

The State of New Hampshire
By Her Excellency
Margaret Wood Hassan, Governor

A Proclamation

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

WHEREAS, New Hampshire 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, New Hampshire's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department 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 New Hampshire Fish and Game Department is funded primarily by sportsmen and women, through the 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, New Hampshire's sportsmen and women generated \$270,000,000 through this system to support the conservation efforts of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire's 247,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy while engaged in their pursuits; and

WHEREAS, This spending supports over 4,537 jobs in New Hampshire and generates \$67,600,000 in state and local taxes; 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **SEPTEMBER 26, 2015**, as **NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY** in the State of New Hampshire and encourage all citizens to support the state's longstanding tradition of hunting and fishing.

Given this 24th day of August, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and fifteen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty.


Margaret Wood Hassan

Governor

