

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Wilderness Act by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote, and this farsighted legislation was signed by President Lyndon Johnson on September 3, 1964, to make it the policy of the United States to “assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition”; and

WHEREAS, the Wilderness Act of 1964 has been enhanced over the years to designate over 106 million acres in the United States, including 3.6 million acres of magnificent wild land in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Wilderness Act brought into being America’s National Wilderness Preservation System, and ensured that federal lands to be “administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and will provide for the protection of these areas and the preservation of their wilderness character”; and

WHEREAS, in Colorado, our most iconic places protected as wilderness include: the Maroon Bells, Dominguez Canyon, the Needle Range, the Flat Tops, the Collegiate Peaks, the Great Sand Dunes and Sangre de Cristo Mountains, Rocky Mountain National Park, the Indian Peaks, and Lost Creek among many others; and

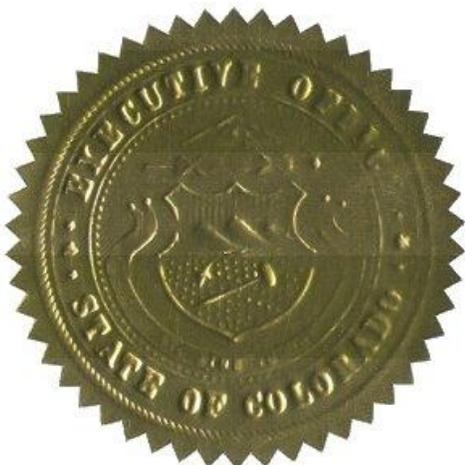
WHEREAS, wilderness protects and sustains opportunities for hiking, hunting, fishing, horseback riding, photography, camping, skiing and snowshoeing, backpacking, wildlife viewing, bird watching and other forms of human-powered recreation; and

WHEREAS, Coloradans are coming together in this anniversary year to celebrate our wilderness in a variety of ways including a traveling photography exhibit, slideshows, wilderness walks, arts contests, lectures and more throughout the year and in all parts of the state;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2014, in honor of the

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this thirty-first day of March, 2014

John W. Hickenlooper
John W. Hickenlooper
Governor