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Press Release

**CEDO WINS MEXICO'S TOP ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD
FOR 27-YEAR EFFORT TO PROTECT GULF OF CALIFORNIA**

Contact: Peggy Turk, 520-320-5473; 520-615-7767 or 520-419-7094, cellphone.

Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico, Monday, Nov. 26 – CEDO is the 2007 winner of Mexico's prestigious National Conservation of Nature Award in the nongovernmental organizations category, the organization announced today.

The award recognizes intercultural research and conservation work by CEDO, formally known as the Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans, for 27 years in the Northern Gulf of California and across the region.

CEDO, which is on the beach one hour south of the U.S.-Mexico border in Puerto Peñasco, or Rocky Point, is a popular destination for tourists from throughout the world and for schoolchildren and college-level researchers from the United States and Mexico.

The other prize winners are in Mexico's business, research and social sectors.

Next Tuesday, the award will be presented at a ceremony in La Paz on Mexico's National Conservation Day, Nov. 27, Peggy J. Turk Boyer, CEDO's Executive Director announced today.

"We are absolutely thrilled to receive this honor. As everyone knows, there are a lot of challenges in conservation today. It is very gratifying to know that our efforts, although sometimes controversial, are appreciated by authorities at the national level in Mexico." Turk said from Tucson, Arizona., where CEDO has a U.S. office.

In Rocky Point, Alejandro Castillo, the subdirector of CEDO A.C., said, "CEDO has worked hard to educate the community about the importance of conservation. It has worked with fishermen and oyster growers to find sustainable livelihoods. This kind of recognition for CEDO helps us sustain this hard work."

CEDO's work is described at its Web site, www.cedointercultural.org.

CEDO, the Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans, is a nonprofit natural history resource center and biological field station, located in Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico, where the Sonoran Desert meets the Sea of Cortez. CEDO, which began its work in 1980, serves the many cultures and users of its bioregion.

CEDO develops and implements research, conservation and environmental education programs that enhance the protection of these ecosystems. CEDO's mission is to advance and share knowledge about the Upper Gulf of California and surrounding Sonoran Desert and promote conservation and sustainable use of its natural and cultural resources.

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