Felt Sole Ban

WHEREAS aquatic invasive species are detrimental to Missouri’s aquatic environment;
AND WHEREAS because of our activities, people are the likely vector for transferring aquatic invasive species;
AND WHEREAS felt sole waders and boots are known to transport invasive species to new bodies of water;
AND WHEREAS felt sole waders and boots can spread aquatic invasive species like the New Zealand mud snail, Zebra mussels and the invasive alga *Didymosphenia geminata* (“Didymo” or “Rock Snot”) currently found in northern Arkansas rivers, posing a threat to Missouri waters;
AND WHEREAS Didymo can cover entire stream beds and significantly affect aesthetics and recreation due to its negative impacts on the native habitat;
AND WHEREAS there are commercially available alternatives to felt waders and boots;
AND WHEREAS felt soles have already been banned in 14 states across the United States of America;
AND WHEREAS the restriction of the use of felt soles in waders and boots would inhibit the spread of Didymo within the state of Missouri;
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 a ban on the use and sale of felt sole waders in Missouri.

RESOLUTION SUMMARY – The Conservation Federation of Missouri supports restricting the use and sale of felt sole waders and boots.