



# Proclamation

*On a motion from Councilor Liz Seman  
Members of Greenville County Council wish to honor and acknowledge*

## Mac Stone

Recognizing him for being named International Wildlife Photographer of the Year

**Whereas**, Mac Stone, came to the Upstate at the urging of the late Tommy Wyche, to become the first full-time employee of Naturaland Trust, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2023; under his leadership of Naturaland Trust, several thousand acres in Greenville County have been conserved for future generations, and

**Whereas**, Mr. Stone has developed a truly international reputation as a National Geographic Explorer, representing exceptional individuals in their fields who receive funding and support from the Society to illuminate and protect our world through their work in science, exploration, education, and storytelling; he is a Senior Fellow in the International League of Conservation Photographers, as well as a Sea Legacy Fellow; and

**Whereas**, his photographic works have been featured in publications ranging from annual reports of the Greenville-based U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities to National Geographic magazine; and

**Whereas**, his work in the Florida Everglades led to the publication of his award-winning book *EVERGLADES: America's Wetland*; he was named to the Board of Directors of the Everglades Foundation, where he has served since 2018 and is the youngest person to have ever done so; and

**Whereas**, his TED Talk, *Stunning Photos of the Endangered Everglades*, has been viewed more than 1.3 million times; one of his recent photographs showed a Fig Sphinx moth pollinating the rare, endangered Ghost Orchid flower that grows high among the trunks of ancient, bald cypress and other swamp trees in the Everglades; and

**Whereas**, another of Mr. Stone's photographs is currently on exhibit in the Natural History Museum in London, where it was recognized as the best in thousands of entries from 93 countries; he was named the International Wildlife Photographer of the Year, which is considered to be the Oscar of wildlife photography.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the members of Greenville County Council wish to express congratulations and appreciation to Mac Stone for his exemplary record of accomplishments that serve to highlight the beauty and importance of nature through his outstanding work in conservation and photography at home and around the world.

Signed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022

Willis H. Meadows, Chairman  
Greenville County Council

