



Office of the Governor

State of Missouri

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Missouri 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, Missouri's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of Missouri Department of Conservation 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, Missourians were also the first in the nation to support a complement to the American System of Conservation Funding in the form of a statewide Conservation Sales Tax, which enhances the quality of the Missouri outdoors for sportsmen and women and all Missourians now and into the future; and

WHEREAS, to this day, the Missouri Department of Conservation receives funding through the American System of Conservation Funding - a "*user pays - public benefits*" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year, Missouri's sportsmen and women generated over \$60 million through this system to help support the conservation efforts of the Missouri Department of Conservation; and

WHEREAS, Missouri's 1.07 million hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending contributing to the \$6.5 billion spent on outdoor activities in Missouri last year; and

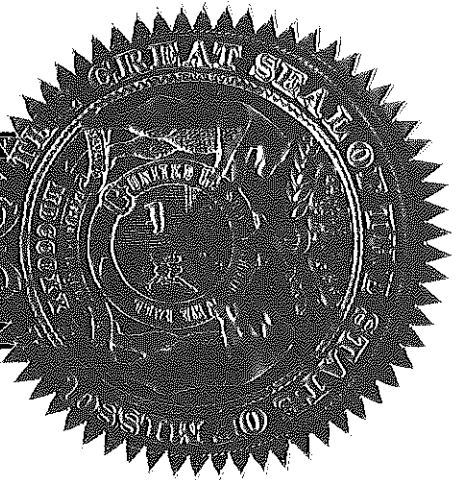
WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2022, to be

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

in Missouri and recognize the many and varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and angling.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 19th day of September, 2022.



Michael L. Parson

Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Jay O'Connell

Jay O'Connell
SECRETARY OF STATE