

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansas, The Natural State, is a special place that has more than 2,400 named lakes and reservoirs larger than five acres that when combined cover more than 600,000 acres within our boundaries; and

WHEREAS: Lakes and ponds are vital resources contributing to the Arkansas way of life and environment, providing sources of recreation, scenic beauty, and habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas lakes are valuable economic resources for the state's businesses, tourism, and municipal governments, and nearly 1.5 million Arkansans depend upon lakes and reservoirs as their source of drinking water; and

WHEREAS: Every year, thousands of Arkansans flock to our clean waters, spending more than 25 million of their recreation days on Arkansas lakes and reservoirs, contributing over \$320 million to Arkansas's economy; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas recognizes the importance of protecting these lakes and ponds for future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim July 2020, as

**LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH**

across the State, and I encourage my fellow citizens to participate in recreation, appreciation, and stewardship activities and enjoy the benefits and scenic beauty of our lakes, ponds, and reservoirs.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, in the year of our Lord 2020.



*Asa Hutchinson*

Asa Hutchinson, Governor