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THE WHITE HOUSE

Kathleen McGinty

To all Staff:
This is the
Americrip staff
I referred to.
It's expressive;
we should
use it. L

John Under
Americrip
Mike

Mr. Ke

Memorandum

To: Rick Allen
From: Brian Trelstad *B*
Re: Vice President's Remarks
Date: October 5, 1994

As I mentioned to you last week, I attended the League of Conservation Voters dinner at the Century Club in New York City, where the Vice President spoke. In a short speech, he attempted to cover some of the administration's strongest environmental accomplishments. He mentioned several different initiatives, but not National Service.

Given the strength of the Corporation's environmental programs, it seemed to me to be a glaring oversight. In fact, relative to some of the other things mentioned, the 6,000 AmeriCorps Members performing direct and demonstrable environmental service is a staggering accomplishment.

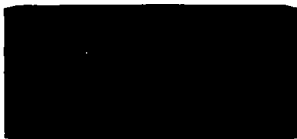
I think it would benefit both the Corporation and the Vice President if we brought his--and the Office of Environmental Policy--up to date about the Corporation's commitment to environmental service.

Bob Lehrman & Katie McGrath;
we're in line to brief the VP
about all of our work, but we've
got particular strength on
environmental matters, as the attached
indicates (and it doesn't even give
adequate coverage to the National
Civilian Community Corps -- where the
Deputy, Sarah Whitman, is a friend of
the VP's. Earthwatch's Ex-Chief Scientist
Dr. David Silverberg is the Project
Specialist; and half of all projects are
in the environment), how can we best
work into your material?

Rick Allen 606-5000 ext. 157

• At Days Cove in Gunpowder Falls State Park, an elaborate four-component effort is underway. 1) At a building serving the cove area, corps members are assisting in installing a computer system and an environmental reference and research library, to be used by the thousands of school children who visit the site every year. 2) Corps members will help to develop a curriculum for youngsters studying environmental impacts in the park. 3) They also will study means to make the park more accessible to the handicapped. 4) Finally, participants are working on improving existing and establishing new foot trails, observation platforms, wildlife feeding areas, wildflower meadows, windbreaks and an outdoor amphitheater.

• At Leakin Park in Baltimore, corps members are working to develop grass-roots neighborhood organizations that will "adopt" the park, then help maintain and clean it; maintain and improve trails, bridges and erosion control structures; plant trees, reintroduce wildlife into the park and identify and monitor threatened animal and plant species; monitor water quality and identify polluters; maintain surveillance of chronic dump sites and educate the public about the hazards of waste dumping; and perform myriad other tasks.



Core the
National

State Park

Corporation for National Service

Environmental Programs

Fall 1994

The Corporation for National Service has a diversity of environmental projects within its three major program areas that will continue to keep national service at the cutting edge of environmental protection. From the grants that we made to the programs that we operate, the Corporation is providing the opportunity for over 6,000 AmeriCorps Members to engage in work in pollution prevention and natural conservation. In addition to the full time AmeriCorps Members, thousands of Americans--young and young in spirit--will learn about the importance of fostering a new generation of environmental citizens capable of being stewards for the planet into the next millennium.

While the Corporation is pleased with this year's environmental programs, the staff is still seeking to refine our environmental priorities. In the coming year, we hope to shift the neighborhood environment priority from pollution prevention to a more comprehensive approach to environmental and community development, with a stronger connection between the built and natural environments, cultural and ecological restoration. Many of our programs have substantial in-house environmental expertise; others have staff skilled at managing teams of energetic young people, but need the support of local and national environmental experts to refine their environmental objectives. In the enclosed program descriptions you will find many outstanding project ideas; others have greater potential, but still need some further development.

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps*USA and AmeriCorps*NCCC lead the Corporation in getting things done to protect the nation's urban and natural resources. In AmeriCorps*USA alone, close to 5,000 AmeriCorps Members will work on projects from low-income home weatherization to urban gardens, trail maintenance to critical data collection throughout in national parks and refuges. At the 4 National Civilian Community Corps campuses, nearly 1,000 AmeriCorps Members work on projects ranging from fighting forest fires to restoring historical landmarks. Detailed program descriptions are included.

Learn and Serve America

Within Learn and Serve, environmental protection is an integral component of the service learning activities on which 104 grantees K through 12 programs and 116 grantees Higher Education programs will work. A number of the K through 12 programs may become inaugural members of the Vice President's GLOBE program, taking air and water samples and sharing their findings with over 200 elementary schools throughout the world. In the

AmeriCorps*USA National Direct Programs

The following programs represent all of the environmental programs in the National Non-Profit and Federal Agency pool. For further information contact Meg Maguire or Brian Trelstad.

National Non-Profit Programs

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs

72 Members

AmeriCorps Members will train migrant and seasonal farmworkers on how to reduce exposure to pesticides and improve farmworkers' access to other health, education and supportive services. After extensive training at the national and state level, participants will work out of the extension offices of the American Farmworker Opportunity Programs. Working with other staff who provide different services to migrant farmworkers, each Member will first train the seasonal farmworkers and then migrant farmworkers as they pass through the region. There will be a heavy emphasis on bi-lingual education and many farmworker youth will be AmeriCorps Members. *Rural sites in 11 states: AR, CA, IL, IA, KS, ME, MD, MO, MT, OH, OK*

Environmental Careers Organization

25 Members

The Technical Advisor Program for Toxics Use Reduction (TAPTUR) is a model program to recruit, train and place retired scientists and engineers in nonprofit and community organizations involved in reducing industrial toxics. The AmeriCorps participants assist environmental groups by interacting with companies, interpreting technical information and documents, conducting educational workshops in the community, and performing non-regulatory facility assessments to identify toxic use reduction opportunities. *Sites in 13 states: MA, PA, IN, MN, CA, NY, OK, IL, DC, OH, NC and WA*

Neighborhood Green Corps

55 Members

The Neighborhood Green Corps will have 55 Members in 5 person-teams in 11 urban locations who will work over the year with community groups, municipal and state agencies and local volunteers to complete 3 outcome-oriented environmental service projects: low-income home weatherization; lead paint abatement; and, urban community gardening. Their highly specific objectives and the strong partnerships with local community-based organizations make this an attractive urban environmental service program for college-educated students.

12 Urban Sites: Boston, New Haven, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington, Portland, Sacramento, San Jose, San Francisco,, and Los Angeles.

Navajo Nation

120 Members

The Navajo Nation has established the Navajo Nation Youth Conservation Corps (NNYCC) as a multi-state, year-round program. The Corps will have six teams who work with local elders, community organizations and government agencies, "at-risk" youth and in-school youth to plan, implement and complete priority community projects in ecosystem-based watershed resources restoration and community revitalization. Participants will assess and document resources, conditions and needs of the following interrelated components of watershed ecosystems: parks and natural areas, range lands, farmlands, community environment, forest and wildlife, and water. Participants will also work with local school teachers to integrate selected natural resources projects with classes taught in schools (K-12). This program integrates Western and traditional Native technologies to address compelling community needs. *Rural sites in 3 states: NM, AZ and UT*

Northwest Service Academy

91 Members

The Northwest Service Academy grew from a bi-state partnership of schools, natural resource agencies and local community organizations to engage residents in the heart of the Pacific Northwest with hands-on service projects that meet critical environmental and community needs. Academy members working from separate centers will spend 11 months on watershed

Department of Navy--Seaborne Conservation Corps

100 Members

The Department of the Navy is sponsoring the Seaborne Conservation Corps (SCC), a 9-month residential program that will perform direct environmental service in the Galveston Bay. The SCC will be based on a ship at Texas A & M University--Galveston. In addition to working on the critical environmental needs identified by the Galveston Bay Plan, the participants will receive a GED and job skills needed to work in the marine industry. After their term of service, participants will be paired with members of the community in a mentorship program designed to move 90% of the participants into full-time employment within a year. The Navy plans to operate 4 nine-month cycles over 3 years including 100 part-time AmeriCorps Members in each program (annualized to 67 FTE's). If the model is successful, the Navy plans on replicating similar programs for at-risk youth at other military installations. *One site in Galveston Bay*

Department of Transportation

60 Members

The Department of Transportation is looking at neighborhood environment, community revitalization, and independent living projects in 3 different cities. The program will work with existing youth corps to: 1) convert abandoned railway right-of-ways to recreational nature trails in southern Washington state; 2) rehabilitate and beautify transportation facilities and to assist the independent living elderly population in the Sandtown-Winchester section of Baltimore; and 3) increase independent living among elderly and disabled populations by assisting them to use public transportation to and from medical facilities in Washington, DC. *3 sites in: WA, DC, and MD.*

Environmental Protection Agency

135 Members

The Environmental Protection Agency has submitted a comprehensive neighborhood environment program that would place 116 AmeriCorps participants in 10 sites across the country. The EPA AmeriCorps participants would focus on improving disadvantaged neighborhoods through cutting edge environmental justice programs. The individual programs also fit in with EPA's agency-wide effort to move each of its divisions from a regulatory role into a human and environmental service role. ~~The work they would be doing would range from~~ urban stream restoration projects in Washington, Atlanta, Newark, Oakland and Seattle; well-water protection and health education in El Paso and along the US-Mexico border; solid waste management in Native Villages in Alaska; energy conservation in Oregon's public schools; and comprehensive urban environmental programs in partnership with City Year in Boston and Providence. *Sites in 10 states: TX, DC, GA, NJ, CA, WA, AK, OR, MA, and RI*

AmeriCorps*USA State Programs

The following programs are a representative sampling of the grants made through the state commissions which will perform environmental service. A number of programs have a broad focus and have attempted to provide comprehensive services to a specific geographic region. Others have a much tighter focus on specific urban and rural environmental work. For further information contact Diana Algra at the Corporation for National Service or the commission in the respective states.

Alaska

Serve Alaska Youth Corps

60 Members

AmeriCorps Members, from diverse Alaskan communities will conserve the environment, rehabilitate affordable housing, lead over 200 K-12 students in direct service projects, and deliver substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and teen suicide workshops to K-12 students.

American Samoa

American Samoa Conservation Corps

10 Members

AmeriCorps Members will coordinate various environmentally related projects in local villages, such as beach and stream clean-up, proper environmental practices, coastal erosion planting, solid waste collection and trail maintenance.

Working with a settlement house in St. Louis, AmeriCorps Members will conserve the Mississippi Riverfront and increase educational success of urban youth by engaging them in a variety of conservation and recreational activities.

Montana **Montana Conservation Corps** 110 Members
AmeriCorps Members, serving in teams of 10, will maintain 110 miles of wilderness trails, build 8 handicapped accessible playgrounds, plant 1500 trees, restore 4 historical structures and repair 15 homes belonging to 15 senior citizens.

New Hampshire **New Hampshire Conservation Corps** 20 Members
AmeriCorps Members will build and maintain trails; assist teachers with environmental classroom instruction and conduct energy audits for elderly and low income residents, reviving the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps in a state where the preservation of natural resources is vital to its survival.

New Jersey **NJ Community Water Watch** 20 Members
AmeriCorps Members will be placed individually and in teams to monitor, test, clean and support 16 major waterways, provide public education, identify pollution hazards, and generate volunteers in a statewide water watch program designed to address the most severe water quality problems in 9 cities.

New York **Bronx Youth Conservation Corps** 30 Members
AmeriCorps Members will conserve, restore, and sustain the natural habitats in urban parks in the Bronx, by performing road and path construction, tree planting, erosion control, statue repair, flower bed cultivation and bench repairs.

NY Corps Improving the Env't 132 Members
AmeriCorps Members will restore, improve and maintain at least 100 miles of trails, 150 acres of park land, 5 natural habitats and 50 other recreation facilities; and create and improve green spaces, community gardens, and recreation areas in 50 neighborhoods across the state.

Pennsylvania **Pennsylvania Conservation Corps** 36 Members
AmeriCorps Members will participate in a pilot initiative to form a leadership cadre within the existing conservation corps program to perform a variety of conservation activities across the state.

Texas **South Texas AmeriCorps Initiative** 45 Members
AmeriCorps Members will improve the natural environment and rural unincorporated communities by organizing project activities that include wellhead protection risk assessment, pesticide and fertilizer management, composting and recycling, and organic waste management.

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higher education programs, an affinity group has convened to discuss their programs and the opportunities to integrate environmental service into the college curriculum. Faculty from over a dozen colleges and universities will form the center of an on-going dialogue to bring the message of sustainability and environmental service to colleges and universities in the country.

National Senior Service Corps

A number of Retired Senior Volunteer Programs around the country are working to create a model called the Senior Environment Corps. Working in partnership with the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement, the Corporation's staff serves as a clearinghouse for volunteers and pairs them with local non-profits or municipal agencies to volunteer on everything from toxic use reduction (a number of the retired volunteers are highly skilled), to recycling, to community gardening. One excellent example is in Montana, where over 100 volunteers are working in 24 separate agencies on a number of projects. In El Paso, TX, part time AmeriCorps Members (through a grant to the Environmental Protection Agency) will be working with trained RSVP volunteers to monitor and protect the 250 wells in the city.

Environmental Center of Excellence

The Corporation for National Service will be opening an Environmental Center of Excellence at the Presidio in San Francisco. The Center of Excellence may provide technical assistance through trainings, a clearinghouse and leadership retreats designed to improve the quality of all of the environmental service programs. The Presidio may also become a satellite of the NCCC's San Diego campus.

Federal Agency Coordination

The Corporation continues to work with all of the federal agencies to weave national service into their respective missions. In addition to awarding grants to several agencies for environmental service, we are working with the President's Council on Sustainable Development, the Office of Environmental Policy and the Domestic Policy Council to insure that the environmental service programs of the Corporation fit into a larger framework of federal environmental programs.

National Identity: The Environmental Audit

An important aspect of building a national identity for AmeriCorps will be to engage AmeriCorps Members in common projects throughout the country that reinforce the ethic of responsibility. Of the three national projects, one will be for AmeriCorps Members to perform an environmental audit of a facility that they work in: their corps headquarters, an elementary school, a senior citizens home, a community center or a hospital. In addition to direct conservation of resources, the audit will achieve a major educational goal: to foster environmental citizenship throughout the community.

restoration projects linked to local education initiatives in 10 counties in the states of Washington and Oregon. *Rural and Urban sites in 2 states: WA and OR.*

The YMCA of the USA

40 Members

The YMCA is expanding its current YESC Fellowship program to an additional 17 sites (both urban and rural). 40 YESC Fellows will be placed either individually or in small teams across YMCA sites to coordinate, develop, and sustain environmental service clubs in middle schools and high schools. AmeriCorps members will generate student membership for the clubs, prepare service learning activities and curricula for the schools, and organize environmental community service projects as decided upon by the students. *Sites in 12 states: IL, FL, CA, NC, IN, WI, MA, WA, OR, NJ, MN, and NY*

Federal Agency Programs

The Department of Agriculture

900 Members

The USDA's Public Lands and Environment Team will have 900 full-time participants working in 19 locations to perform direct service by restoring public lands and reducing community environmental hazards. Some teams will be run directly by the Department (or an extension service) and others will be in partnership with existing youth corps. The range of activities to be performed includes: renovation of urban and rural parks, tree planting, conservation in National Forests, environmental education, water quality testing, sustainable agriculture programs, wetlands restoration, windbreak restoration, watershed clean-up and disaster recovery. *Urban and Rural Sites in 15 States: KS, OK, TX, GA, MA, IL, NJ, DC, OR, CA, WA, AZ, MS, NH, and VT*

Department of Energy-Salmon Corps

72 Members

Participants in the Salmon Corps will work throughout the Columbia River Basin on environmental restoration of critical salmon habitat destroyed through the Department of Energy's hydro-electric program in the Pacific Northwest. Most of the 50 participants will represent the 5 Native American tribes in the region and the Salmon Corps will emphasize both the environmental work as well as participant development and the restoration of Native American culture in the region. The Salmon Corps will be a partnership among the Earth Conservation Corps (a national non-profit based in Washington, DC), the Department of Energy and the Intertribal Fish Commission, which represents four tribes of the Pacific Northwest. *Rural sites along the Columbia River Basin in 3 states: ID, OR and WA*

Department of Interior

525 Members

The Department of the Interior has four new environmental programs involving partnerships among a number of bureaus and services in the Department. **Florida Everglades** - In this critical and deteriorating resource, AmeriCorps participants will work with top scientists and managers in the Department on wetland restoration projects, contaminant monitoring and analysis, baseline inventories, environmental education, mapping, and specimen collection. **Rio Grande Ecosystem** - To help achieve the scientific goals set forth in NAFTA, the Rio Grande Volunteer Corps will enhance the environment by restoring and conserving the southwest natural heritage and protecting endangered species. **Southern California Urban Water Conservation Program** - The Bureau of Reclamation will implement an AmeriCorps program focused on water conservation. Activities will include a program to replace older, non-conserving water fixtures, and to collect and recycle these old fixtures. **Earth Science Corps** - In California, Colorado and Virginia projects, the U.S. Geological Survey will establish an Earth Science Corps to assist in updating existing maps, analyze satellite images and contribute to existing data collection systems. **Fort Ord Conservation Project**-- AmeriCorps Members will restore wildlife habitat, construct erosion controls over 25 acres, and achieve 100 miles of trail rehabilitation *Sites in 5 states: CA, VA, CO, FL, and TX*

Arizona **Arizona Conservation Corps** 52 Members
AmeriCorps Members will protect the environment and improve low-income housing by preserving land, water, flora and wildlife, and by weatherizing homes for low-income and former homeless people.

California **The Watershed Stewards Project** 43 Members
AmeriCorps Members will use state of the art monitoring techniques to analyze the health of watersheds and streams. Members will also organize watershed restoration efforts which will involve schools and communities in tree planting, barrier modification, and gathering stream flow, rainfall and temperature data.

California Conservation Corps 57 Members
AmeriCorps Members will work on diverse projects at two sites with activities ranging from environmental conservation work such as erosion control, park beautification, and wildlife preservation.

W.A.T.E.R. Shed Project 85 Members
AmeriCorps Members will improve the academic achievement of K-12 youth through coordinating service learning projects in a school-based watershed restoration curriculum. AmeriCorps Members will also serve as mentors and work in crews to restore watersheds by building trails and planting trees.

Indiana **Elkhart EnviroCorps** 20 Members
AmeriCorps Members will transform a city sludge farm into a nature preserve, restore a polluted swamp to a thriving natural lake, test area drinking water quality, and create environmental public service announcements.

Kickapoo Nation **Kickapoo Youth Conservation Corps** 25 Members
AmeriCorps Members will improve wildlife habitats, provide flood relief, build roads, develop a brush fire containment project, revitalize cultural traditions with elders and train community members in agriculture and ranching.

Massachusetts **Lynn Youth Conserv. Service Corps** 21 Members
AmeriCorps Members will rebuild/expand nature trails; identify flora/fauna; create a nature center with traveling exhibit presentations to primary grade classrooms; and enhance utilization of Nahant Bay Public Beach through harvesting/composting noxious algae.

Maryland **United Youth Corps of Maryland** 154 Members
AmeriCorps Members will meet the needs of rural, urban and suburban areas of the state through a collaboration of three existing youth corps. Members will stabilize erosion, build community gardens and rehabilitate homes for low-income families.

Maine **Maine College Conservation Corps** 20 Members
AmeriCorps Members will re-route trails in 4 state parks and in 2 cities, stabilize shorelines, clear and mark boundary lines, reconstruct river access points and operate the Unity Area Recycling Center.

Michigan **Environmental Problem Solving** 40 Members
In East Lansing, AmeriCorps Members will join neighborhood residents to plan, implement and evaluate community environmental projects. Activities will include landscaping vacant lots, restoring wetlands, starting community food gardens, monitoring noise and air pollution, assessing soil erosion and planting trees.

Missouri **Grace Hill River Trail** 30 Members

Sample Program Detail
Northwest Service Academy
Fall 1994

Natural Resource Public Information

Participants will engage in interpretative activities by providing information to the public to promote a better understanding of the environment, increase public awareness of natural resource management issues and objectives of the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area and interpret natural environments to groups, individuals and media at Multnomah Falls. Review of visitor comment cards, guest books and/or verbal comments will be reviewed along with the project supervisors evaluations will assure quality control. Two and half million people visit the Gorge each year and an estimated 50,000 people per month need information from resource information specialists. Therefore, at least 10,000 people per year will directly benefit from the service of our teams providing public information of natural resources on The Columbia Gorge.

Hope's Place Rehabilitation and Construction

Participants will engage in demolishing the burned-out shell of a shelter for victims of domestic violence and rebuild 2,500 square foot 5 bedroom, 2 bath shelter using passive solar construction and recycled materials as an alternative energy demonstration project in the community. The quality of this project will be measured and monitored by county housing code inspectors. This is the only shelter in the mid-Columbia, the direct recipients are forty women and sixty five children per year for a total of 4,280 yearly occupancy rate.

Whistle Punk Trail Construction

Participants will engage in the construction of four foot barrier-free third mile trail to link existing trails, install four half round six foot long log benches and four "post and chain" artifacts protectors meeting 95% of the specifications provided by the sponsors and transplant native shrubs species with an 80% survival rate. One thousand mobility impaired individuals will benefit from additional accessibility this barrier-free trail provides in the first year and it is expected numbers will increase in the future. Likewise, two thousand general users will walk the trail annually.

Wells Island Restoration

Participants will engage in restoring and clearing six acres of brush and noxious weeds in major winter forage areas for bald eagles and nesting habitat for Canadian Geese, demolish two old buildings and return area to wilderness state and broadcast burn using safe practices to clear acreage and demolish debris to the specifications of the sponsor. Over one thousand waterfowl hunters in the immediate region and over twenty thousand habitants of the mid-Columbia stand to observe the restored habitats of the eagles and waterfowl in the area will benefit.

Kids Kamp

Participants will engage in facilitating one thousand fifth grade children in a self-esteem building curriculum as part of a camp experience for mid-Columbia school children. Kids Kamp directly benefits one thousand children and indirectly impacts their families and communities at an additional increase of approximately four thousand members.

Rho Ridge Trail Construction

Participants will engage in three miles of trail maintenance; preparing and widening the existing trail, clear brush and re-grade drainages to 100% of the code standards set forth by the USFS Trail Coordinator. This trail serves approximately one thousand people annually with the assistance of the Academy, it will enable the vision of the Springwater Corridor to ultimately link Portland and the Pacific Crest Trail to serve additionally thousands of hikers and backpackers annually.