

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY**

**2024**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has a rich tradition of hunting and angling that dates back hundreds of years and continues to this day; and

**WHEREAS**, hunting and angling continue to be integral components of the cultural fabric of communities throughout our state, and over the past year have offered a growing number of participants opportunities 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**, North Carolina's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat; through their license fees, they have 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 fuel to raise additional conservation funds; and

**WHEREAS**, to this day, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission 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**, in 2023, North Carolina's sportsmen and women generated \$81.5 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission; and

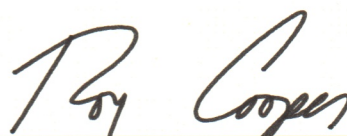
**WHEREAS**, approximately 2.1 million hunters and anglers support the state's economy through their spending, contributing to the \$14.6 billion spent on outdoor activities in North Carolina last year; and

**WHEREAS**, according to recent data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, on the national level, sportsmen and women spent more than \$38 billion on hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, which does not include spending on items such as trips and travel, or license fees that were necessary for their participation; 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, ROY COOPER**, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2024, as "**NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.