

State of Maine



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; and

WHEREAS, Maine 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, Maine's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 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, to this day, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is funded primarily by sportsmen and women, through the American System of Conservation Funding - a "*user pays – public benefits*" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, Maine's sportsmen and women generated \$27.48 million through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Maine's 413,000 hunters and anglers add to the state's economy through more than \$609 million in spending while engaged in their pursuits, supporting over 10,387 jobs in Maine and generating \$71 million in state and local taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the great state of Maine, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2019

National Hunting and Fishing Day

in Maine and urge all citizens to 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 caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this twentieth day of September Two Thousand Nineteen

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY