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Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission Presents Top Conservation Award *Kentucky Life Program Honored*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 8, 2011) – The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC) today presented its highest honor to Kentucky Educational Television (KET) and its “Kentucky Life” program.

KSNPC’s Biological Diversity Protection Award, which was presented during its year-end meeting, recognizes a person, persons or organization that has made a significant contribution to the discovery and protection of Kentucky’s biological diversity.

Since its inception, Kentucky Life has been concerned with biodiversity, but more recently it has become less place-oriented and more species- and awareness-oriented, focusing a series of segments on specific threats to Kentucky’s biodiversity.

“We’ve seen species of colorful fishes that would rival the beauty of those found in coral reefs; we’ve seen the threat that invasive species of plants have on ecosystems and wildlife across the state; and we’ve discovered why Kentucky has the amazing diversity it does and why it must be protected,” says the series producer, Brandon Wickey. Wickey, along with the series host, Dave Shuffett, accepted the commission’s award on behalf of KET.

Kentucky Life has featured the state’s biodiversity and amazing natural areas since it began in 1995. Many of these programs have spotlighted the lands, staff and conservation mission of KSNPC. A link to nearly 30 Kentucky Life programs was recently created and can be viewed online from the KSNPC website: <http://naturepreserves.ky.gov/aboutus/Pages/videos.aspx>.

To learn more about the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission visit the website at <http://naturepreserves.ky.gov>.

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