

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

## **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Iowa has a great history of leadership in conservation and Aldo Leopold was a leader in that history, being born and raised in Burlington, Iowa, where he developed his great love of the outdoors and began honing his skills as a nature observer; and

WHEREAS, Aldo Leopold, an internationally respected scientist and conservationist, was instrumental in formulating policy, promoting wilderness, and building ecological foundations for two twentieth century professions – forestry and wildlife ecology; and

WHEREAS, Aldo Leopold helped lead the way for conservation projects all across the United States, stretching from Arizona to Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Aldo Leopold conducted a game survey of the Upper Midwest, including Iowa, laying the groundwork for his book, *Game Management*, which is still in use today in many colleges and universities, and presently a philosophical influence in organizations like Trees Forever, Ducks Unlimited and Peasants Forever; and

WHEREAS, Aldo Leopold is perhaps best known as the author of *A Sand County Almanac*, a volume of nature sketches and philosophical essays internationally recognized as one of the enduring expressions of an ecological attitude toward people and all the inhabitants of land; and

WHEREAS, Aldo Leopold's legacy is perpetuated in Burlington and the state by the Leopold Heritage Group through projects and presentations that explain, promote, and put into practice Leopold's ideas contained in his principles of conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Leopold homes still stand in Burlington, recognized in the National Register for Historic Places as historically important places and continue to house Leopold education programs; and

WHEREAS, the Burlington School District has named a middle school after Aldo Leopold, and has provided a two-acre plot of land for the creation of a prairie classroom which highlights the human/land harmony which Leopold so strongly promoted in his writings; and

WHEREAS, March 4, 1948, marks the last contribution Aldo Leopold made to *A Sand County Almanac* before his unfortunate death and because of date's proximity to the first weekend in March:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim March 1-7, 2015,

## ALDO LEOPOLD WEEK

to be celebrated annually on the first full week in March as a way to pay tribute to the work and legacy of Aldo Leopold and to create a focused time to learn and celebrate wildlife preservation and conservation for all the citizens of Iowa.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HERE-UNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS DAY OF AUGUST IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN.

TERRY E. BRANSTAD GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

MATT SCHULTZ
SECRETARY OF STATE