



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: Voyageurs National Park was established on April 8, 1975, and is celebrating 50 years of preserving rich history, scenic beauty, geological uniqueness, and ecology of the Northern Minnesota region; and

WHEREAS: Voyageurs National Park is one of Minnesota's top natural wonders – with more than 218,000 acres of lakes, forests, and streams, over 40 percent of the park is water-based; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota's national park is a certified Dark Sky Park, presenting some of the darkest skies and premier northern lights views in the lower 48 states; and

WHEREAS: Indigenous Peoples, including the Dakota and Anishinaabeg, have served as stewards of the land for more than 9,000 years, including navigating its waters, hunting and fishing, growing crops such as corn, beans, and squash, and harvesting maple syrup, blueberries, and Psin/Manoomin (wild rice in Dakota/Ojibwe); and

WHEREAS: The Voyageurs landscape preserves and protects portions of Rainy, Namakan, Sand Point, and Kabetogama Lakes; 26 interior lakes; more than 500 islands; the roadless Kabetogama Peninsula; 42 species of mammals; over 240 species of birds; 53 species of fish; and 3 billion-year-old geologic features; and

WHEREAS: Voyageurs is enjoyed by more than 240,000 visitors annually, widely known for water recreation on its pristine lakes, including remote island camping experiences, houseboating, paddling, world-class fishing, and abundant winter activities; and

WHEREAS: Voyageurs Conservancy, the official charitable partner of the park, and the National Park Service will commemorate the 50th anniversary milestone throughout the year with a series of special events, community partnerships, and other initiatives that honor five decades of adventure, connection, and conservation; and

WHEREAS: We invite Minnesotans to join in celebrating Voyageurs' half-century of parkhood on April 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS: Together we wish a happy 50th birthday to Voyageurs National Park!

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 8, 2025, as:

## VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK DAY

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 25<sup>th</sup> day of March.



  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE