



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama 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, Alabama's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural 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 hunting, fishing and boating equipment to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, to this day, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is funded primarily 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 of fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, last year alone, Alabama's sportsmen and women generated \$47.12 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's 948,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through spending more than \$1.9 billion annually while engaged in their pursuits. This spending supports over 37,476 jobs in Alabama and generates \$165 million in state and local taxes; 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, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2018, as

National Hunting and Fishing Day

in the State of Alabama, a day to be set aside in celebration of Alabama's sportsmen and women.



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the
Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City
of Montgomery on the 5th day of September 2018.*

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor