

Waterfowl Management Area Party Size Increase

1 **WHEREAS**, current youth hunters are future outdoorsmen;

2 **AND WHEREAS**, mentoring a youth to help them attain experience is preferable to having them learn
3 on their own;

4 **AND WHEREAS**, there were just over 46,000 youth deer/turkey hunting permits sold and just under;
5 510,000 adult deer/turkey permits sold in 2008 with little change (+20,000 in youth and -20,000 in;
6 adults); from then until 2010 as a comparison of numbers of youth to adult hunters;

7 **AND WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri's initiative is to get more youth outdoors;

8 **AND WHEREAS**, the current maximum party size at publically managed waterfowl hunting areas is
9 four people;

10 **AND WHEREAS**, adding the option to have an additional youth in a hunting party would facilitate
11 mentoring more youth hunters in the field;

12 **AND WHEREAS**, mandating that the youth hunter's mentor is a non-shooting observer of the youth;
13 would maintain the current total of four limits per party and eliminates the possibility of party shooting;

14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at
15 the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 26th day of February, 2012, supports an evaluation of
16 methods to increase youth participation in public waterfowl hunting areas to facilitate the increase
17 in youth participation in outdoor activities.