



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

- WHEREAS:** Georgia has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that dates back further than the state itself and remains to this day. Hunting and angling 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:** Georgia's hunters and anglers were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources 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, 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 Georgia Department of Natural Resources' budget is mostly funded by hunters and anglers, through this American System of Conservation Funding. Last year alone, Georgia's hunters and anglers generated more than \$84 million through this System to directly support the conservation efforts of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources; and
- WHEREAS:** More than 1.8 million hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$13 billion spent on outdoor activities in Georgia last year. 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, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2023, as NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 18th day of September in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

M. Kipert

CHIEF OF STAFF