

MEDIA RELEASE

CONTACT: R. THOMAS VAN ARSDALL (540) 785-0949

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COEVOLUTION INSTITUTE CALLS FOR “POLLINATION” OF PUBLIC LANDS NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON, DC –The Coevolution Institute (CoE) recommended that existing natural resource management programs for public lands be strengthened to better address pollinator and pollinator habitat needs in comments filed at today’s oversight hearing convened during National Pollinator Week by the House Natural Resources Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans Subcommittee, chaired by Representative Madeleine Bordallo. The Natural Resources Committee has jurisdiction over federal natural resource agencies that are responsible for managing over 600 million acres of public lands—over one-fourth of total U.S. acreage. CoE’s full *statement can be accessed at* <http://pollinator.org>.

“Insect and other animal pollinators are at risk due to habitat losses and other problems,” said Laurie Davies Adams, CoE Executive Director. “Modest but effective changes in natural resource management programs for public lands can be highly effective in benefiting pollinators and the wildlife ecosystems that depend on them.”

Selected pollinator-wildlife fact sheets—ranging from sage grouse, to songbirds, to bears, to invasive species—are available under the “Public Lands” section at <http://www.pollinator.org/resources.htm>. Each includes practical steps that can be taken to help both pollinators and their dependent wildlife species.

“These pollinator-wildlife fact sheets help put a real face on why pollinators are important to the ‘larger’ species we typically think of as wildlife,” said Adams.

CoE partnerships with federal agencies continue to grow. To date, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service have each signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CoE. This Thursday, during National Pollinator Week, the Bureau of Land Management and CoE will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The U.S. Geological Survey, which cosponsored the NAS study on pollinators, is working toward an MOU with CoE. On the private lands side of the equation, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and CoE will be signing an MOU on June 27.

“Each of these agreements and partnerships represents a commitment to working together for the benefit of pollinators,” said Adams. “By the end of National Pollinator Week, our partnership efforts with federal agencies will cover over half of the land in the United States. That represents a great deal of potential benefit for pollinators and pollinator habitat.”

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BEE Part of National Pollinator Week, June 24-30, 2007. Events are occurring in our Nation’s capitol and throughout the country to celebrate and raise public awareness about our pollinating partners and the need to take actions that protect pollinators and their habitat. For more information, go to <http://www.pollinator.org>.

The mission of CoE is to catalyze stewardship of biodiversity. CoE places a high priority on efforts to protect and enhance animal pollinators (invertebrates, birds and mammals) and their habitats in both working and wild lands. More information about CoE may be accessed at <http://www.coevolution.org>. CoE facilitates the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), a tri-national collaboration working to promote awareness and scientific understanding of pollinators; gather, organize and disseminate information about pollinators; provide a forum to identify and discuss pollinator issues; and promote projects, initiatives and activities that enhance pollinators. For more information about NAPPC, go to <http://www.nappc.org>.

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