## NORTH DAKOTA

## E P R O C L A M A T I O N ===

## HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

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 hunters and anglers were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the North Dakota Game Department and Fish to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitat, and through their license fees have helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and hunters and anglers have further supported self-imposed excise taxes on hunting, fishing and boating equipment 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 that is widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year, North Dakota's 388,205 hunters and anglers generated over \$30.5 million to support the conservation efforts of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department; and

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their contributions to fish and wildlife conservation for the benefit of our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim September 25, 2021, HUNTING AND FISHING DAY in the State of North Dakota.

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Doug Burgum GOVERNOR

Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE