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'Wrap with care, save the polar bear:' Animal rights group giving away endangered species condoms

By Steve Doyle December 20, 2013

TUCSON, Arizona - The Center for Biological Diversity has come up with a unique - and slightly risqué - way to call attention to the dangers of human population growth.

The nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of endangered animals says it will hand out 25,000 free "endangered species condoms" in all 50 states over the holidays. The colorful packaging features six different animals faced with possible extinction, along with a tongue-in-cheek slogan:

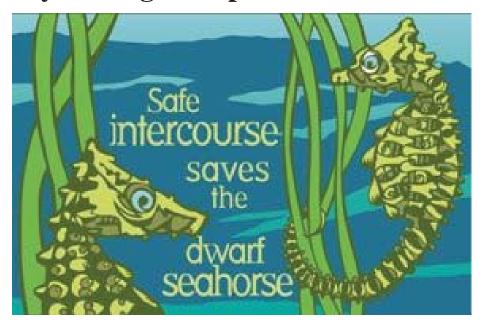
"Wrap with care ... save the polar bear."

"Safe intercourse saves the dwarf seahorse."

"Don't go bare ... panthers are rare."

"Be a savvy lover ... protect the snowy plover."

"In the sack? Save the leatherback."



The Center for Biological Diversity is giving away 25,000 free "endangered species condoms" over the holidays. (Design by Lori Lieber, artwork by Roger Peet)

"When you're feeling tender ... think about the hellbender."

The hellbender is North America's largest amphibian. The western snowy plover is a small shorebird.

The Center for Biological Diversity said in a new release this week that an army of volunteers will be giving away the condoms at holiday parties, churches, medical offices, skate parks, yoga studios and other places.

"The Earth's population now tops 7 billion people, and that has a huge impact on wildlife, climate and the resources we all need to survive," said Taralynn Reynolds, the center's population and sustainability organizer. "These are big issues that need to be talked about, and the Endangered Species Condoms give people a fun, unique way to start the conversation."

More than 200,000 people are added to the planet every

day, and the Earth's population is expected to near 10 billion by 2050. The center says that means destruction of more wildlife habitat and worsening pollution.

"The good news is that solutions are available," said Reynolds. "Universal access to birth control and family planning, and education and the empowerment of women and girls leads to healthier babies, healthier moms and a healthier planet."