



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

***NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY IN FLORIDA***

**WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, community gardens and other landmarks throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent our shared irreplaceable national resources; and**

**WHEREAS, Florida boasts 174 state parks, trails and historic sites that inspire residents and visitors with recreational opportunities and scenic beauty that help to strengthen families, educate children and expand local economies; and**

**WHEREAS, public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation; and**

**WHEREAS, public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and**

**WHEREAS, shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation, and active support of citizens, community, local and state officials, business leaders, youth, and adults; and**

**WHEREAS, recreational opportunities offered by public lands help families and individuals lead active lifestyles; and**

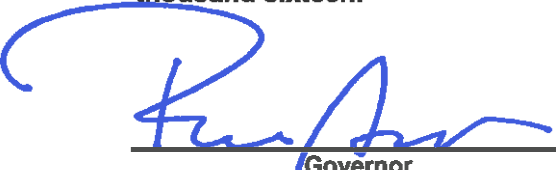
**WHEREAS, land conservation efforts improve access to public lands for residents and encourage Americans to actively enjoy their public lands; and**

**WHEREAS, a collaboration among state and local land managers and residents, and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing September 24, 2016, as *National Public Lands Day in Florida*.**



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 16th day of September, in the year two thousand sixteen.**

  
Governor