

STATE OF MONTANA



Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, the Montana Vet Program (MVP) is a veteran-led nonprofit dedicated to rebuilding resilience, purpose, and community among veterans through wilderness-based therapeutic programming; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, The Pig Egg was created by MVP as a traveling memorial containing 7,054 dog tags, each representing a service member lost in Iraq or Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, The Pig Egg is carried exclusively on MVP's Veteran Led Therapeutic Adventure Trips where it is carried each day in the field and reassembled each evening as a nightly act of honor; and

WHEREAS, the memorial has traveled over a thousand miles across Montana, including through the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the Smith River, and other backcountry terrain across the American West; and

WHEREAS, in 2026, marking its tenth year, The Pig Egg will undertake its most significant journey yet, down the Smith River, up Montana's highest peak, and across more than 40 miles of Montana backcountry trails; and

WHEREAS, The Pig Egg represents a living memorial carried forward by veterans, for veterans, as a reminder that the weight of loss is not forgotten, and that those who served continue to honor the fallen;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim May 21, 2026

PIG EGG DAY

in Montana to honor the 7,054 service members lost in Iraq and Afghanistan and the veterans who carry their memory forward.

GREG GIANFORTE

Governor