

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Vermont has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling that dates back further before the founding of the state itself and carries on to this day; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont’s sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Department of Fish and Wildlife to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitats, 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 Department of Fish and Wildlife 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 is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2016, Vermont’s sportsmen and women generated \$15.1 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Department of Fish and Wildlife; and
- WHEREAS,** 254,000 resident and nonresident hunters and anglers support Vermont’s economy by spending more than \$455 million while engaged in their pursuits; and
- WHEREAS,** this spending supports more than 6,800 jobs in Vermont and generates \$50 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, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2017

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 19th day of September, A.D. 2017.

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

Philip B. Scott
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittney L. Wilson", is written over a horizontal line.
Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs