

## **Proclamation**

## By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama the Beautiful is a land of bountiful natural resources, from our sugar sand Gulf Coast beaches to the majestic foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Our public lands are an avenue to enjoy outdoor splendor; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is blessed with a rich variety of public lands that includes Alabama State Parks, national and state forests, wildlife refuges, trails, streams, wetlands and lakes that represent our shared, irreplaceable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands are the backbone of the state's outdoor recreation and tourism economy, supporting hunting, hiking, biking, fishing, camping, boating and more; and

WHEREAS, outdoor recreation enthusiasts support the state's economy through direct consumer spending which has an annual economic impact of \$14 billion; and

WHEREAS, this spending supports more than \$3.9 billion in wages and salaries in Alabama and generates more than \$857 million in state and local taxes; and

WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day was established in 1994 to celebrate the importance of public lands like Alabama State Parks and Forever Wild Land Trust, as well as the invaluable impact volunteers have on conservation and the contributions of outdoor recreation to our society; and

WHEREAS, I announce that on Saturday, September 24, 2022, the Alabama State Parks of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will waive all entrance and parking fees for that day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2022, as

## National Public Lands Day

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 1st day of September 2022.

Kay Ivey, Governor