



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

**Steven L. Beshear, Governor**

**Len Peters, Secretary**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Brent Frazier  
(502) 573-2886**

### **Addition to River Cliffs State Nature Preserve announced *Added acreage protects endangered plant***

FRANKFORT, KY. (Nov. 5, 2009) – The Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC) recently purchased a 98.5-acre tract as an addition to the River Cliffs State Nature Preserve (SNP) in Franklin County. The new tract will be dedicated during the commission's year-end business meeting on Dec. 10. The acreage was acquired to protect habitat for Braun's rockcress (*Arabis perstellata*), a federally endangered plant species. The geographical range of Braun's rockcress is limited to Franklin, Owen and Henry counties along the Kentucky River and Rutherford County in Tennessee. The commission's goal is to protect this important habitat from future modifications that could result in the loss of a unique Kentucky resource. This new tract brings the total acreage protected in the River Cliffs SNP to 210. Access to River Cliffs SNP is by written permission only.

KSNPC's mission is to protect Kentucky's natural heritage by identifying, acquiring and managing natural areas that represent the best-known occurrences of rare native species, natural communities and significant natural features in a statewide nature preserve system; protecting biological diversity; and educating Kentuckians as to the value and purpose of nature preserves and biodiversity conservation.

The addition was purchased using Heritage Land Conservation Funds financed by proceeds from nature license plates. You can help by purchasing a plate for an additional \$10 when you register your car, light truck or SUV. Money from the sale of the plate goes into a fund for purchasing natural areas to be left as wild places held in trust for future generations. Nature plates offer the images of a hummingbird, dragonflies and Cumberland Falls.