

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, conserving our state's natural and wildlife resources is one of the most important responsibilities we have to this and future generations of Mississippians; and

WHEREAS, hunters and anglers were among the first to realize this responsibility when they saw how expanding civilization and unregulated exploitation had caused disastrous declines in wildlife populations throughout Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Mississippi hunters and anglers took steps to reverse this trend, helping found the conservation movement, supporting laws to stop uncontrolled exploitation of wildlife and helping establish game and fish laws, enforcement and management practices; and

WHEREAS, they promoted and supported laws to establish special hunting and fishing license fees and special taxes on their equipment to pay for conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, hunters and anglers have contributed over \$2.2 billion for conservation through these fees and special taxes on their equipment to pay for conservation programs; and

WHEREAS, the conservation programs supported and financed by Mississippi hunters and anglers have benefited hundreds of wildlife species, from deer and wild turkeys to black bears, bald eagles and songbirds—wildlife that all Mississippians can enjoy; and

WHEREAS, hunters and anglers as individuals and through their organizations volunteer countless hours of their time for local conservation projects and to raise funds for conservation:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim Saturday, September 28, 2002, as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

in the State of Mississippi and call upon our citizens to join with sportsmen and conservationists in their efforts to ensure the wise use and proper management of our natural resources to benefit future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, September 9, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR