



## NATIONAL COALITION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Media Advisory

### **WHO'S WATCHING OUT FOR WILDLIFE?**

*"The Endangered Species Act: Interfacing with Agricultural and Natural Ecosystems"*

**Washington, DC** – October 15, 2009 – The sometimes-controversial intersections between agriculture and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) are the subject of the ninth 2009 National C-FAR "Lunch~N~Learn" Hill Seminar on Monday, October 19, from 12:00–12:55 p.m. in 1302 Longworth House Office Building. The featured speaker is Ms. Bernalyn McGaughey, Compliance Services International, Lakewood, Washington.

"Legal and administrative modifications to the ESA have failed to remove the dissensions this law seems to evoke," according to McGaughey. "In some instances, these differences arise because the public may not understand or appreciate fully the relationships between land uses and listed species, the rigor of regulatory programs such as the registration process for pesticides, or the implications of no management (e.g., proliferation of an invasive species if herbicides are not used). In other words, the system is not working."

"This presentation is an excellent example of how federally funded food and agriculture research and extension can produce the scientific outcomes and outreach needed to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges and opportunities, both today and in the future," said Joseph H. Layton, Jr., President of the National Coalition for Food & Agricultural Research (National C-FAR).

**Bernalyn McGaughey** provides corporate executive oversight to Compliance Services International and has an extensive regulatory background. She has over 30 years of data evaluation, chemical research, study monitoring, and project management experience in areas related to agriculture, pesticides, and endangered and invasive species. Ms. McGaughey chaired the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) Task Force for CAST Commentary QTA2009-2, *The Endangered Species Act: Interfacing with Agricultural and Natural Ecosystems*.

The seminar is open to the public and the media.

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**NATIONAL C-FAR** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based, and *customer-led* coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research and extension community, serving as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, extension, and education. National C-FAR's Hill Seminar Series regularly presents leading-edge researchers working to provide answers to pressing issues confronting the public and Congress. The Hill Seminar Series helps demonstrate the value of public investment in food and agricultural research—investment that returns 45 percent per year on average. Go to [http://www.ncfar.org/Hill\\_Seminar\\_Series.asp](http://www.ncfar.org/Hill_Seminar_Series.asp) for more information about the seminar series and past topics. Interviews with National C-FAR President Joseph H. Layton, Jr. are available by request. For additional information, go to [www.ncfar.org](http://www.ncfar.org); or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at [tom@vanarsdall.com](mailto:tom@vanarsdall.com) or (703) 509-4746.

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