



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - December 2009

CONTACT: Jim Sluiter, Staff Ecologist
(518) 767-9051, Ext. 116

jsluiter@auduboninternational.org

www.auduboninternational.org

Kierland Golf Club Recognized for Environmental Excellence

SCOTTSDALE, AZ – Kierland Golf Club has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, an Audubon International program. Kierland Golf Club is the 12th course in Arizona and the 797th in the world to receive the honor.

"Kierland Golf Club has shown a strong commitment to its environmental program. They are to be commended for their efforts to provide a sanctuary for wildlife on the golf course property," said Jim Sluiter, Staff Ecologist for the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Programs.

"To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas," explained Sluiter. These categories include: Environmental Planning, Wildlife & Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Chemical Use Reduction and Safety, Water Conservation, and Water Quality Management.

"We are extremely proud to be recognized by the Audubon International for our efforts and commitment to preserve our local wildlife and environment," said Nancy Dickens, CGCS, Director of Agronomy at Kierland Golf Club at The Westin Kierland Resort & Spa. "Becoming a 'Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary' golf course is a huge step towards our commitment to improving the way we work as we continue to strive to be greener."

The Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, endorsed by the United States Golf Association, provides information and guidance to help golf courses preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, and protect natural resources. Golf courses from Canada, Africa, Australia, Central America, Europe, Mexico, and Southeast Asia have also achieved certification in the program.

For more information on golf and the environment, visit www.golfandenvironment.org. In addition to golf courses, Audubon International also provides programs for businesses, schools, communities, and new developments. For more information, contact Audubon International, 46 Rarick Rd., Selkirk, NY 12158, USA, (518) 767-9051, e-mail them via the Internet at acsp@auduboninternational.org, or visit their website at www.auduboninternational.org.

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