



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

- WHEREAS:** Georgia has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that pre-dates the establishment of our state and carries forward to this day; and
- WHEREAS:** Georgia's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitats. Their license fees helped to 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 Wildlife Resources Division is funded primarily by sportsmen and women through the 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, Georgia's sportsmen and women generated over \$60 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Wildlife Resources Division; and
- WHEREAS:** Georgia's nearly 1.1 million hunters and anglers support the state's economy by spending more than \$2.3 billion annually through their engagement; and
- WHEREAS:** This spending supports over 39,640 jobs in Georgia and generates \$216 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, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2019 as HUNTING AND FISHING in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 28th day of August in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Trinity K. Fleming

CHIEF OF STAFF