



State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

2017

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina is blessed with outstanding opportunities for safe and healthy fun in the Great Outdoors, enjoying our natural splendors in the company of family and of old and new friends; and

WHEREAS, our kids today spend an average of 10 hours a day in front of a screen, and many leading health organizations consider outdoor activity a remedy for the adverse effects of increased 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 activities; 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, the economic impact of outdoor recreation is large and growing nationally, exceeding \$650 billion in annual expenditures; in our state, it is estimated at \$27.9 billion and supports 294,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's 29 state parks, ten national parks, and four national forests attract millions of visitors each year and reflect every facet of our state's rich natural and cultural history; and

WHEREAS, enjoyment of our Great Outdoors allows us to celebrate the commitment of our state to conserve and protect our air, our water, our wildlife, and our lands, and contribute 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, the recreation and tourism industries, and recreationists which add new and needed features to our outdoor recreation opportunities, such as improved trails through the Recreational Trails Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina urges all citizens, and visitors from other states and countries, to explore and enjoy, protect and conserve North Carolina's Great Outdoors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June, 2017, as "GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this first day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.