STATE of WISCONSIN
OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their efforts in fish and wildlife conservation; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support establishing a statewide conservation commission, now known as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, to focus on preserving and protecting 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, fish and wildlife programs in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources are still funded by sportsmen and women, through the American System of Conservation Funding, which is 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, Wisconsin’s sportsmen and women generated $115.7 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, 1,554,000 hunters and anglers support over 55,722 jobs in Wisconsin, spend more than $4.03 billion while engaged in their hunting and fishing pursuits, and generate $377 million in state and local taxes; and

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day provides the opportunity for the State of Wisconsin to honor the many and varied social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of our great state’s time-honored traditions of hunting and angling;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2019, as

NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 16th day of September 2019.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA HOLLETT
Secretary of State