



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Luke Bryan and Chris Janson to Serve as 2019 National Hunting and Fishing Day Honorary Co-Chairs

Country Music Superstars Bring Broad Appeal to NHF Day's Conservation Mission

Springfield, Mo. – Officials announced today that country music superstars Luke Bryan and Chris Janson will serve as honorary co-chairs for the 48th annual celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF Day.) Recognized on the fourth Saturday of every September, National Hunting and Fishing Day serves as a reminder to the American public that wildlife and wild places exist today thanks to the ongoing leadership and funding from hunters, anglers, and shooters.

Luke Bryan, 2013 American Country Music Awards Entertainer of the Year, has sold more than seven million albums world-wide featuring hit singles like *Huntin', Fishin' and Lovin' Every Day*. Chris Janson, the youngest living member to be inducted into the Grand Ole Opry, has produced three top-10 hits including *Buy Me a Boat*. Both avid outdoorsmen, Bryan and Janson will join forces as honorary co-chairs in 2019 to reach more people than ever with NHF Day's inspiring mission.

Together, more than 34 million outdoorsmen and women keep the unique American conservation system strong by raising \$100,000 every 30 minutes through self-imposed fees and excise taxes. This groundbreaking model of conservation funding is recognized as the foundation that allows every American access to abundant wildlife and wild places to enjoy.

National Hunting and Fishing Day was formalized by Congress in 1971 to convey the message that conservation in America succeeds because of hunters and anglers. In 1972, Richard Nixon signed the first-ever Presidential proclamation of National Hunting and Fishing Day, writing, "I urge all citizens to join with outdoor sportsmen in the wise use of our natural resources and in insuring their proper management for the benefit of future generations."

Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium serves as the officially recognized home of National Hunting and Fishing Day. Located in Springfield, Missouri, within a day's drive of more than half of all Americans, the not-for-profit institution celebrates those who hunt, fish, and act as stewards of the land and water.

National Hunting and Fishing Day is made possible through the sponsorship and generous support of the conservation organizations Congressional Sportsman's Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League, National Shooting Sports Foundation, and Wonders of Wildlife. For additional information about this year's festivities or to get involved, visit www.NHFDay.org.

About Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium

Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium consists of an all-new 1.5-million-gallon Aquarium Adventure showcasing 35,000 live fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds, and immersive Wildlife Galleries that bring visitors eye-to-eye with the greatest collection of record-setting game animals ever assembled. Created by noted conservationist and Bass Pro Shops founder/CEO Johnny Morris, the 350,000-

square-foot experience celebrates those who hunt, fish, and act as stewards of the land and water. Located next to Bass Pro Shops National Headquarters in Springfield, Missouri the campus is a centerpiece of America's Conservation Capital in Missouri's Ozark Mountains. Wonders of Wildlife has been voted "Best New Attraction in America" and "America's Best Aquarium" by the readers of *USA TODAY*. For more information, visit www.wondersofwildlife.org.

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