



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

For the earliest Americans, hunting and fishing were not merely recreation: they were necessities of survival. Life on the frontier was incredibly difficult, and our forebears pursued their freedom at great personal peril. They were, however, blessed with nature's choicest bounty and were therefore able to live off the land and bring civilization to the uncharted wilderness. Although we are separated from these great settlers by several centuries, we share with them a sameness of spirit, and today, it is perhaps nowhere more apparent than in our hunters and fishermen.

In Texas alone, there are more than three million sportsmen who know firsthand the incredible impact that hunting and fishing can make in people's lives. These time-honored pursuits afford unparalleled opportunities to commune with nature, to connect with loved ones, and to escape the worries of modern life. For generations, untold millions of Texans have made happy memories reeling in fish, sitting watchfully in a deer blind, or pursuing wild game.

Hunting and fishing, moreover, are major industries that have long bolstered Texas' booming economy. The men and women who take part in this proud heritage generate tens of billions of dollars in revenue, which ripples throughout our economy and supports thousands of quality jobs. Additionally, hunting and fishing produce a sustainable source of food, and our hunters and fishers continually set an example of generosity by donating meat to those in need.

Hunting and fishing enthusiasts have long safeguarded the natural treasure that captivated our forefathers centuries ago, leading the way in preservation, conservation, and restoration movements. Through licenses, excise taxes, and voluntary contributions, these men and women have made a profound difference in natural habitats, and dedicated organizations in public and private sectors support policies that protect our many and varied ecosystems.

Since 1972, the fourth Saturday of September has been set aside in order to celebrate the personal, environmental, and economic contributions that hunting and fishing make to our society. At this time, I encourage all Texans to embrace the spirit of this holiday by engaging with nature. By so doing, we connect with our community, with our heritage, and with the world around us.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2023, to be

Hunting and Fishing Day



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 25th day of August, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Abbott".
Governor of Texas