



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 the past year have offered a growing number of participants and 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 sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of Colorado Parks and Wildlife to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitat, and through their license fees helped fund state efforts to provide a 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 firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, to this day, Colorado Parks and Wildlife is funded, in part, by sportsmen and women, through this American System of Conservation Funding - a "user pays- public benefits" model that is widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, Colorado's sportsmen and women generated over \$133 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of Colorado Parks and Wildlife; and

WHEREAS, 1,246,020 hunters and anglers contribute more than \$3.2 billion in economic output per year statewide while engaged in their pursuits; and

WHEREAS, this spending supports over 25,051 jobs in Colorado and generates \$187 million in state and local taxes; and

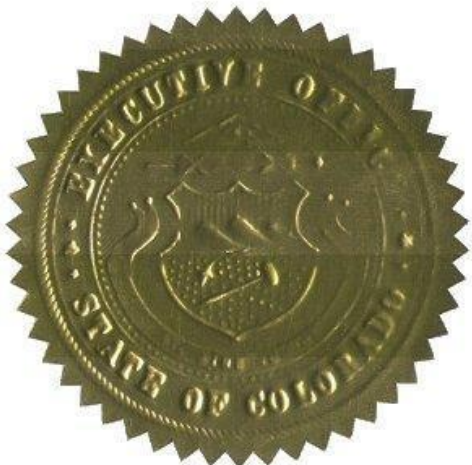
WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the state of Colorado, do hereby proclaim September 25, 2021 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-fifth day of September, 2021



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

*Jared Polis
Governor*