

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and fishing dating 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. They offer 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, South Dakota's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat. 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, the South Dakota Game Fish & Parks is funded, predominantly, 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 in the world for funding fish and wildlife management; and,

Whereas, last year alone, South Dakota's sportsmen and women generated \$51,066,714 through this system to support the conservation efforts of the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks; and,

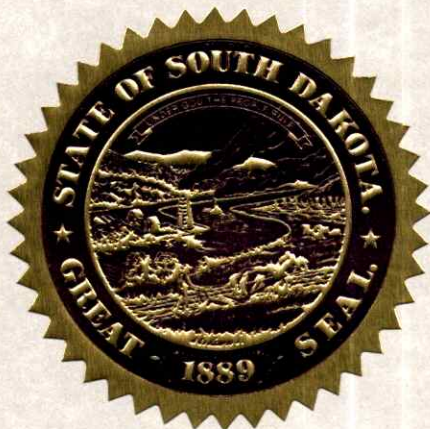
Whereas, 424,738 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$1.9 billion spent on outdoor activities in South Dakota last year; and,

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, Larry Rhoden, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2025, as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

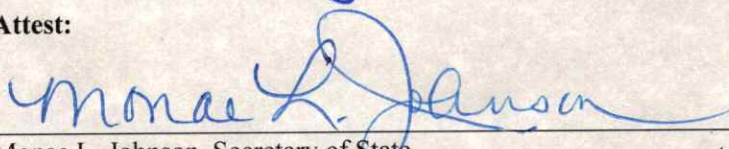
in South Dakota, and do hereby recognize the many and varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and fishing.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-Fifth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.


Larry Rhoden, Governor

Attest:


Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State