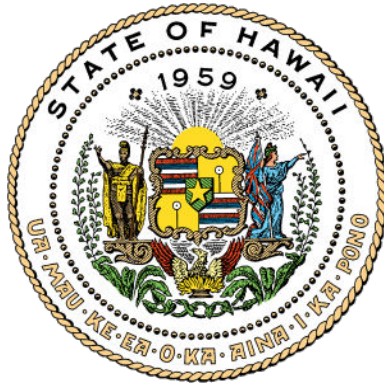




Proclamation

WHEREAS, Hawai'i's rich and storied tradition of hunting and fishing is rooted in ancient Hawaiian values which reflect a profound reverence and symbiosis with the 'āina. The sacred connection to the land and water is beyond measure; and

WHEREAS, time-honored traditions of hunting and fishing continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout Hawai'i, and offer a growing number of people the opportunity to embody that connection with nature as stewards of the 'āina and wai; and

WHEREAS, hunting and fishing provide food security and self-sufficiency, as well as mental and physical health benefits; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i's sportspersons were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of our Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) with the intention to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitats while utilizing license fees to help fund conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, overtime hunting and fishing enthusiasts in the state came to support self-imposed excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuel to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, DLNR is still funded, in part, by such fees. This "user pays, public benefits" approach is known as the American System of Conservation Funding, which is widely recognized as a highly successful model for funding fish and wildlife management; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, Hawai'i sportspersons generated \$10.3 million through this system to support the State's conservation work; and

WHEREAS, just over 20,000 hunters and anglers support our state's economy through their spending, contributing to the millions spent on outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, those engaging in hunting, fishing, boating and recreational shooting contributed more than \$54 billion to the U.S. economy; 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.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2026, to be

"HUNTING AND FISHING DAY"

in Hawai'i and encourage all those in the Aloha State to join in recognizing the varied social, cultural, economic and ecological benefits of the ancient traditions of hunting and fishing.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this first day of September 2026.



Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i