



Department of the Interior  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
6010 Hidden Valley Road  
Carlsbad, California 92011  
Phone: 760/431-9440  
Fax: 760/431-9618

FOR RELEASE: February 13, 2008

CONTACT: Jane Hendron, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – 760/431-9440 ext. 205

## Service Designates Critical Habitat for Nevin's Barberry Plant

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published in today's *Federal Register* a final rule designating approximately six acres of land as critical habitat for the federally endangered plant Nevin's barberry, located in Riverside County, California. All lands designated as critical habitat are managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service's Cleveland National Forest. The final designation will become effective on March 14, 2008.

Of the 173 acres that do contain features essential to the conservation of Nevin's barberry, the Service is excluding approximately 167 acres of private lands because they are covered by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

For the six acres designated as critical habitat, the final economic analysis estimates impacts solely attributable to the designation to be \$5,000 (present value at a three percent discount rate).

Acreage totals in this final critical habitat rule are less than what was estimated in the February 2007 critical habitat proposed rule and October 17, 2007, revised proposed rule. The acreage reduction is due to new biological information and the use of a more refined mapping technique.

Copies of the final rule, economic analysis and other information about Nevin's barberry are available on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or <http://www.fws.gov/Carlsbad/NevinsBarberry.htm>. For questions about the final rule, please contact the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office at 760-431-9440.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).