

RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR

FLORIDA POLLINATOR WEEK

WHEREAS, pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and

WHEREAS, pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has managed wildlife habitats and public lands such as Florida forests and grasslands for decades; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working lands and wild lands; and

WHEREAS, the state of Florida is a leader in the U.S. beekeeping industry with over 390,000 managed honey bee colonies that provide pollination to agricultural crops as well as native flora;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing June 15-21, 2015, as *Florida Pollinator Week*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 12th day of June, In the year two thousand fifteen.

Governor