

CFM Support of Further Research of Habitat Use During Flood Conditions

1 **WHEREAS**, floods are natural occurrences which promote biological diversity of aquatic and semi-
2 aquatic organisms (fishes, amphibians, reptiles);
3 **AND WHEREAS**, disturbance principles such as flooding have been traditionally applied to
4 understanding biodiversity;
5 **AND WHEREAS**, large floods inundate larger areas and make greater quantities of food and shelter
6 available for fish and other aquatic and semi-aquatic organisms as floodwaters flow over riverbanks;
7 **AND WHEREAS**, certain high levels of river flow are a necessity for maintaining certain breeding
8 substrates for spawning;
9 **AND WHEREAS**, recent unprecedented flood levels should be reviewed to determine how drastic
10 change in habitat affects aquatic and semi-aquatic populations;
11 **AND WHEREAS**, studies and management during future high water conditions would promote faunal
12 and floral biodiversity and monitor impacts of non-native species into and out of the river channel;
13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of Missouri, assembled
14 at the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 26th day of February, 2012 urges the Missouri
15 Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service
16 and the US Army Corps of Engineers to emphasize studies that monitor the effects of floods to
17 Missouri's rivers on floral and faunal biodiversity.