A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; 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, city and state officials, business leaders, children and adults; and

WHEREAS, The Civilian Conservation Corps (1933-1944) gave our nation a magnificent legacy of stewardship of our treasured natural resources that is being passed to younger generations; and

WHEREAS, land conservation builds awareness among urban dwellers with concerns about planned development, shared land use, preservation of wild areas and natural habitats, and the benefits realized by diligent restoration and enhancement efforts; and

WHEREAS, an alliance between private citizens, land managers and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all American's; and

WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day, co-sponsored by the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Defense, the National Park Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and USDA Forest Service, and has become an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in the State of Mississippi:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim September 20, 2003, as

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, July 25, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR