

CFM Supports Public Education on White Nose Syndrome

1 **WHEREAS**, *Geomyces destructans*, the fungus that causes White Nose Syndrome (WNS) has been
2 documented in caves in Pike and Shannon Counties of Missouri;

3 **AND WHEREAS**, WNS is a disease caused by a fungus that is known to have devastating effects on
4 cave hibernating bats;

5 **AND WHEREAS**, many conservation parties have policies on WNS prevention;

6 **AND WHEREAS**, WNS is thought to be transmitted by humans from cave to cave via contaminated
7 gear;

8 **AND WHEREAS**, according to the Missouri Department of Conservation, decontamination of clothing
9 and gear could help prevent further spreading of the fungus;

10 **AND WHEREAS**, the general public of Missouri is uninformed on WNS and needs general
11 information on the fungus and how it affects the ecosystem;

12 **AND WHEREAS**, newspaper articles, magazine articles, and public service announcements on radio as
13 well as television would be ideal ways to reach the public;

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 the continued
16 education of the general public of Missouri about White Nose Syndrome in bats by public agencies and
17 public and private organizations with interest in cave and karst resources.