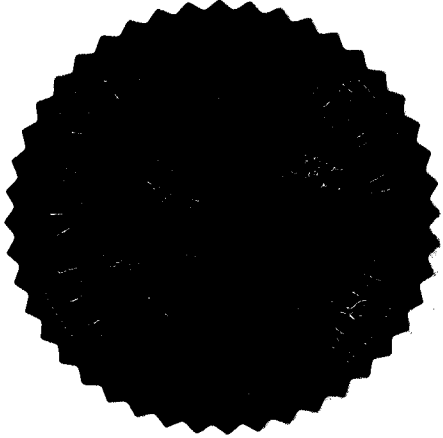
WHEREAS: The success of wildlife movement and survival in Minnesota remains dependent upon continued public education and increased understanding of the essential role migration corridors play in wildlife movement; and

WHEREAS: Wildlife watching is one of the most popular outdoor recreational activities for tourists in Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim September 18-24, 2011 as:

## WATCH OUT FOR WILDLIFE AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Dayton".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Ritchie".

SECRETARY OF STATE