

Resource Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval w/ Amendment
Resolution Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval w/ Amendment
Approval by CFM Delegates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval w/ Amendment

Committee: Ecology, Environment and Energy
 Author: CLC

#12

Increase Efforts to Reduce Habitat Fragmentation

1 WHEREAS Missouri landowners want to see an improvement in the habitat of wildlife in Missouri;

2 AND WHEREAS, individual landowners manage their property the way they see fit;

3 AND WHEREAS, groups of neighboring properties may not all have the same management plans in

4 place;

5 AND WHEREAS, this individualistic approach to wildlife management can create habitat fragmentation

6 across a landscape;

7 AND WHEREAS, fragmentation of the habitat is the separation of a landscape into various

8 land-uses, for example development, agriculture, etc., resulting in numerous small, disjunct habitat

9 patches left for use by wildlife;

10 AND WHEREAS, fragmentation eliminates habitat for those species requiring large unbroken tracts

11 of habitat;

12 AND WHEREAS, the small habitat patches resulting from fragmentation often do not provide the food

13 and cover resources for many species that attempt to use them;

14 AND WHEREAS, this can result in an increased risk of death by predation, if the animal has to

15 venture beyond the cover of the patch to find new food resources;

16 AND WHEREAS, populations of predators such as raccoons, foxes, coyotes, house cats, and crows

17 tend to increase in fragmented landscapes;

18 AND WHEREAS, high predator populations, coupled with small habitat patches that are easily

19 penetrated, makes death by predation quite probably for many species;

20 AND WHEREAS, this is one of the factors thought to be contributing to the decline of neotropical

21 migrant songbirds and other forest species in our eastern temperate forests;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at
23 the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 23rd day of February, 2008, recommends that the
24 Missouri Department of Conservation focus efforts to reduce habitat fragmentation across the state.

25 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Missouri Department of Conservation be encouraged to
26 work with United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to
27 bring landowners together to form contiguous tracts of land with management plans that will contribute
28 to creating continuous habitat the will provide wildlife with adequate cover and food resources to
29 survive at a rate of greater than their predation.