



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192

In Reply Refer To:
Mail Stop 300
GS18000836

MAY 25 2018

Mr. Brandon Butler
Executive Director
Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear Mr. Butler:

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 2018, sharing the Conservation Federation of Missouri's recent resolution titled "Protect the Cooperative Research Units." The Cooperative Research Units have had a long history of conservation achievements, serving Federal, state, and private interests in this country through research and technical guidance, and developing the conservation workforce of the future. The Department has proposed in the 2019 Congressional Budget Justification to discontinue the Cooperative Research Units in order to focus on other priorities. We greatly appreciate your interest in the Department of the Interior's programs and activities, and will endeavor to maintain our strong partnerships with our state and Federal partners.

Thank you again for your letter. Should you have questions, please contact Anne Kinsinger, USGS Associate Director for Ecosystems, at 703-648-4051 or akinsinger@usgs.gov.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Kinsinger
Associate Director for Ecosystems

UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES

July 6, 2018

Mr. Brandon Butler, Executive Director
Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: Conservation Federation of Missouri 2018 Resolution #2018-8

Dear Brandon:

Thank you very much for bringing the resolution #2018-8 to my attention as well as to Dean Daubert's. We appreciate the efforts of a group of the CFM members led by Mr. Greg Pitchford, Mr. Tom Priesendorf, Ms. Emily Tracy-Smith and Mr. Mark Zurbrick in leading the charge and passing the resolution on "Restoration of Fisheries Professors at Missouri's Universities". As the administrative head of the School of Natural Resources that offers undergraduate and graduate programs in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, and the Vice Chancellor and Dean of the College of Agriculture Food and Natural Resources, we fully understand the concerns expressed in the resolution. University of Missouri is a major land grant university involved in training the future aquatic professionals and conducting relevant aquatic research; however, it is true that the recent budget cuts have substantially reduced our ability to do so in the state of Missouri.

We have been working diligently with our stakeholders, including appropriate state agencies that share the same vision, to resolve the current situation, i.e., our inability to fill vacancies on our own, for the past one year. We are exploring a partnership model that we hope will help us fill necessary vacancies. We remain optimistic that together with our partners and through our shared vision we can restore some of these faculty positions in the future. We take this opportunity to thank you and your membership for their continued support of the School of Natural Resources.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shibu Jose
Professor and Director
The School of Natural Resources





Growing Our Communities Together

Dan Ross
Executive Director

Matthew Robinson
Mayor, Hazelwood
President

Chris Lievsay
Council Member, Blue Springs
Vice President

Kathleen Rose
Mayor, Riverside
Past President

May 22, 2018

Brandon Butler
Executive Director
Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101-1559

RE: Damaging Effects of Balloon Releases

Dear Mr. Butler:

The Missouri Municipal League applauds and supports Conservation Federation of Missouri efforts to raise awareness of and to reduce the amount of hazardous debris from balloon releases in Missouri.

We look forward to receiving additional information on this matter through your public awareness campaign.

Sincerely,

Missouri Municipal League

Dan Ross
Executive Director