

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

1 WHEREAS, due to economic constraints, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is limited in
2 their ability to purchase additional land for conservation purposes;

3 AND WHEREAS, increased participation in outdoor activities makes it vital to secure undeveloped land
4 for public use;

5 AND WHEREAS, more Conservation Department-designated land would increase opportunity for
6 recreational activities, which may result in increased sale of hunting and fishing permits;

7 AND WHEREAS, various conservation easements are currently in place to protect Missouri's natural
8 resources by limiting future development;

9 AND WHEREAS, tax incentives would be beneficial in encouraging landowners to decide to enter into
10 conservation easements;

11 AND WHEREAS, MDC and their conservation partners have designated priority focus areas
12 (Conservation Opportunity Areas) where conservation easements would be most beneficial to enlarge
13 the public lands network, whereby being the most beneficial to forest, fish, and wildlife resources;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at
15 the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 27th day of February, 2011, supports the introduction
16 of additional incentives to landowners in priority focus areas who are willing to provide access to
17 their property to the public. The easements should contain liability lawsuit waivers for landowners.

18 RESOLUTION SUMMARY – New easements with more incentives would give sportsmen more
19 opportunities to enjoy the Missouri outdoors, and would bring in more revenue to MDC and conserve
20 land for use by future generations.