

MAR 27 2006



Matt Blunt, Governor • Doyle Childers, Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

www.dnr.mo.gov

MAR 23 2006

Mr. David W. Murphy, Executive Director
Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101-1559

Dear Mr. Murphy:

We have received your correspondence of March 9, 2006 and we have reviewed the attached resolutions (#17 and #20) that resulted from the Federation's annual meeting in Lake Ozark. Our responses to these two resolutions are as follows:

Resolution #17: Sand and Gravel Mining

The department had reservations about the original version of HB 1761 and has worked with the sponsor to address many of our concerns in order to protect water quality. We firmly believe that streams left to natural processes over a period of hundreds of years can return to a stable state. However, because human activity has contributed to the buildup of gravel that has choked the natural pools and riffles which historically occurred in Missouri streams, we also support human intervention which can help restore streams to a more attractive habitat for fisheries and improved water quality.

Resolution #20: National Heritage Status for the Confluence Area

The department agrees that the Confluence area possesses great historical and natural resource value. This belief and our commitment is demonstrated by acquisition and development of the "Ted" and Pat Jones Confluence Point State Park in 2001. We applaud any actions that would make this resource accessible for public use for generations to come.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit responses on these two resolutions.

Respectfully,

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doyle Childers".

Doyle Childers
Director