

Felt Sole Ban

1 WHEREAS aquatic invasive species are detrimental to Missouri’s aquatic environment;
2 AND WHEREAS because of our activities, people are the likely vector for transferring aquatic
3 invasive species;
4 AND WHEREAS felt sole waders and boots are known to transport invasive species to new
5 bodies of water;
6 AND WHEREAS felt sole waders and boots can spread aquatic invasive species like the New
7 Zealand mud snail, Zebra mussels and the invasive alga *Didymosphenia geminata* (“Didymo”
8 or “Rock Snot”) currently found in northern Arkansas rivers, posing a threat to Missouri waters;
9 AND WHEREAS Didymo can cover entire stream beds and significantly affect aesthetics and
10 recreation due to its negative impacts on the native habitat;
11 AND WHEREAS there are commercially available alternatives to felt waders and boots;
12 AND WHEREAS felt soles have already been banned in 14 states across the United States of
13 America;
14 AND WHEREAS the restriction of the use of felt soles in waders and boots would inhibit the
15 spread of Didymo within the state of Missouri;
16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri
17 assembled at the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 27th day of February, 2011
18 supports a ban on the use and sale of felt sole waders in Missouri.
19 RESOLUTION SUMMARY – The Conservation Federation of Missouri supports restricting
20 the use and sale of felt sole waders and boots.