WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, lakes, wildlife habitats, refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens, and other landmark areas that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day is an innovative, public/private partnership event that attracts volunteers of all ages to give their time restoring and enhancing our federal, state, and local public lands; and

WHEREAS, during the 2003 observance of National Public Lands Day, people across South Carolina and the nation roll up their sleeves and head for the great outdoors to work together to ensure the preservation of our public lands for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 20, 2003, as

PUBLIC LANDS DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about the benefits of land conservation, restoration, and enhancement.