State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS,

native wildlife populations are an integral part of Vermont's natural environment and an indicator of the overall health of Vermont'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 approximately \$8.4 billion; and

WHEREAS,

the success of the wildlife movement in Vermont remains dependent on 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 and Vermonters alike, providing an opportunity to enjoy Vermont's scenic beauty while strengthening the state's economy; and

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 11-17, 2011 as

WATCH OUT FOR WILDLIFE WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this day of August, A.D. 2011.

Peter Shumlin Governor

By the Governor

Alexandra MacLean

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs