PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the first Jackalope to appear in our fabulous world was prepared for exhibit by taxidermist, Doug Herrick of Douglas, Wyoming, in 1939; and

WHEREAS, the original Jackalope was sold to the late Roy Ball, who put it on display in his Labonte Hotel in Douglas; and

WHEREAS, the Douglas Chamber of Commerce secretary-manager, J.S. "Jack" Ward, who was a noted columnist for a Douglas weekly newspaper, promoted the Jackalope in Chamber of Commerce brochures from the late 1940's through the early 1960's and recorded the first legend of the Jackalope; and

WHEREAS, many other noted authors, such as the late R.W. "Red" Fenwick of the Denver Post wrote newspaper columns referring to the origination of the Jackalope in Douglas; and

WHEREAS, as a result of international circulation of numerous tales and illustrations on postcards and in various publications, Douglas, Wyoming has received world-wide recognition as the home of the Jackalope; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 1960, the State of Wyoming issued "Jackalope," as a registered trademark to the Douglas Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, on April 7, 1970, the State of Wyoming issued a trademark to the Douglas Chamber of Commerce, as "Home of the Jackalope;" and

WHEREAS, both Town of Douglas and County of Converse government entities have carried the symbol of the Jackalope as part of the logo on their vehicles and equipment for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Douglas Chamber of Commerce has issued hunting licenses for the Jackalope since the late 1940's; and

WHEREAS, the Douglas Area Chamber of Commerce now observes an annual celebration, called Jackalope Day, to pay tribute to the Jackalope; and

WHEREAS, an 8 ft. statue of the Jackalope created by Leonard Lore of Douglas at the request of the Douglas Chamber of Commerce was featured in the center of Douglas from 1965 until it was a victim of an accident on Jackalope Day, May 19, 1984; and

WHEREAS, a new slightly taller Jackalope statue also created for the Douglas Area Chamber of Commerce by Leonard Lore will be dedicated on Jackalope Day, May 18, 1985; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that other towns, states, and organizations are claiming to have originated and promoted the Jackalope;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ED HERSCHLER, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim Douglas, Wyoming to be the official HOME OF THE JACKALOPE

and I urge all residents of Wyoming and other states to recognize Douglas, Wyoming, as "Home of the Jackalope." I encourage those writers and organizations which have attempted to rustle the origin and home of the Jackalope away from Douglas, Wyoming to cease and desist from this misbegotten activity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wyoming to be affixed this fifteenth day of May, 1985.

(Handwritten Signature)

Governor