

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation *by* *Governor Sean Parnell*

WHEREAS, Alaska is blessed with an abundance of wildlife, and Alaskans appreciate the positive impact that healthy wildlife populations contribute to the Alaskan way of life; and

WHEREAS, as many of Alaska's bears emerge from dens in early spring, April is a good time to remind Alaskans about bears and their behavior and how people can live responsibly and safely in bear country; and

WHEREAS, all Alaskans, whether in rural or urban areas of our great state, are living in bear country. Alaska is home to all three species of North American bears; and

WHEREAS, human behavior often dictates the outcome of an encounter with a bear. Whether fishing in a salmon stream, hiking on a trail, or putting trash out for pickup, efforts to educate all Alaskans to learn about bears and bear safety instill an important understanding of Alaska's bears and how we can live safely; and

WHEREAS, by fostering a sense of personal responsibility for everything from storing and handling bear attractants to making our neighborhoods less attractive to bears, Alaskans can live safely in bear country with fewer negative human-bear interactions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim April 2013 as:

Bear Awareness Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to educate themselves regarding safety issues surrounding Alaska's bears, thereby ensuring confident and competent outdoor adventures for all.

Dated: March 27, 2013



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean Parnell".

Sean Parnell, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.