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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Yosemite National Institutes Honors
Morgan Lewis for *Pro Bono* Legal Work**

Sausalito, CA – Yosemite National Institutes (YNI) announced today that it has honored Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP for its extensive *pro bono* legal services on behalf of the non-profit organization. At a ceremony held at Morgan Lewis' San Francisco office earlier this month, YNI paid tribute to the law firm for its significant role in helping the Institutes fulfill its mission of connecting young people to the natural world.

Since its founding in 1971, YNI has partnered with the National Park Service in reaching out to over 500,000 children, including those in underserved communities, to provide state-of-the-art environmental education programs in three national parks: Yosemite, Olympic, and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. YNI recently received its own tribute when it was presented with the 2004 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award, California's highest and most prestigious environmental honor.

Morgan Lewis has contributed to YNI's success by providing counsel and guidance on a wide range of legal issues, including employment, corporate governance, and intellectual property. **Tracy Thompson**, of counsel in the firm's San Francisco office, serves on the Institutes' Board of Directors and heads the team of Morgan Lewis lawyers providing legal services to YNI.

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At the ceremony honoring Morgan Lewis, **Dan Flanagan**, President and CEO of YNI, and **Heidi Brown**, Chair of YNI, cited the dedication and commitment of the law firm's attorneys and staff in supporting the Institutes, and presented the firm with a framed photograph of Yosemite Falls by the late well-known photographer **Galen Rowell**, who had served for many years on YNI's Board. "The gift is a fitting tribute to Galen's memory and an evocative reminder of YNI's mission to inspire in young people a personal connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it," said Flanagan.

Accepting the gift on behalf of Morgan Lewis, San Francisco Managing Partner **Franklin Brockway (Brock) Gowdy** highlighted YNI's mission of inspiring in the leaders of tomorrow a feeling of stewardship for the world around them. He concluded his remarks with a quote from a young YNI student: "I never realized how interconnected I am to the people around me and to nature around me. I want to be a better caretaker, not just a taker."

Morgan Lewis continues to support Yosemite National Institutes and its mission through *pro bono* legal work. In addition to Tracy Thompson, Morgan Lewis partner **Anthony Garvin** has been selected to serve on the Board of Directors of Olympic Park Institute, YNI's Washington State Campus; and associate **Robert Rugani** has been asked to serve on the Board of Directors of the Headlands Institute, YNI's campus in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

For more information on YNI and its programs, please contact Kasha Frese, Marketing Manager at Yosemite National Institutes, (415) 332-5776, ext. 13. For more information on Morgan Lewis' work with YNI, please contact Carla Zuber, Director of West Coast Marketing at Morgan Lewis, (415) 442-1611.

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About Yosemite National Institutes

Founded in 1971, Yosemite National Institutes (YNI) is a national organization dedicated

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to inspiring a personal connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. YNI has three campuses: Yosemite National Institute in Yosemite National Park, Headlands Institute in the Marin Headlands in Northern California, and Olympic Park Institute in Olympic National Park in Washington. More than 500 public and private schools (grades K-12) attend YNI's residential field-science programs. YNI also offers teacher trainings, community outreach programs, summer backpacking adventures and adult and family field courses. **For more information about YNI programs, visit www.yni.org.**

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