

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Vermont has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that dates back further than the state itself, and carries forward to this day; and
- WHEREAS,** hunting and angling continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities through the state, 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,** Vermont’s sportsmen and women were among the first conservationist to support the establishment of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat which through licensing fees, helped fund the state’s efforts to provide 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 taxes on firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and
- WHEREAS,** to this day, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department 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, Vermont’s sportsmen and women generated \$18,263,843 through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department; and
- WHEREAS,** 157,681 hunters and anglers support the state’s economy through their spending, contributing to the \$1.8 billion spent on outdoor activities in Vermont last year; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the most 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. This spending helped fuel the outdoor economy, which comprised 4.6% of Vermont’s GDP that same year; 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, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim the 28th day of September, 2024 as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 25th day of September, A.D. 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip B. Scott", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney D. Wilson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive.

Brittney D. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs