



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

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

WHEREAS: Public lands contribute to the State's industrial economy. State forests provide about thirty percent of the State's wood supply for an industry that employs 64,000 people. State-owned mineral royalties generate millions of dollars each year for Minnesota's Public School and University Trust Funds; and

WHEREAS: Public lands are the backbone of the State's outdoor recreation and tourism economy, supporting hunting, hiking, wildlife watching, horseback riding, off-road vehicle access, biking, fishing, snowmobiling, camping, skiing, and more; and

WHEREAS: Public lands provide health and environmental benefits for Minnesotans. They provide for clean water, fresh air, carbon sequestration, diverse habitat for pollinators and wildlife, and protected space for rare plants and geologic features, and irreplaceable natural resources; and

WHEREAS: Recreation opportunities offered by public lands help families and individuals lead active lifestyles and reduce the incidence of childhood obesity; and

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

WHEREAS: National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest, single-day, volunteer effort for public lands and is coordinated by the National Environmental Education Foundation; and

WHEREAS: State and city park systems throughout the nation join with federal agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service to deliver an annually anticipated celebration for local participation on publicly held lands throughout Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, August 31, 2018, as:

PUBLIC LANDS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 24th day of August.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE