



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY**

**2017**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, which dates back beyond the state's founding and carries forward to this day; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission – to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat – and to help fund healthy and sustainable natural resources through their license fees; 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 North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission 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 is celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year; and

**WHEREAS**, last year alone, North Carolina's sportsmen and women generated \$56,397,450 through this system to support the conservation efforts of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's 1,631,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy by spending more than \$2.3 billion while engaged in their pursuits; this spending also helps sustain more than 35,000 jobs in North Carolina, and generates \$249 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes the many and varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our time-honored traditions of hunting and angling, and encourages citizens to acknowledge this day in celebration of our state's sportsmen and women;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 23, 2017, as "NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.