



City of Ketchum

## International Dark Sky Week Proclamation

- Whereas,** the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and
- Whereas,** the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages a growing interest in science and nature, especially among young people; and
- Whereas,** light pollution has scientifically established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts on the ecology and human health of all communities; and
- Whereas,** 80 percent of the world's population lives under a dome of light pollution—excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness—and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky; and
- Whereas,** Ketchum is the only designated International DarkSky community in North America; and
- Whereas,** our city's clear, starlit skies and DarkSky designation positively affect our economy and character; and
- Whereas,** DarkSky International is the globally recognized authority on light pollution and has created International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution, and provide free education, resources, and solutions to the public to encourage the protection and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Neil Bradshaw, Mayor of the City of Ketchum, do hereby proclaim the week of April 2, 2024, as International Dark Sky Week and ask each resident to join me not only in observing and pondering upon this important week but also in raising awareness and support for protecting our precious dark sky resources.