



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
September 24, 2022

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and fishing, that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing 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, Pennsylvania hunters and anglers were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Game Commission and the Fish and Boat Commission to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitats, and through their license fees helped to 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, hunters and anglers supported self-imposed excise taxes on firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle, and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, to this day, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Pennsylvania Game Commission are funded largely by hunters and anglers, through this American System of Conservation Funding ("System") - 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, Pennsylvania's hunters and anglers generated \$95,172,155 through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and the Pennsylvania Game Commission; and

WHEREAS, 1,809,267 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$11,805,349 spent on outdoor activities in Pennsylvania last year, this spending also helped fuel the outdoor economy, which comprised 1.4% of State's GDP that same year; and

THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, proclaim September 24, 2022, to be HUNTING AND FISHING DAY, to recognize the many and varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and angling.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this eighth day of August two thousand twenty-two, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-seventh.


TOM WOLF
Governor