

STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, THE GREAT STATE OF NEW MEXICO CONTAINS A GREATER NUMBER OF PLANT HABITATS THAN NEARLY ANY OTHER STATE IN THE UNITED STATES, FROM CHIHUAHUAN DESERT TO ALPINE TUNDRA; AND

WHEREAS, NEW MEXICO ALSO SUPPORTS A LARGER NUMBER OF NATIVE PLANT SPECIES THAN NEARLY ANY OTHER STATE IN THE UNITED STATES; AND

WHEREAS, SOME OF THESE SPECIES ARE FOUND NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH; AND

WHEREAS, THESE NATIVE PLANTS SUPPORT A GREAT VARIETY OF BIRDS AND ANIMALS, BOTH NATIVE AND DOMESTIC; AND

WHEREAS, THE MODERN WAY OF LIFE INADVERTENTLY DESTROYS NATURAL HABITATS AND INTRODUCES NOXIOUS WEEDS, WHICH IN TURN REPLACE NATIVE FORAGE, WHICH IS THE STATE'S NATURAL HERITAGE; AND

WHEREAS, IN EVERY SEASON, NEW MEXICANS ENJOY THE BEAUTY AND VARIETY OF THESE NATIVE PLANTS IN THE STATE'S FORESTS, GRASSLANDS AND DESERTS, INCLUDING THE OFFICIAL STATE FLOWER, THE YUCCA; THE STATE TREE, THE PINON; THE STATE GRASS, BLUE GRAMA; AND THE COLORFUL DISPLAYS OF NATIVE FLOWERS; AND

WHEREAS, THERE IS INCREASING CONCERN THAT MANY OF THESE NATIVE PLANTS MAY BE DESTROYED OR ERADICATED BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT WELL-KNOWN;

NOW, THEREFORE I, SUSANA MARTINEZ, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE 20TH DAY OF AUGUST 2011 AS

"NATIVE PLANT DAY"

THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

SIGNED AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS 22ND DAY OF JULY 2011.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO.

SUSANA MARTINEZ GOVERNOR ATTEST:

DIANNA J. DURAN SECRETARY OF STATE