

Committee: Fisheries

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Banning Felt or Porous Soled Shoes and or Boots in all Waters of Missouri

WHEREAS, porous soles are already banned in cold water lakes and streams in Missouri to prevent invasive alga *Didymosphenia geminata* also known as Didymo or rock snot from being introduced; and

WHEREAS, the current ban has been in effect since 2012; and

WHEREAS, invasive aquatic species can still be introduced in warm water systems from porous sole footwear; and

WHEREAS, porous soled shoes or boots can result in a possible spread of invasive aquatic species such as New Zealand Mud Snails, Zebra Mussels and *Hydrilla* in Missouri's waterways; and

WHEREAS, banning felt or porous soles would limit potential negative impacts upon the aquatic ecosystems; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 20th day of March, 2016, should encourage the Missouri Department of Conservation to expand its existing regulation to ban porous soled shoes and boots in all waters in Missouri.