

WHEREAS, Idaho has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitat, and through their license fees helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, upon realizing that license fees alone were insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, sportsmen and women supported self-imposed excise taxes on hunting, fishing and boating equipment to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, to this day, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game is funded primarily by sportsmen and women, through this American System of Conservation Funding- a "user pays-public benefits" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, Idaho's sportsmen and women generated nearly \$20.3 million through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's 534,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through spending more than \$1 billion annually while engaged in their pursuits; and

WHEREAS, this spending supports over 15,000 jobs in Idaho and generates over \$97 million in state and local taxes each year; and

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation and to our society; and

WHEREAS, Idaho has many varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and angling, and it is appropriate to set aside a day of celebration for Idaho's sportsmen and women;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim September 26th, 2015 to be


NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING 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 26th day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred fortieth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-sixth.


C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR


LAWRENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE