

WHEREAS, Colorado's 22 million acres of public land and 54 peaks over 14,000 feet make our state home to some of the greatest biodiversity in the contiguous United States; and

WHEREAS, individuals living within the Rocky Mountain region are privileged to a higher standard of living, including more outdoor recreation opportunities, as a result of Colorado's unique and beautiful ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, plant and animal species worldwide are disappearing at a rate of 100 to 1,000 times faster than they did just 200 years ago; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's environment, conservation ethic, and passion for the outdoors makes our state the ideal setting to preserve and protect our region's impressive and irreplaceable biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, Coloradans are encouraged to recognize all the year-round hard work that is done by nonprofits within our state to prevent the extinction of species and their habitats in the Rocky Mountain region; and

WHEREAS, National Endangered Species Day is May 19th and Colorado Public Lands Day is May 20th; and

WHEREAS, Rocky Mountain Wild will be hosting speakers, films, service projects, and other activities along the Front Range in conjunction with these days; and

WHEREAS, a week dedicated to the mission of educating the public and working towards the protection of the over 300 plant and animal species that are at risk in Colorado will not only benefit the goals of such work but also the long-term ecosystem, as well as economic, future Colorado;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the entire State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim, forever after, the period between May 15, 2017 and May 19, 2017, as

## COLORADO ENDANGERED SPECIES WEEK

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this fifteenth day of May, 2017

John W. Hickenlooper

Governor