

WHEREAS, hunters, anglers and trappers were among the first conservationists who supported establishment of agencies to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitat, and help fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, it is well established that the primary authority to protect and manage fish and resident wildlife within their borders resides in state fish and wildlife agencies; and

WHEREAS, upon realizing that license fees alone were insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, hunters, anglers and trappers supported excise taxes on hunting, fishing and boating equipment to raise additional funds to support restoration; and

WHEREAS, this user pay – public benefit system became known as the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, which began 75 years ago with the passage of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act in 1937, and then was bolstered with the passage of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act in 1950; and

WHEREAS, the combined contribution of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs to state fish and wildlife agencies since 1939 exceeds \$13 billion since, which collectively constitute the American System of Conservation Funding; and

WHEREAS, the manufacturers of hunting, fishing and boating equipment have supported the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs and continue to exhibit a spirit of cooperation with state fish and wildlife agencies; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative partnership has resulted in the most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world, restoring populations throughout the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor of the state of Idaho, do hereby proclaim September 2, 2012 to be

WILDLIFE AND SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAMS DAY

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 2nd day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-seven and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty third.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

BEN YSURSA