

PROCLAMATION

50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Whereas, the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1960 to conserve its natural resources for the America public while protecting threatened and endangered species for future generations; and

Whereas, in 1966, the National Park Service designated Great Swamp NWR a registered National Natural Landmark under the provisions of the Historic Sites Act of 1935. The refuge was chosen for the registry as an "exceptional example of the natural history of the United States"; and

Whereas, in 1967, 746 acres in the eastern portion of the present Wilderness Area were declared a Research Natural Area by the Director of USFWS. This area contains natural shrub swamp habitat and many small upland islands; and

Whereas, the first official designation of 3,660 acres of wilderness within the Department of the Interior was at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in 1968, after the 9.1 million acres that President Johnson established when he signed the bill into law on September 3, 1964. Wilderness designation was the culmination of several years of dedicated grassroots efforts to build support and lobby Congress; and

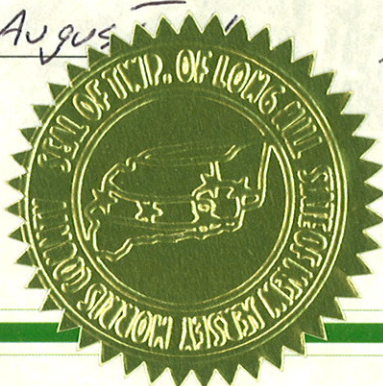
Whereas, the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is one of more than 560 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System that is administered by the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The National Wildlife Refuge System is a network of lands and waters managed specifically for the protection of wildlife and its habitat. It represents the most comprehensive wildlife management program in the world; and

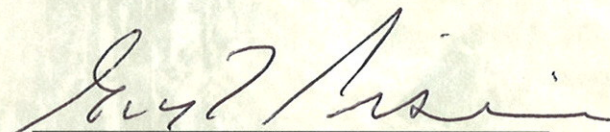
Whereas, the Great Swamp NWR is located in the Township of Long Hill, Morris County, New Jersey, about 26 miles west of Manhattan's Times Square. Today the refuge consists of 7,768 acres of varied habitats, and the refuge has become an important resting and feeding area for more than 244 species of birds. Fox, deer, muskrat, turtles, fish, frogs and a wide variety of wildflowers and plants can be found on the refuge.

Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed, that the Township of Long Hill hereby celebrates and commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964; and

Be it Further Proclaimed that the Township of Long Hill will continue to support the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in their continued efforts to preserve this National Treasure for future generations.

Dated: 20 August 2014





Guy Diserchia, Mayor
Township of Long Hill