

Support for the Reintroduction of the American Burying Beetle in Southwest Missouri

1 **WHEREAS**, the American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*) is a native, critically endangered
2 species of Missouri and is at a high risk of becoming extinct;

3 **AND WHEREAS**, the beetle has been extirpated from over 90% of its original range;

4 **AND WHEREAS**, the American Burying Beetle is a crucial part in the prairie ecosystem by helping in
5 the process of nutrient cycling and fly control;

6 **AND WHEREAS**, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) along with the Saint Louis Zoo are
7 planning to reintroduce 200 individuals into the Wah’Kon-Tah Prairie owned by The Nature
8 Conservancy in May 2012;

9 **AND WHEREAS**, upon the successful reintroduction, the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM)
10 will support the reintroduction into other suitable habitats in Missouri;

11 **AND WHEREAS**, in order to raise awareness and support of this reintroduction CFM will express its
12 support to USFWS of this reintroduction program;

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at
14 the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 26th day of February, 2012 supports the U.S. Fish and
15 Wildlife Service and the Saint Louis Zoo in the reintroduction of the American Burying Beetle and upon
16 a successful introduction will support the expansion of the project to other suitable habitats in Missouri.