

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 23-209 (Great Outdoors Initiative)

WHEREAS, Florida's natural resources are the foundation of Florida's communities, economy, and way of life; and

WHEREAS, natural treasures can be found in every corner of the state, from the Panhandle to the Keys; and

WHEREAS, the Florida State Park System is the first and only four-time winner of the Gold Medal honoring the nation's best state park system with 175 state parks, trails, and historic sites spanning nearly 800,000 acres and 100 miles of white sand beaches; and

WHEREAS, nearly 30 million residents and visitors enjoyed Florida's award-winning state parks and trails system last year; and

WHEREAS, last fiscal year, the estimated total direct economic impact of Florida State Parks was more than \$3.6 billion, supporting over 50,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing have a celebrated history in Florida, including Florida's recognition as the "Fishing Capital of the World"; and

WHEREAS, generations of sportsmen and women have contributed to conserving Florida's abundant natural resources and encouraging participation in Florida's rich sporting heritage to recruit new hunters and anglers and increase public awareness of the connection between hunting, angling, and outdoor recreation with common sense conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission encourage participation, responsible citizenship, and stewardship of its natural resources and treasures; and

WHEREAS, educating and engaging Florida's residents on natural resources and wildlife management contributes to conservation efforts throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, it is important to introduce Florida's residents to outdoor activities that instill an appreciation for the great outdoors and our natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby encourage all Florida residents to participate in outdoor recreation. Additionally, I do hereby issue the following Executive Order to take immediate affect:

Section 1: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is directed to temporarily offer family and individual state park annual passes at a 50 percent discount.

Section 2: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is authorized to temporarily offer the resident annual Gold Sportsman, 5-year Gold Sportsman, and Lifetime Sportsman licenses at a 50 percent discount.

Section 3: These reduced fees shall be offered from October 14, 2023 through January 13, 2024.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this 13th day of October, 2023.





RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2023 OCT 13 PM 1:43
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED