

MINNESOTA CONSERVATION FEDERATION
ANNUAL MEETING

September 14, 2014

Resolution #2

Deerwood, Minnesota

Better Public Awareness & Education and Stronger Enforcement of Minnesota Public
Ditch Law Regarding Mowing Restrictions and Habitat Protection

WHEREAS, Minnesota maintains 135,500 miles of state, county, city, and township
roads most with ditches, and

WHEREAS, state law allows for the mowing of ditches up to eight feet into the right of
way at any time of the year, and

WHEREAS, state law allows for the mowing of the entire right of way for one month
starting August 1,

WHEREAS, the grassy ditches provide much needed habitat for wildlife nesting and
chick raising for pheasants, ducks, geese, and song birds, and

WHEREAS, our grassy ditches provide needed habitat for bees and other pollinators as
your farmed acres of grasses continues to decline.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Minnesota Conservation Federation
meeting at its annual meeting in Deerwood, Minnesota on September 14, encourage state
and local units of government to provide stronger public awareness of the benefits for
limiting hay mowing in order to provide the best opportunity for birds, bees, and other
wildlife to use this valuable habitat in order to rear and raise their young,

ABD BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MCF encourages state and local
government leaders to work together to require stronger enforcement of the non-haying
laws of the state.

Submitted by Conrad Botz