



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

## 2012 AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

WHEREAS, the bald eagle was designated as America's national emblem on June 20, 1782 by our country's Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle is unique to North America and represents such American values and attributes as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice and excellence; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the logos of many branches of the U.S. government, including the Presidency, Congress, Defense Department, Treasury Department, Justice Department, State Department, Department of Commerce and the U.S. Postal Service; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle's image, meaning and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religions, lifestyles and heritage of Americans from all walks of life, including U.S. military service men and women, American Indians, Christians, and members of various civic, fraternal, patriotic, veterans, youth, conservation, educational, outdoors, nature, sportsman, wildlife, political and sports organizations; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle's image, meaning and symbolism have played a significant role in American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, culture; and on United States stamps, currency and coinage; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle once was endangered with possible extinction, and is making a gradual and encouraging comeback to America's skies; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service delisted the bald eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but it will continue to be protected under the Bald & Golden Eagle Act of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of America's bald eagle population was largely accomplished due to the vigilant efforts of numerous caring agencies, corporations, organizations and citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim June 20<sup>th</sup> to be

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in Idaho, and encourage all United States citizens to join us in support of the majestic bald eagle's continuing recovery and the protection of its precious natural habitat, and in commemorating the living and symbolic presence of our National Bird through the annual observance of American Eagle Day.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-sixth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty second.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

BEN YURSA  
SECRETARY OF STATE