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 throughout the state, and offer 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
conservationists to support the establishment of the Vermont Fish
and Wildlife Department 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 firearms and ammunition,
fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation
funds; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is still 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 for funding fish
and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 alone, Vermont’s sportsmen and women generated $15.32
million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department; and

WHEREAS, 161,000 hunters and anglers support the state’s economy by
spending more than $442 million while engaged in their pursuits; and

WHEREAS, this spending supports over 6,814 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, hereby proclaim September 26, 2020 as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

in Vermont recognize the many social, cultural, economic and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and angling.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of September, A.D. 2020.

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Philip B. Scott
Governor

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Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs