MDC Implements Facilitating Off Site Option for Missouri Discover Nature Schools Program

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Conservation has developed Missouri Discover Nature Schools to integrate outdoor education into pre-school through grade 12 curriculums; and

WHEREAS, there are school districts in Missouri who have not yet implemented Missouri Discover Nature Programs into their curriculums; and

WHEREAS, Nature Centers are available for school uses but might not be the most convenient for schools who cannot leave campus or choose not to, or for schools without a local Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, the convenience of having equipment and the facilitators to commute to your school or local Missouri State Park would be an option desired by many school districts; and

WHEREAS, this convenience could encourage school districts previously not engaged in the Discover Nature Programs to become engaged; and

WHEREAS, a day dedicated to Discover Nature activities and guided outdoor discovery offers ease in set up and planning as well as an increase in what can be accomplished; and

WHEREAS, involving more programs emphasizes the holistic approach of Discover Nature Schools by connecting several activities and subjects in one experience; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 22nd day of March, 2015, requests that the Missouri Department of Conservation in partnership with Missouri Department of Natural Resources make available a Discover Nature Schools “Field Day” in which a facilitator with equipment commutes to a school or local Missouri State Park to implement the Discover Nature Schools activities through which they can facilitate guided discovery and experiential learning.