North American Wildlife Conservation Model

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Conservation has an excellent record of restoring and managing native species for the citizens of Missouri to use and enjoy;

AND WHEREAS, the MDC has developed a plan with citizen input to restore Elk to a defined area;

AND WHEREAS, the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation states that wildlife is held in the public trust and is not owned by any individual or agency, but responsibility and benefits are shared by all, for all to use and enjoy;

AND WHEREAS, the Missouri General Assembly proposes placing ownership with the MDC and holding MDC liable for all damages caused by Elk;

AND WHEREAS, this misguided policy will impact the future management of wildlife;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 27th day of February, 2011, supports elk restoration and the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and strongly opposes legislation that places ownership and liability upon the MDC.

RESOLUTION SUMMARY – Ownership of and liability for wildlife damages is not the responsibility of any agency or individual.