State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

WHEREAS, on April 5, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC),

an innovative federally funded organization that put close to three million Americans to work during

the Great Depression on projects with environmental benefit; and

WHEREAS, the CCC was a public works program that operated until 1942 as part of President Franklin D.

Roosevelt's New Deal; and

WHEREAS, Vermont was originally allocated four CCC camps, but thanks to State Forester Perry H. Merrill's

foresight in earlier developing long range conservation, flood control, and forest management activities, Merrill's lobbying of CCC National Director Robert Fechner, Vermont received more assistance than

other states; and

WHEREAS, there were CCC camps located in 39 Vermont towns and unincorporated areas, and in 12 counties; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the Corps members that built dams at East Barre, Wrightsville, and Waterbury to control

the flow of the Winooski River to prevent the reoccurrence of the devastating flood of 1927 were WWI

veterans; and

WHEREAS, the CCC contributed to the development of skiing in Vermont when they developed the first ski trails

in Stowe, Burke, Shrewsbury, and Bromley mountains; and

WHEREAS, the CCC constructed multiple auto roads, including those on Mt. Philo, Mt. Mansfield, Mt. Ascutney,

and Elmore, to provide access to iconic views and vistas in response to the rapid increase in the

ownership of automobiles; and

WHEREAS, CCC camps in the Green Mountain National Forest built roads, trails & campgrounds and fought fires,

and planted trees; and

WHEREAS, between 1933 and 1942, an estimated 40,868 individuals worked in Vermont CCC camps of which

about one-quarter were Vermonters, and three quarters came from New York, Connecticut, Rhode

Island and Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Vermont CCC workers not only fought forest fires but also helped prevent fires by building seven new

steel fire towers, three new wooden towers, eight new lookout cabins, telephone lines, and fire roads;

and

WHEREAS, the CCC legacy lives on with the campsites, trails, buildings, in at least 22 State Forest and Park

locations, at local municipal parks and recreation facilities, in the acres of forests and woodlands of

Vermont, and as a historic lesson of response to the darkest economic period of our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim April 5, 2023 as

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CCC DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of

Vermon on this 4th day of April, A.D. 2023.

Philip B. Scott

Governor

Brittney L Wilson

Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs