

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

WHEREAS, North Dakota has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that predates statehood and carries forward to this day; and

WHEREAS, hunting and angling are an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and offer participants an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level while providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency and both mental and physical health benefits; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's hunters and anglers were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department 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 hunters and anglers have further supported self-imposed excise taxes on firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, to this day, North Dakota Game and Fish is funded in part by hunters and anglers, through this American System of Conservation Funding — a "user pays, public benefits" approach widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, North Dakota's hunters and anglers generated \$33.7 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, on the national level sportsmen and women spent more than \$41 billion on hunting, fishing and recreational shooting, which does not include spending on items such as trips and travel, or license fees necessary for their participation — this spending helped fuel the outdoor economy, which comprises 2.2% of North Dakota's GDP; 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, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
September 26, 2026, HUNTING AND FISHING DAY in the State of North Dakota.




Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE