

COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

Proclamation

WHEREAS forests are like giant, green sponges all over the globe, through which our Earth breathes. Trees and plants take in carbon dioxide and give us oxygen, cleaning our air, and just a simple walk in the woods can calm and invigorate our senses; and

WHEREAS the forests are so crucial to the future of our planet that, in 2012, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed March 21 as **International Day of Forests**, with the 2022 theme "Forests and Sustainable Production and Consumption", to raise awareness and educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity; and

WHEREAS the forest sector generates jobs for at least 33 million people worldwide, and forest products are used by billions. It is estimated that more than half the world's economic production [GDP] depends on ecosystem services, including those provided by forests; and

WHEREAS forests are essential for planetary health and human well-being. Forests cover nearly one-third of the Earth's surface and provide people with goods such as timber, fuel, food, and fodder, help combat climate change, protect biodiversity, soils, rivers and reservoirs, and serve as areas where people can get close to nature; and

WHEREAS Forests also play a crucial role in poverty alleviation and in the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Yet, despite all these priceless ecological, economic, social, and health benefits, global deforestation continues at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in November 2021, it became clear that forest restoration is essential to solving the climate crisis; and

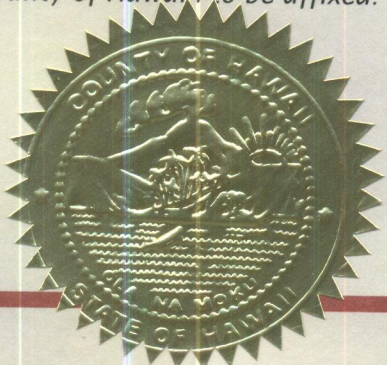
WHEREAS it is up to us to implement sustainable forest management. Here on Hawai'i Island, Terraformation is working to solve climate change by global native forest restoration, scaling natural carbon capture by solving the biggest bottlenecks to forest restoration, and accelerating global progress toward climate change solutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MITCHELL D. ROTH, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **April 2022, as**

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS

in the County of Hawai'i and encourage our citizens to undertake local, national, and international efforts to organize activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 21st day of March 2022 in Hilo, Hawai'i.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mitchell D. Roth".

MITCHELL D. ROTH
MAYOR