

## 2021-K998

Assembly Resolution No. 998

BY: M. of A. Rules (Giglio JA)

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim  
May 21, 2022, as World Fish Migration Day in the  
State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize  
official days that are set aside to increase awareness of serious  
environmental issues that affect the lives of citizens of New York  
State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its  
long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to  
memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 21, 2022, as World  
Fish Migration Day in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, World Fish Migration Day (WFMD) culminates every two years  
in a global celebration to create awareness about the importance of  
migratory fish and free-flowing rivers; this international day of events  
is coordinated by the World Fish Migration Foundation; and

WHEREAS, On World Fish Migration Day, organizations from around the  
world coordinate their own event around the common theme of Connecting  
Fish, Rivers and People; this year's focus after years of a global  
pandemic and lockdown is "Breaking Free"; and

WHEREAS, With millions of man-made barriers littering the world's

waterways, migratory fish want to break free too; on May 21, 2022, we will celebrate the hundreds of dam removals executed and planned in recent years, and encourage fish heroes far and wide to advocate for free-flowing rivers, the removal of barriers, and the return of rivers full of fish; and

WHEREAS, Migratory fish travel throughout rivers to fulfil their life cycles, some swimming more than 10,000 kilometers; they navigate using the currents and magnetic fields, as well as their sense of taste and smell; and

WHEREAS, Billions of people around the world depend on fish for food, sport, research and intrigue; however, many migratory fish species are critically endangered or threatened; the main causes are man-made barriers which disrupt the natural flow of rivers and prevent their usual migratory routes; and

WHEREAS, Many fish need to migrate to reproduce, feed and complete their life cycles; migratory fish are a crucial link in the food chain and play an important role in creating healthy and productive river systems; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, they provide an important food supply and livelihood for millions of people around the world; and

WHEREAS, Fish are ecologically, culturally, economically, and recreationally important, and we must ensure the survival of these species for generations to come by bringing awareness about the plight

of migratory fishes; each and every event hosted for World Fish Migration Day helps to shine light on the issues and brings us one step closer to helping our rivers and fish Break Free; and

WHEREAS, The main goal of World Fish Migration Day is raising awareness for migratory fish and the rivers they rely on; creating awareness is an essential first step to make real change; and

WHEREAS, World Fish Migration Day seeks to improve the public's understanding of the importance of migratory fish and how we can reduce our impact on them; by taking action, we are creating sustainable commitments from NGOs, governments and industry on safeguarding free-flowing rivers and restoring swimways for migratory fish; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious environmental issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, state, national and international levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 21, 2022, as World Fish Migration Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the World Fish Migration Foundation; and The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.