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PRESS RELEASE

September 30, 2004

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Combined Federal Campaign Fundraising Drive Accepts NatureServe

Arlington, Virginia — The Combined Federal Campaign, the annual fundraising drive conducted by federal employees in their workplace each fall, has added NatureServe to its list of eligible charities for the upcoming 2004 campaign. NatureServe joins more than 3,000 other non-profit charities nationwide that have met the strict requirements for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, or CFC. Employees of federal agencies can now make their donations to NatureServe in the most convenient way possible—through direct payroll deductions.

“We’re pleased to be a part of the CFC and we appreciate receiving the financial support of federal employees,” said Christine Iffrig, NatureServe’s director of development. “For those seeking to support an environmental organization that pursues conservation in a way that emphasizes objective science, not advocacy or confrontation, NatureServe is an excellent choice.”

The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee-focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all. Federal employees and military personnel made a total of nearly \$250 million in charitable gifts to non-profit organizations through the CFC last year.

NatureServe and its network of natural heritage programs are a leading source for information about the species and ecosystems of the United States, Canada, and Latin America. NatureServe works in close partnership with many federal agencies involved with conservation issues, including the U.S. Geological Survey, the USDA Forest Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Federal employees wishing to make a donation to NatureServe should mark #2682 on their CFC pledge cards. All contributions to NatureServe are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. More information about the CFC is available online at <http://www.opm.gov/cfc/index.asp>.

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NatureServe is a non-profit conservation group dedicated to providing the scientific information and technology needed to guide effective conservation action. NatureServe represents a network of 75 natural heritage programs and conservation data centers in the United States, Canada, and Latin America that collect and analyze information on plants, animals, and ecosystems. NatureServe is a leading source for detailed scientific information about rare and endangered species and threatened ecosystems. Visit us online at www.natureserve.org.