

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, Colorado 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, hunting and angling continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and over recent years have offered a growing number of participants an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level while simultaneously providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency, and both mental and physical health benefits; and*

*WHEREAS, Colorado's sports persons and conservationists were vital to the establishment of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife 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, sportspersons supported self-imposed excise taxes on firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and similarly supported the state's new Keep Colorado Wild pass which will increase accessibility to Colorado's outdoors and increase revenue for the conservation of Colorado's special wildlife and places.*

*WHEREAS, 75% of Colorado Parks and Wildlife's wildlife budget is provided by sportspersons through this American System of Conservation Funding; and*

*WHEREAS, last year alone, Colorado's sportspersons generated \$136,302,946 to support the conservation efforts of Colorado Parks and Wildlife; and*

*WHEREAS, 1,418,996 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$9,556,036,000 spent on outdoor activities in Colorado last year; and*

*WHEREAS, sportspersons spent more than \$39 billion nationally on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting helping fuel the Colorado's economy, which comprised 2.5% of Colorado's GDP that same year; and*

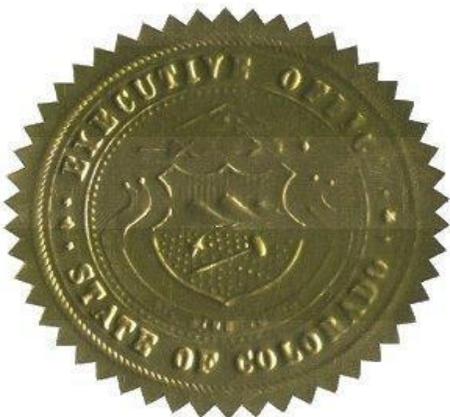
*WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society;*

*THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2022 as*

## *HUNTING AND FISHING DAY*

*in the State of Colorado.*

*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twenty-fourth day of September, 2022*



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis  
Governor*