

**Expansion of Bait Dumping Education**

1     **WHEREAS**, The inappropriate dumping of bait species such as crayfish, minnows, and other bait fish  
2     causes many ecological problems in Missouri waters including competition for food and resources  
3     between endemic and invasive species, introduction of diseases, and habitat destruction; and,

4     **WHEREAS**, Accidental or intentional introduction of non-native species can easily occur;  
5     however, the removal of such species is difficult or impossible; and,

6     **WHEREAS**, Increased education is needed in order to reduce these problems; and,

7     **WHEREAS**, Conservation organizations and agencies currently have some educational  
8     publications addressing these issues; and,

9     **WHEREAS**, The expansion of the educational resources and the audiences they reach would  
10    enhance the knowledge of individuals regarding these issues and their possible solutions; and,

11    **WHEREAS**, A specific presentation of the main issues and possible solutions of bait dumping, and  
12    the proper disposal of unused bait, similar to the new CFM Chronic Wasting Disease informational  
13    card, would be effective in getting key messages out to the public; and,

14    **WHEREAS**, The educational materials could be distributed through avenues such as schools, lake  
15    toll booths, nature centers, stream, river, and lake accesses, bait sellers, and places that sell fishing  
16    licenses: now, therefore, be it

17    **RESOLVED**, That the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel,  
18    Jefferson City, MO, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, supports the expansion and enhancement of  
19    educational materials regarding bait dumping in the state of Missouri.