

State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION

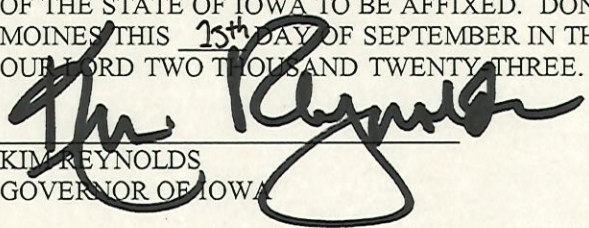
- WHEREAS,** Iowa has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and
- WHEREAS,** hunting and angling continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and over recent 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,** Iowa's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Iowa 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, 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, approximately 65% of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Conservation and Recreation Division'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, Iowa's sportsmen and women generated \$57,536,191 through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources; and
- WHEREAS,** 594,955 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$4.37 billion spent on outdoor activities in Iowa last year; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2022, sportsmen and women spent more than \$38 billion on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, which does not include spending on items such as trips and travel, or license fees. This spending helped fuel the outdoor economy, which comprised 2.0% of Iowa'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, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2023, as:

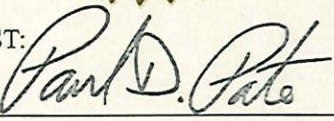
National Hunting and Fishing Day in Iowa



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL
OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES
MOINES THIS 13th DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF
OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY THREE.


KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:


PAUL PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE