

Proclamation

Hunting and Fishing Day

Because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition.

Since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the founding of state fish and game departments in all 50 states. They asked that they, themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies. In the last 50 years alone, these sportsmen have provided over \$5 Billion for conservation programs.

Hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were 50 years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development.

Hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans.

Therefore, I, Gene Jettola, Mayor of the City of Bethel, IA, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 24, 1977, as Bethel's Hunting and Fishing Day and that this day be an annual observance the fourth Saturday of each September. I urge all of our citizens to join with sportsmen-conservationists in a rededication to the wise use of our natural resources and their proper management for the benefit of future generations. Further, I urge all citizens to take part in Hunting and Fishing Day activities on September 24 to learn more about conservation and outdoor skills.

(Seal)

Date 9-1-77

(Signed)

Gene Jettola
Mayor of