

Proclamation

by

Andy Beshear
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- 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, Kentucky has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that dates back farther than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and
- WHEREAS, Hunting and angling continue to be integral components of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the Commonwealth 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, Kentucky's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife 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, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is funded, in part, 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, Kentucky's sportsmen and women generated \$55,403,692 through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources; and
- WHEREAS, 833,938 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$5.5 billion spent on outdoor activities in Kentucky last year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2025, as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

in Kentucky.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 2nd day of September, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Five and in the 234th year of the Commonwealth.

Andy Beshear
ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

Michael G. Adams
Michael G. Adams
Secretary of State