



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, New Mexico 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 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, New Mexico's sports enthusiasts were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish 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 firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and*

*WHEREAS, to this day, 98.47% of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish's budget is provided 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 for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and*

*WHEREAS, last year alone, New Mexico's sportsmen and women generated approximately \$44 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish; and*

*WHEREAS, over 364,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through spending more than \$1 billion while engaged in their pursuits; and*

*WHEREAS, according to 2021 data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, on the national level sportsmen and women spent more than \$39 billion on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, which does not include spending on items such as trips and travel, or license fees that were necessary for their participation. This spending helped fuel the outdoor economy, which comprised 2% of New Mexico'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*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2022 as:*

## **"Hunting and Fishing Day"**

*throughout the state of New Mexico.*

Attest:  
*Maggie Toulouse Oliver*

Maggie Toulouse Oliver  
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this  
8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal  
of the State of New Mexico.

*Michelle Lujan Grisham*  
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

