RESOLUTION NO. 2016 - 145

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, COMMEMORATING 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FLORIDA STATE FOREST SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the Florida Forest Service celebrates State Florida Awareness Month in October; and

WHEREAS, 2016 is the 80th anniversary of the Florida State Forest System; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Forest Service, a division of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, manages more than 1 million acres of state forests and lands, provides management assistance to more than 17 million acres of private and community forests, and protects homes, forestland, and natural resources from the devastating effects of wildfire on more than 26 million acres; and

WHEREAS, thirty-seven Florida state forests and lands, totaling more than 1,068,000 acres, provide multiple public benefits to the citizens of Florida, being managed individually for their unique characteristics and to do the following:

- To practice sustainable forest management
- To provide areas for resource-based outdoor recreation
- To restore and manage healthy forests and native ecosystems
- To ensure the long-term viability and biological diversity of plant and animal species considered to be game or non-game, common or rare, endangered or threatened
- To preserve archaeological, historical, and cultural resources
- To restore, maintain and protect hydrological functions related to water resources

WHEREAS, Cary State Forest was Florida's second state forest, established in 1936, and it currently protects 5,033 acres in Nassau County and 13,385 total acres; Four Creeks State Forest, totaling 13,147 acres, protects the headwaters of the Nassau River; and Ralph E. Simmons Memorial State Forest, totaling 3,638 acres, protects seven miles of pristine frontage along the St. Mary's River.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this 19th day of October, 2016, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that:

- The Board hereby extends their best wishes to the Florida Forest Service in recognition of the 80th Anniversary of the Florida State Forest System.
- The Board commends the Florida Forest Service for their significant contributions made to the citizens of Nassau County, Florida, and extends their sincere appreciation to the many dedicated forestry professionals for their services.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

WALTER J. BOATRIGHT

Its: Chairman

TEDUEN W VELLEY

PAT EDWARDS

Attest as to Chairman's

GEORGE V. SPICER

Signature:

DANIEL BALEE

WHN A. CRAWFORD

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the

Nassau County Attorney:

MICHAEL S. MULLIN