



CONSERVATION  
**legacy**

**CONSERVATION LEGACY  
US FOREST SERVICE  
2017 REPORT**





## CONTACT INFORMATION

FOR CONSERVATION LEGACY:

**Amy Sovocool** | Co-CEO

701 Camino del Rio, Suite 101

Durango, Colorado 81301

Phone: 970-749-1151

Fax: 970-259-9424

Email: [amy@conservationlegacy.org](mailto:amy@conservationlegacy.org)

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# CONSERVATION LEGACY OVERVIEW



## FOSTERING CONSERVATION SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS.

Conservation Legacy operates and supports programs that provide service and work opportunities for a diverse group of individuals to complete important conservation and community projects for the public benefit.

Founded in 1998 to continue the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Conservation Legacy programs include Arizona Conservation Corps, Conservation Corps New Mexico, Stewards Individual Placements, Great Appalachian Valley Conservation Corps, Southeast Conservation Corps, Southwest Conservation Corps and Preserve America Youth Summit. In addition to these regional programs, Conservation Legacy manages unique program models such as Ancestral Lands, Corps River Restoration and the Veterans Fire Corps. In 2017, Conservation Legacy engaged over 1,800 young people and veterans in paid conservation work completing over 1,000,000 hours of service enhancing recreation access, protecting communities from wildfire, stewarding conservation resources and enhancing communities.

The objective of this partnership is to complete important conservation projects while providing young adults with structured, safe and challenging work and educational opportunities through ser-

vice that promotes personal growth, the development of life skills and an ethic of natural resource stewardship. We work toward making these opportunities available to a consistently diverse group of young people and veterans and to those who could most benefit from the experience. Conservation Legacy is dedicated to:

### ENGAGING YOUNG AMERICANS AND VETERANS IN SERVICE:

Conservation Legacy provides service, training, education and employment opportunities for community members, including low income and disadvantaged youth and veterans. Each of its programs engages a diverse set of participants, reflective of their community.

### CONSERVING, PROTECTING AND PROMOTING EACH COMMUNITY'S

**GREATEST GIFTS:** Conservation Legacy maintains, restores and enhances public and tribal lands and waters as well as natural, cultural, and historical resources and treasures that meet locally identified needs.

**BUILDING AMERICA'S FUTURE:** Conservation Legacy helps develop a generation of skilled workers, educated and active citizens, future leaders, and stewards of natural and cultural resources and communities.



## PROGRAM SUCCESS

Conservation Legacy, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), provides crew-based and individual placement opportunities for youth, young adults and veterans to serve and work on public lands. These opportunities foster an awareness of natural and cultural resources and develop skills in the stewardship and science of their management while actively contributing to the preservation of the public lands legacy.

In 2017, Conservation Legacy participants worked on projects in all U.S. Forest Service functional areas except law enforcement. Emphasis was placed on projects that enhanced recreation access, maintained critical infrastructure and trails, mitigated hazardous fuels and improved habitat. By completing these projects, participants from diverse backgrounds helped build capacity for the U.S. Forest Service to meet critical needs facing public lands.

Conservation Legacy programs provide opportunities for job training, personal development, conservation service and natural resource education while at the same time accomplishing needed work benefiting our public lands. Conservation Legacy provides high-quality, locally focused conservation service programs that are customized to meet the unique needs of participants, partners and communities. This approach allows for uniquely tailored programs that establish closer community bonds and leave deeper lasting impacts.

Through this partnership, Conservation Legacy crews constructed and maintained recreational trails, restored and maintained campgrounds, removed invasive species, restored wildlife and fisheries habitat, reduced wildfire fuel loads, installed erosion control features, preserved historic structures, constructed fences and barrier installations, and otherwise helped to support the management of our public lands. Individual Placement program participants engaged in field work, environmental sampling, site monitoring, GIS/GPS, data analysis, program development, archaeology, outreach, education, interpretation, visitor services and coordination of volunteer events. In all, 518 unique opportunities were provided for youth, young adults and veterans from a wealth of diverse backgrounds.



**CONSERVATION LEGACY  
WORKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
AMERICORPS AND THE 21ST  
CENTURY CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CORPS TO PROVIDE NATIONAL  
SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
YOUNG ADULTS AND VETERANS  
ON PUBLIC LANDS.**

# 2017 | BY THE NUMBERS



## CREW PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

TOTAL CREW PROJECTS:

68

ACRES IMPROVED OR RESTORED:

9,602

MILES OF TRAIL CLEARED, MAINTAINED OR CONSTRUCTED:

396

MILES OF NEW TRAIL CONSTRUCTED:

19

TOTAL PROJECT HOURS:

117,742

## PARTICIPANTS:

TOTAL UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE ON USFS PROJECTS:

518

## DEMOGRAPHICS:

### EDUCATION LEVEL:

Bachelors Degree: **40.44%**

Some College: **23.96%**

High School Diploma: **13.96%**

No High School Diploma or GED: **2.31%**

Masters Degree: **5.82%**

Associates Degree: **4.6%**

### GENDER:

Male: **56.63%**

Female: **44.44%**

Other: **.93%**

### RACE:

White: **66.32%**

American Indian or Alaskan Native: **18.02%**

Asian: **1.65%**

Black/African American: **2.57%**

More than one: **3.19%**

Other: **5.15%**

Prefer not to answer: **3.09%**

### ETHNICITY:

Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino: **82.59%**

Hispanic/Latino: **11.89%**

Prefer not to answer: **5.53%**

Conservation Legacy emphasizes the recruitment and engagement of diverse teams and individuals who learn from each other and their projects in a supportive environment. In selecting participants, Conservation Legacy encourages all types of diversity including, but not limited to; race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, social-economic, and disability. Conservation Legacy also emphasizes the engagement of local individuals who represent the communities in which they serve. Conservation Legacy intentionally searches for funding sources and program options to support the goal of offering experiences to a wide range of participants.





## PROJECT SITES



### 2017 USFS PROJECT SITES

- Bighorn National Forest
- Carson National Forest
- Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest
- Cherokee National Forest
- Cibola National Forest
- Coconino National Forest
- Coronado National Forest
- George Washington & Jefferson National Forest
- Gila National Forest
- Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests
- Kaibab National Forest
- Lincoln National Forest
- Mark Twain National Forest
- Monongahela National Forest
- Pike San Isabel National Forest
- Prescott National Forest
- Region 10: Chugach and Tongass National Forests
- Rio Grande National Forest
- San Juan National Forest
- Santa Fe National Forest
- Tonto National Forest

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | ARIZONA CONSERVATION CORPS



## Kaibab National Forest: Youth Conservation Corps

THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS (YCC) is a program coordinated through the Arizona Conservation Corps that affords young people the opportunity to perform community service and resource conservation through hands-on project work with a variety of land management and community partners, including the Kaibab National Forest. As in past years, the Kaibab hosted two crews this summer, one stationed in Williams and the other in Fredonia.

The 2017 YCC program ran from June to July. Crew members assisted with a variety of resource areas on the Kaibab National Forest including range, wildlife, recreation, fire, archaeology, timber and silviculture. Both the Williams and Fredonia YCC crew members completed a remarkably diverse array of projects: 2,410 hours toward project work that forest personnel likely would not otherwise have been able to accomplish. They also saw places that few people will ever see, experienced challenges that not everyone could overcome, and made investments in public lands that will endure for years or even decades.



**Working with the youth is not just about getting the job done, it's also about empowering young people to do things they never thought in their wildest dreams that they could do. This program makes the impossible possible for many young adults."**

*Allison Ayers Wilderness & Trails Specialist  
North Kaibab Ranger District*

"We've all been passed a torch to conserve and care for these lands that have been set aside, and we should see to it that we're able to pass that same torch," said Russ Dickerson, AZCC Operations Director. "The story about young people only staring at their phones and thinking only for themselves is so widespread that it goes unchallenged. I know a different set of young people—their boots are trashed, their hands are calloused, their packs are heavy—and they're giving, unselfish, aware and thoughtful."

## Tonto National Forest: West Pinto Creek

IN THE SPRING OF 2017, Arizona Conservation Corps sent trail maintenance crews out to the West Pinto Creek area of the Superstition Wilderness. The objective was to restore worn and unused trails to working condition. With 46 young adults volunteering 8,953 hours of service from March to June, maintenance and improvement was completed on 28.45 miles of trail, including installment and repair of 224 trail structures.

AZCC staff spent months prior to the beginning of this project preparing crews for successful project completion. This included partner outreach for project specifications and funding, scheduling the project for the appropriate time of year and appropriate crews, determining specialized training required, scouting the project site and writing a work plan for the crew, acquiring and maintaining appropriate tools and vehicles and preparing the crew leaders for the project.

Both crews and staff were unfazed by the rough terrain and harsh backcountry conditions presented by the Superstition Wilderness. With appropriate vehicles, tools, backcountry equipment, leadership teams and program support, the crews were able to provide trail maintenance and improvement measures for the entire distance of the Campaign Trail, Haunted Canyon Trail, Paradise Trail and Spencer Spring Trail.





## Coconino National Forest: Individual Placement Sean Golightly

### Coronado National Forest

IN 2017, THE ARIZONA CONSERVATION CORPS deployed three 900 hour trail crews, which performed tasks to improve and manage ecosystems through trails maintenance and improvement projects on the Douglas, Nogales, Sierra Vista, Safford, and the Santa Catalina Ranger Districts. The crews spent a total of 30 weeks, or 7,002 service hours, working with the Coronado National Forest. A total of 25.34 miles of trail was maintained and improved.

**CREW 101** worked with the Coronado Forest for eight weeks on the Arizona Trail. The main body of work included much needed corridor maintenance, rerouting and reestablishing damaged section of the tread surface and installing erosion control structures. The crew spent two weeks on the American Flag Ranch Area and worked south along the Oracle Ridge trail repairing and improving the tread surface and corridor. Trail maintenance also included installing erosion control features and blocking off social trails. Crew 101 also spent some project time working on the Sycamore Reservoir Trail installing rock steps on a severely damaged section of the trail and improved the tread surface.

**CREW 103** spent a portion of their 16 weeks with the Coronado on the Monte Vista Trail, the Tortilla Trail and Passage 1 and 2 of the Arizona Trail, cutting and removing downed logs across the trail with crosscut saws and clearing corridor to improve the trail for hikers and equestrians. On the Santa Catalina district, the crew installed and repaired structures on the trail system within Sabino Canyon. Moving on to Sycamore Creek Trail, Miller Peak Spur Trail, the Carr Peak Trail, and finally the Huachuca Crest Trail the crew worked on clearing corridor and removing downed logs, repairing tread, and creating and improving the trails.

**CREW 115** performed general trail maintenance on the trail systems in Madera Canyon, the Vault Mine Trail, Super Trail, and the South Fork Trail #243, clearing corridor, rerouting trail, and repairing a few drains and damaged sections of tread

“In late August 2017, I embarked on my second internship with AZCC. The first of its kind, this position had me working directly beneath the Web Manager of the Coconino National Forest. My goals and duties varied from the generation of social media content to internal journalism, but by far, the bulk of my time was directed at developing a mobile phone app known as OnCell. A third party platform, OnCell interests the Coconino National Forest because of its ability to showcase custom content offline. This makes it ideal for the provision of interpretive, instructional, and safety content to users of Forest Service lands.

From campgrounds to trails, in order to build OnCell pages, I had to go the sites and procure primary source content. In other words, if there was a trail we wanted to include on the app, I had to hike it, photograph it, and learn it well enough to determine what information should be included on OnCell. I have spent a lot of time hiking and taking pictures in some of the most spectacular sites of the Coconino National Forest. I now recognize this as the privilege of a lifetime.

I have been able to witness some of the community impact my work has made in metrics of “likes” and “views” online, but I contend the most rewarding impact was my interactions with the public.

In short, over the course of this internship I have come to believe that, environmentalist as we are, we need not be Luddites. In some strange way, using technology to communicate behooves our humanity as an agency. It makes us relatable and accessible. There is much, much more work to be done in optimizing the Forest Service’s use of social media than can be accomplished in six months. I am thankful to play even a small role in that growth.”

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | CONSERVATION CORPS NEW MEXICO

AS CONSERVATION LEGACY'S NEWEST PROGRAM, launched in 2017, Conservation Corps New Mexico (CCNM) operates conservation service programs across southern New Mexico and western Texas that engage individuals and strengthen communities through service and conservation.

Since 1998, Arizona Conservation Corps has worked on projects throughout southern New Mexico. With Conservation Legacy's commitment to supporting locally-based programs and communities, southern New Mexico programming and projects will transition to locally-based Conservation Corps New Mexico operations out of Las Cruces, NM, in order to best serve local communities, young people and landscapes in this region. AZCC will continue to provide operational support in 2018 and into the future.

Between April and May, Conservation Corps New Mexico engaged in efforts to clear wilderness trails of fire-damaged and other downed trees in the Capitan Wilderness and the White Mountain Wilderness of the Lincoln National Forest. Over the course of 2,925 volunteer service hours, 16 young adults on two crews cleared 614 trees over 49 miles of trail. The two CCNM crews also successfully maintained 375 feet of trail and closed 714 feet of social trails.



# GREAT APPALACHIAN VALLEY CONSERVATION CORPS



IN 2017, GAVCC WORKED with The George Washington and Jefferson National Forest on multiple projects throughout the summer and fall seasons. In addition, a crew of leaders was sent to work in the Black Water Canyon in the Monongahela National Forest.

One youth crew worked specifically with the North River and Lee Ranger districts of the The George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. Here, they learned how the Forest Service manages public land for multiple users. The crew worked on different projects including historical restoration of civil war trenches, fishing area cleanup and maintenance, and trail construction, ensuring the safety of the people who enjoy these public lands.

“GAVCC has unlimited potential! Especially considering they are such a new yet powerful force in the Appalachian areas,” said Steve Beri, Recreation Program Manager. “I worked with them on projects in the George Washington & Jefferson National Forest and they completed some amazing projects. The strong crew leaders and outstanding leadership ensured folks were ready to tackle all sorts of projects. It was extremely rewarding to watch these youth develop sound skills, an appreciation for hard work and a care for public lands!”



**I joined to gain a greater perspective of myself and future goals. Not only have I learned an invaluable set of skills, I have also gained a better sense of direction.”**

*Will Great Appalachian Valley Crew Member*

The spring season saw GAVCC's dedicated Forest Service crew deployed on a disaster response in Texas. They also worked on projects in the Glenwood-Pedlar District and had a terrific experience with guests of the district hiking on trails and appreciating their work. They were fixing retaining walls and building stone steps to make the trails safer for people staying in the campground.

Summer adult crews had the opportunity to experience a few different ways that the USFS manages public lands. They worked on different invasive species projects, built and maintained trail and trail structures, and even helped the North River District on a paving project to maintain a Forest Service road.

## 2017 PROJECTS AND PLACEMENTS:

**George Washington and Jefferson National Forest**  
Summer Youth Crew • Summer Adult Crews

**Monongahela National Forest**  
Summer Adult Crew

### Crew District Locations:

Lee Ranger District (GW&J)  
Glenwood-Pedlar Ranger District (GW&J)  
Mount Rogers National Recreation Area (GW&J)  
North River Ranger District (GW&J)  
Eastern Divide Ranger District (GW&J)  
Black Water Canyon (Monongahela)

## 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Total Miles or Rivers Improved and/or Created: **34**  
Total Acres Improved or Fully Restored: **210**  
Total Project Hours: **3,871**  
Total Jobs Created: **36**



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | SOUTHEAST CONSERVATION CORPS

## Bankhead National Forest: Sipsey Wilderness

THIS FALL, SECC RAN ITS FIRST CREW in Bankhead National Forest (BNF), AL. The crew consisted of eight adult members, all residents of the southeast looking to serve their communities and natural landscapes. The Crew spent eight weeks total working in Bankhead NF, primarily in the Sipsey Wilderness. The crew spent two of those weeks in the backcountry working on trails deep into the wilderness only accessible by foot and horseback. The members of this crew all received crosscut saw training and USFS certification to prepare them for the tools they would be using in the wilderness areas.

During the eight weeks in BNF, the crew maintained a total of 37.4 miles of trail, clearing the corridor and tread the length of it. That included removing 115 downed trees and 27 hazard trees with crosscut saws. In addition to the corridor, the crew focused heavily on erosion control and water mitigation on the existing trail system. They installed 21 water bars, repaired two preexisting water bars, installed 80 rolling grade dips and repaired 50 preexisting drains on the trails. As recreationist safety and comfortability of the trails was also a priority, the crew installed 46 timber stairs, 11 stone stairs and three stone retaining walls in areas of steep terrain and sharp vertical edges.



**It was awesome at the end of the week, to take a step back and look at what we had accomplished. Not only does the trail look better, but it's easy to see that our work makes the area much more accessible and safe."**

*Natalie Southeast Conservation Corps  
Crew Member*

For the last two weeks of their season, the crew served and camped in the backcountry of the Sipsey Wilderness Area and received pack support from the Back Country Horsemen of Alabama to haul in the gear and tools needed. The Back Country Horsemen granted the SECC crew a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding performance and lasting contribution to Bankhead National Forest/Sipsey Wilderness Area Trail Maintenance.

In total, the crew served 2,240 hours in Bankhead National Forest. This was the first time SECC has served in Alabama and the first time Bankhead NF worked in partnership with a Conservation Corps. We are proud to say it was a success on every front. The crew had an impactful season as individuals and the work they completed will endure time to help improve the user experience and natural landscape.





### **2017 PROJECTS AND PLACEMENTS:**

#### **Cherokee National Forest**

Youth Conservation Crew

#### **Chattahoochee National Forest**

Youth Conservation Crew

#### **William B. Bankhead National Forest**

Adult Conservation Crew

#### **Crew District Locations:**

Ocoee - Hiwassee RD (Cherokee NF)

Blue Ridge RD (Chattahoochee NF)

Conasauga RD (Chattahoochee NF)

Chattooga River RD (Chattahoochee NF)

Sipsey Wilderness Area (Bankhead NF)

### **2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

Total Miles or Rivers Improved and/or Created: **45**

Total Hazard/Downed Trees Removed: **210**

Total Project Hours: **5,128**

Total Jobs Created: **25**



## TriForest Partnership: Santa Fe, Cibola and Carson National Forests

ONCE AGAIN SCC SUCCESSFULLY collaborated with the Santa Fe, Cibola and Carson National Forests to complete trail projects on the Forests. This season, both the Four Corners and Los Valles regions completed several projects from technical trail work to log outs.



**SCC was tasked with constructing a backcountry bridge on the Columbine trail and was able to professionally complete the project. SCC continues to impress the Forest with the skills work in very strenuous, challenging conditions."**

*Amy Simms Carson National Forest  
Project Partner*

Technical work included the construction of a 25' timber bridge. During crew leader training, crews built multiple switchbacks with rock retaining walls and a stone stair case. These projects were very successful even with snow in Albuquerque. In total SCC had eight weeks of trail work; two on the Cibola, two on the Santa Fe and four on the Carson. All were successful and accomplished expected goals. The crews completed 2,721 total project hours.

## The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail: USFS Region 3

THE FOREST SERVICE PARTNERED with the Southwest Conservation Corps to create a custom four person signing and assessment 'Strike Team' crew to complete the signing and trail conditions assessment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) in New Mexico from June to August. This out-of-the-box project demonstrated the corps' flexible project ability and ability to incorporate technology. The project was very successful and supported by on the ground partners in many different Ranger Districts and BLM Field Offices throughout the State. The Continental Divide Trail Coalition also provided partner support to the project and the crew.



The project served four young people who had quite an amazing summer job of hiking the CDNST for work! SCC also received positive feedback from partners on the ground and hopes to help with this sort of work in the future. Crew members completed 1,600 project hours and improved 182 miles of trail, installing 676 signs.



## Pike San Isabel National Forest

THIS SUMMER SCC CREWS WORKED for eight weeks rerouting an unsustainable section of the Poncha Loop/Rainbow Trail near Poncha Springs, CO. This popular multi-use trail is seeing an increased number of visitors that enjoy the trail for OHV use, mountain bikes, and hiking. Crews worked to create a more sustainable trail to support the growing number of users by rerouting to a more sustainable grade, installing rock walls to support the trail, and create large switchbacks that can accommodate all user groups. By the end of the reroute the crew had constructed 6,150 feet of new trail, maintained 3,000 feet of tread, removed 23 downed trees, installed six climbing turns, built eight wash crossings, installed 11 drains, and built 167 square feet of rock wall.

The Pike San Isabel National Forest was thrilled by the work accomplished and the SCC crew exceeded expectations in terms of quality and timeliness. “The Rainbow Trail is greatly improved now due to the reroute that crews constructed. This reroute now eliminates the old unsustainable trail that previously caused many conflicts amongst users. This section of trail will be appreciated by all users, the community, and benefits the forest greatly” said Dani Cook, OHV Trail Crew Leader for the Forest.

Crew members were able to really see and appreciate the lasting impact on this trail. By returning to the same project for several weeks, they developed a great sense of ownership over this section of trail and take pride in knowing they are building something that will last for years to come. As one Crew Member reflected: “We are now engaged in this project knowing that we will be able to see our progression each and every day hiking in. Behind us is the forged retrospective path, and each time you look down that path you see the emotion, sweat and frustration that was dug into the tread with each and every strike of a pick.”



## Individual Placement: Sergio Perez, Resource Assistant Program

“Being a kid from New York City I would never have thought that I would be interning in the Forest Service and dedicating my life to conservation. I have learned so much of what the Forest Service in Colorado Springs does for the people in the community.



Being part of the Special Use Program, there are a lot of inspections that need to be done to make sure that all is well protected. My favorite inspection was the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, a timed car race up to the Summit. Seeing all the hard work that went into making this event happen come together to ensure that everything would run smoothly on a day where cars are going up a highway with tight curves and steep edges was pretty incredible.

Moving on after this internship, I would like to pursue a career with the Forest Service. I feel that after this opportunity, I have learned more about land and resource management than four years of college. This experience has opened my eyes to the behind-the-scenes work that has to be done. I have a new found appreciation of the public lands—it is all ours but we all have to do something to protect and ensure its safety for generations to come.”

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | STEWARDS INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS



### **Andrew Limbach** **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and** **Gunnison National Forests**

Throughout this summer, we have cleared trees, cut out impeding brush, fixed signs, built cairns, removed rocks, improved tread, carved blazes, replaced a culvert, filled turnpikes with sand and gravel, constructed a footbridge, sprayed noxious weeds, dug water bars, built in check steps, naturalized campsites, packed out illegal caches, and went on a patrol ride with the game warden. These tasks were completed on 25 different system trails that measured roughly 160 miles out of the 277 miles of available hiking trail on the district. Instead of one specific project, I am most proud of the overall impact we have made on the district.

I have learned that communities with a mining heavy history can change into a resource management and conservation hub. The Ponia area was previously dominated by the mining industry. After the closing of all but one these mines, the area has seemed to shift into a more conservation state of mind. The community seems to fully support the sustainable use of this areas resources.

One of the most important things I have learned while working with the Forest Service is how important public land is to the community, the environment, and the local way of life. Public land provides so much opportunity and should be held at high value. In that regard, the Forest Service has a major responsibility to manage these lands and keep this opportunity alive for the public. Our office has ten full time employees that stretch out their efforts and resources for a district that covers 478,000 acres, which is an admirable effort to say the least.

Our trail crew has received a great deal of praise from the local community. Whether we have been on-site or in town, community members recognize us and express their appreciation for the work we do. This community is extremely active and uses the trail system extensively. Because many of the trails we cleared this year have not been cleared in years, we have opened up more opportunities for these community members to explore more of the district.



### **Kaitlyn McGlamery** **Southwest Regional Office, Carson** **National Forest**

I have been privileged enough to participate in taking notes for the tribal consultation information sharing session for the Gila Cliff Dwellings Museum replacement. There were two separate sessions, one at the end of July with Puebloan Tribes and another at the end of August for Apache Tribes. I was there to essentially create a written record of the discussions that transpired and the viewpoints of the Tribal members.

I was also fortunate to get out into the field a couple of times for different restoration projects on the Questa Ranger District of the Carson National Forest. The first project was a stream restoration initiative put on by the Quivira Coalition. About 30 volunteers came to help with this initiative in the Valle Vidal area.

The second project was the restoration of the Hondo Cabin on Hwy 150 outside of Taos, NM on the way to Taos Ski Valley. For four full days we worked on many aspects of restoring this cabin, including: laying cement for the porch, painting, installing new roof shingles on the north side of the building, as well as varnishing metal roofing for another project that was to take place in late August in the Latir Peak Wilderness.

The Southwestern Regional Office and the New Mexico Council of Outfitters and Guides (NMCOG) are still working on laying the foundation to make the change to statewide big game hunting Outfitter and Guide permits. We have finished presenting our data to the recreation program managers on the forests to get their feedback, which has been very helpful and overall positive.

I have also been looped into the NEPA and prospectus (competitive bidding opportunity) processes for a permit on the Coronado National Forest. It is a superb learning experience about the different authorities (law, policy, and regulation) the Forest Service must adhere to in complex situations such as this one.



## Jessica Warmbrodt USFS Region 10

During my internship, I assisted with the Regional Advisory Council meeting for the Federal Subsistence Board. That was an excellent opportunity to see firsthand how scientists, local cultural/traditional knowledge and public opinion can directly shape policy that affects how people can interact with their land. In my work with regional recreation data, I have managed the data of 208 cabins/campsites on the Chugach and Tongass National Forests to better improve public engagement with these sites. My work has the potential to affect the whole Alaska Region.

In regards to recreation, I created an action plan and led its implementation, which addressed the transition of recreation data from the old reservation system (recreation.gov) into the next generation of the system. This involved working with a wide range of Forest Service staff (from District level to Washington Office level) to inventory existing data, identify data gaps, make plans to address those gaps and submit additional funding requests.

I am proud of all of the work I have done, in different ways. I am proud of the leadership skills I've developed in working with the Recreation.gov transition. I am proud of the visual products I've created to be used with our Agents of Discovery App. I am proud of the initiative I have shown by independently working to develop a social media campaign. The wide range of program areas I have been exposed to has given me many different opportunities to do work and gain experience.

I have learned that it takes many different people on many different levels working together to effectively engage in natural resource management. It's not just the people getting their hands dirty "on the ground," or the "decision makers" in big offices, or the social media folks engaging the public behind a computer; but it's a mix of everyone working together. I have learned a great deal about the Forest Service during my entire time with them.

## Hannah Inderieden Mark Twain National Forest Wilderness Intern

Over the course of my ten-week internship as a Wilderness Intern, I accomplished a major project with the help of my two teammates. We were tasked with completing all surveys of campsites and Non-native Invasive Species (NNIS) within designated wilderness areas. Although the wilderness areas are by no means massive, my job involved hiking an average of eight to ten miles a day. When I first began my internship, hiking every trail seemed impossible. Now, I consider it a literal walk in the park.

“

**I have learned much about careers with the U.S. Forest Service. Working with the public requires extensive training. Not only in how to approach a stranger, but how to truly listen to their concerns and complaints. As a public servant, it is a privilege to make their time enjoyable by sharing my expertise and education on why public lands are something to be protected. That is where my passion can be expanded upon.”**

*Hannah Inderieden Mark Twain National Forest  
Wilderness Intern*

When we interacted with the public, they were intrigued by what we were doing in the wilderness. Many had no idea that The Mark Twain National Forest employed local people. They also had no idea that the wilderness was maintained by interns. They loved how we were excited about our jobs and were passionate about our work. I feel like when we interacted with the public, they obtained a new perspective on what the Forest Service does in their backyard. It made me extremely proud to climb out of a government rig and receive friendly waves from campers and hikers that knew we were maintaining their trails.



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | VETERANS FIRE CORPS



The VFC is a collaborative initiative of Conservation Legacy, run in partnership with state and federal agencies including the USDA Forest Service (USFS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and AmeriCorps. The VFC aims to engage recent era Veterans on priority hazardous fuels projects while developing the next generation of wildland firefighters.

Veterans Fire Corps programs can offer an important bridge to civilian life and job skills, but also a way for veterans and their families to engage more with the outdoors, recreation, and America's public lands. The Veterans Fire Corps successfully addresses two needs: 1) veterans who need a way to transition from military to civilian life and service; and, 2) land management agencies who need highly qualified and well trained employees and key wildfire remediation projects accomplished. VFC builds upon the knowledge, leadership experience, and training of the women and men who served in the armed forces, refocusing their mission to protecting our public lands from the threat of wildfire.

## IMPACT

Conservation Corps programs nationwide have engaged over 1,600 veterans total since 2009, through 19 separate Corps programs around the country. Since 2011, the California Conservation Corps, Conservation Legacy and the Student Conservation Association have engaged over 1,000 Veterans in the Veterans Fire Corps. In 2017, Conservation Legacy programs served 45 veterans.

Veterans Fire Corps targets recent era Veterans, generally between the ages of 23-35. Veterans joining the program receive a living stipend, training, and support while working on projects varying in length from 12-weeks to six months. Training covers the key firefighting areas leading towards a Firefighter Type 2 certification. VFC crews are then mobilized on thinning projects, pile burning, prescribed burns, and, at times, initial fire attack. Federal agencies engage the VFC crews to complete hazardous fuels reduction projects as well as assist with prescribed burn assignments, direct fire response and disaster response. In many ways VFC provides veterans a short-term opportunity to test out their interest in wildland fire without having to make a long term commitment.

An ultimate goal of the VFC is to transition its graduates into employment as wildland firefighters, but VFC also encourage outdoor stewardship and enable veterans to gain the benefits of being outdoors for physical and mental health.

Studies engaged with the effectiveness and return-on-investment from Veterans Fire Corps programs and found the following outcomes:

**88%** of participants said the Veterans Fire Corps provided training and skills necessary for successful post program employment,

**23%** increase in sense of purpose amongst participants,

**97%** of Veterans Fire Corps members surveyed in 2017 indicated that the program assisted them in adjusting from military to civilian life, and

**95%** of Veterans Fire Corps members surveyed in 2017 indicated that the VFC prepared them for entry-level employment in wildland fire.

Conservation Legacy supported VFC members with the following post-program employment opportunities: wildland fire opportunities with various USFS crews, hotshots and engines, including the Silver City Hotshots, Blue Ridge Hotshots, Big Bend Engine, and Weaver Mountain Helitack. Participants also found employment with the Bureau of Land Management's Yuma Engine crew, in structural fire and with Conservation Legacy as returning VFC members and as full time staff. Conservation Legacy continues to support several 2017 VFC members who are still seeking employment in wildland fire related careers.



## PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The projects VFC crews complete are critical to forest and community health across the country. Wildfires continue to burn hotter, faster and more frequently. Fuels reduction, fire mitigation and prescribed burn assignments that VFC crews are tasked with are critical to insuring that, if a wildfire does burn, effects are mitigated. Project work is varied but primarily focused on forest fuels reduction, hazard tree removal, prescribed burn preparation and invasive species removal. The forest fuels reduction is the majority of the project work and is focused on treating high-density areas with heavy fuel loads. Veteran fire crews have reduced fire fuel loads that included Piñon, Juniper, Ponderosa, and Oak on public lands through Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona.

VFC impacts the Veterans engaged with VFC as well as communities where VFC crews operate. VFC helps Veterans transition from military service to equally meaningful civilian service in a structured, safe and impactful way. The transition is facilitated by completing critical work in local communities which is protecting people, property and resources from the threat of catastrophic wildfire. The impact of the program can be seen in the stories of veterans who have been impacted through VFC participation:

Project sponsors consistently express a high degree of satisfaction with the quality of work and productivity of Corps. Virtually all federal project partners (99.6%) say they would work with Corps again.

## 2017 VETERANS FIRE CORPS: BY THE NUMBERS

**45** Total Current Era Veterans Served

**40** Alumni placed in or seeking relevant post-service employment

**152** Miles treated or improved, including firebreak created

**7,155** Acres improved, including Rx burns

**61,210** Project work hours completed



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | VETERANS FIRE CORPS

### Southwest Conservation Corps Pike San Isabel National Forest

Southwest Conservation Corps' Los Valles Veteran Fire Corps (VFC) had one of the most successful seasons to date in 2017. The VFC crew spent the majority of their season working on a high priority fuel break project in the Salida Ranger District's Cree Creek area. Their hard work resulted in the project being completed ahead of schedule with 39 acres cleared and 471 slash piles created. In the fall, the crew was able to assist in the prescribed burn of over 445 acres of the Shavano Burn unit. These projects contribute greatly to mitigating the impacts of wildfire on the forest and neighboring communities.

Crew members completed training and worked closely with USFS personnel and crews throughout the season. This allowed them to develop close relationships directly within the USFS and gain additional professional development throughout the season. Members received multiple trainings including S-130/190 Firefighter Type 1, S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaw, S-131 Firefighter Type 2, S-270 Basic Air Operations, and S-211 Portable Pumps. The combination of training and on the ground experience positions crew members to be competitive to firefighting positions with federal agencies and other land management positions upon completion of the program.

Crew Member Kyle Stolk said of his experience: "My perspective of land management has broadened vastly thus far working with the Veterans Fire Corps. I understand now how cutting trees can greatly benefit the health of a forest and the immense amount of work it takes to manage just a small amount of land." The Pike San Isabel National Forest considered this season a great success with high retention rates, quality work completed, and positive crew development throughout the season.



### Southwest Conservation Corps Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison National Forest

The Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) and the GMUG NF have a very strong working relationship that continues to increase the quality of the Veterans Fire Corps (VFC) program that SCC offers. Dan Huisjen, Fuels Specialist on the GMUG NF, is one of the most supportive partners that SCC works with; consequently Dan also expects the most from SCC and the VFC crew each year as well. In 2017, the VFC crew benefited by spending time on at least five separate areas of the Forest, completing a diversity of projects and meeting making many fire manager contact for future job prospects as a result. The crew completed fireline, thinned fuels, collected fence materials, completed some trail work and spent 14 days on a fire assignment to California. Specifically, the crew worked 3940 hours cutting about 21 miles of fireline, preparing the GMUG NF to burn thousands of acres with prescribed burns in the future. The crew also thinned about 180 acres

"The leadership was very good and they were able to obtain a high level of performance from the crew. As usual, Kevin and Jordan at SCC have been great to work with; we are moving the VFC program on the GMUG forward every year. This year we got the crew out on a 14 day fire assignment as part of the Gunnison River Hand Crew."

The VFC crew set us up well to burn hundreds/thousands of acres with prescribed fire. They also thinned stands in key locations to reduce fuels and enhance stand health." said Dan Huisjen, Fuels Specialist for Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest.





“ We continuously have senior staff around to pick the brain of for our future employment in conservation and in the wild-land fire industry. I’m optimistic this program will open up many doors in my next chapters of the fire industry. I look forward to future endeavors, missions and good times with the VFC! I look forward to recommending the VFC program to all my Veteran battle buddies and look forward what the rest of the season has to offer.”

Angelo Apodaca *Veterans Fire Corps  
Crew Member*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | VETERANS FIRE CORPS



### Arizona Conservation Corps Lincoln National Forest

Arizona Conservation Corps, in partnership with the Lincoln National Forest, deployed a 450 hour Veterans Fire Corps crew to various districts from October to December, 2017.

The Veterans Fire Corps crew on the Lincoln National Forest was comprised of five crew members and two crew leaders. The crew leaders received a Wilderness First Responder and all Corps members completed a Wilderness First Aid training. Participants attended the Colorado Fire Camp for two weeks. With this training the crew completed hazardous fuels reduction projects within high priority Wildland Urban Interface areas. Hazardous fuels work included thinning vegetation, hand piling fuels, limbing and brushing vegetation and prescribed fire.

On the Lincoln National Forest the VFC crew completed a total of 2,255.75 hours of service. A total of 369.73 acres were improved by prescribed fire and fuels mitigation work. A total of 4.70 miles of fire line was constructed and 2.25 miles of fence line was maintained.



## Southwest Conservation Corps On Assignment: Alex Davids

“This summer, Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew 471 had the unique opportunity to be called up on a fire assignment in California. The assignment started in Montrose, Colorado at the inter-agency dispatch center. This is where we met the crew, composed of firefighters from the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and State, engine and helitack crews.

The roll started in Hayfork, California. This was a small Type IV incident that existed only to bring resources into the area for presumed dry lightning starts. Our crew sat around ICP for two days waiting. The third day we got an assignment to mop up the eastern perimeter of the picket fire. That day was a good learning experience for everyone. Our crew was familiarized with mop up procedures and the steep terrain of Northern California.

There were single resource Pro Fallers on the fire as well, all day they were tippin’ 6ft+ Dbh. There are some very big trees on the west coast. Very cool to see! The next morning we headed back to Redding, California for our next assignment. From there we were sent to Happy Camp in the Klamath National Forest.

There were a couple of fires in the area that had the potential to grow large fast. When we arrived there was a small Type III incident management team, in just a few days it turned into a very large Type II incident called the Eclipse Complex. We were one of the first crews there.

The Happy Camp area is infamous to firefighters. The extremely steep terrain, dry summers, and coastal driven weather make fire a regular occurrence. The inversion is like clockwork. Every night the smoke gets trapped in the deep valleys, smoke can stay in the area for months.

Our first assignment was road prep. There were roads accessing ridge tops above the main fire. These roads were being used as contingency line. So we prepped roads for three days, removing ladder fuels to a depth of 30 ft and swamping all fuels to the uphill side of the road. The 30ft depth was all extremely thick and steep. We shined during these first few days due to our amount of trigger time on labor intensive projects all season. Most of the entry level firefighters had nowhere near as much experience as us.

The division decided to burn off our prepped roads. We were asked to hold our line as the Tallac Hotshots out of Tahoe burned south along the road to a ridge line. Meanwhile Beckwourth Hotshots burned roads heading northwest from our position. The goal of that day was to burn out the ridges above the fire to create solid black and prevent spotting to the backside of the mountain. After fire was put on the ridgetops, the main fire seemed to suck all of the heat from the top of the bowl down to the bottom. This caused extreme fire behavior, but the winds were in our favor and everything went according to the plan. The entire bowl was completely black in only a few hours. There was no torching on the line that we prepped.

The rest of the roll was basically mopping up the boundaries of this burn out and holding lines under similar circumstances. The roll seemed to fly by. The whole crew enjoyed the experience very much, and everyone preformed very well. This experience was the best ending to a season I can imagine for this program. Experiencing real wildfire, real schedule, workload and hazardous conditions of a firefighter is extremely important.



“

**We shined during the first few days due to our amount of trigger time on labor intensive projects all season. Most of the entry level firefighters had nowhere near as much experience as us.”**

## PARTNER AND PARTICIPANT QUOTES

“We spent all week working hard to finish the trail in time despite two missing crew members, but this didn’t crush spirits. We pushed on for their sake and got all the work done, I’m sure we made them proud.”

**-Tyler Wahlers, SECC YCC Crew Member**

“It’s so amazing how much stepping outside of your box will change your view on life. Less than a month ago I was scared to go into the woods, but since I started working at SECC I’ve grown so much. I kind of wish I didn’t have to come home on the weekends, and I could just stay at work forever.”

**-Zainab Muhammad, SECC YCC Crew Member**

“A summer working in the Chattahoochee National Forest requires a self-discipline that motivates you to, among other things, wake up, go to work, and make dinner in the pouring rain, continue your project after numerous stings, rashes, burns, or scrapes, and to stay active in oppressive humidity. For a group of 16 and 17-year-olds to fulfill our various projects’ goals under these circumstances, and to do so with a positive attitude, speaks to maturity and grit. I am so pleased that I could help my crew grow in the ways they did that summer and that I was witness to their impressive development over such a brief period of time.”

**-Wolfgang Boehm, SECC YCC Crew Leader**

“GAVCC has unlimited potential! Especially considering they are such a new yet powerful force in the Appalachian areas. I worked with them on projects in the George Washington & Jefferson National Forest and they completed some amazing projects. I was hesitant at first, dealing with a less experienced “youth crew”, but the strong crew leaders and outstanding leadership (at the program level) ensured folks were ready to tackle all sorts of projects. It was extremely rewarding to watch these youth develop sound skills, an appreciation for hard work and taking care of public lands!”

**-Steve Beri, District Recreation Program Manager**

“I joined the GAVCC with the intent of gaining greater perspective of myself and my future goals. GAVCC was an excellent avenue by enabling strong immersion into outdoor recreation/conservation, and a constructive experience overall. Not only have I learned an invaluable set of skills concerning outdoor conservation, I have also gained a better sense of direction for my future aided by the new friendships I have gained along the way.”

**-Will, GAVCC Crew Member**

“It was awesome at the end of each day, and then the end of the week, to take a step back and look at what we had accomplished. Not only does the trail look way better, but it’s easy to see that our work makes the area much more accessible and safe.”

**-Natalia Muglia, SECC Crew Member**



**“I am now confident that I am capable of things that I never thought I could do.”**

**- Ashley Compton, GAVCC Corpsmember**

“I found myself rapidly getting better with conservation work skills, my comfort and preparedness in the outdoors, and just plain old grit. Beyond these more visceral advancements, I found direction for my life beyond.”

**-Davy Dickhut, SECC Crew Member**

“Aside from learning trail maintenance and construction skills, we also learned how to chop wood and do crosscut sawing. It really gives you a sense of community and belonging to learn how to use tools that our ancestors used to build this country. Joining the SECC has been the most satisfying and meaningful work I’ve ever done and I can’t wait to continue my adventure along this path!”

**-Hunter McIntosh, SECC Crew Member**

“Doing timber work in the Columbine wilderness area was a extremely rewarding experience. Our project partner, Richard, seemed to care not only about the project but our own personal wellbeing; bringing in experts on getting forest service jobs, packing out our trash, hiking up equipment. This experience was one of concentrated learning and has been by far one of my favorites of Southwest Conservation Corps.”

**-SCC Los Valles Region Crew Member**

“Kevin Heiner and Jordan Burningham were excellent to work with- professional, responsive, adaptable, and solution-oriented. I heard feedback from the CDT units that the youth crew accomplished a lot of good work on the ground. It’s been a pleasure working with Conservation Legacy on this project.”

**-Brenda Yankoviak, USFS Rocky Mountain Regional Office**

**“Challenging myself, both physically and mentally, has led me to a sense of belonging within the crew. The cohesion within the crew has developed to a point where we all care for each other.”**

**-Kyle Booker  
VFC Alumni, Former U.S Army**



“The Rainbow Trail is greatly improved now due to the reroute that crews constructed. This reroute now eliminates the old unsustainable trail that previously caused many conflicts amongst users. This section of trail will be appreciated by all users, the community, and benefits the forest greatly”

**-Dani Cook, OHV Trail Crew Leader**

“The crew did great work throughout the season and was willing to do lots of different things for us. They not only built fireline for prescribed burns and thinned stands to reduce fuels and enhance stand health but they helped gather rails for a fence, did some minor trail work, and, very significantly, spent 14 days on a fire assignment to California with the GMUGs Gunnison River Crew. They had a great attitude, crew leadership was good, and Kevin and Jordan were, as usual, a pleasure to work with.”

**-Dan Huisjen, Fuels Specialist**

“This program has helped me find the sense of purpose I lost after exiting the Marine Corps, it’s given me the foot in the door I was looking for. I’ve gotten to see parts of this country I would have never otherwise experienced and built relationships with some really great people who are on my crew. For vets who find themselves working jobs that don’t hold a candle to what they did when they were in, I’d say there’s a good chance that this is the kind of work that provides the structure and sense of accomplishment that fills you with that sense of pride again.”

**-William Allen, AZCC Veterans Fire Corps Member**





# CONCLUSION

Conservation Legacy is extremely enthusiastic about the opportunity to continue and grow its partnership with the US Forest service to expand opportunities for young people and veterans to serve on public lands and to provide much needed services in the areas of land restoration, trail maintenance and construction, vegetation management, historic preservation, wildfire prevention, community development and other critical areas.

Participation in corps programming has a long track record of success and results in young people developing professional and life skills as well as an increased awareness of environmental and resource stewardship. These activities promote the mission and vision to which both the US Forest Service and Conservation Legacy are committed.

The physical and financial support from the USFS, interns, crews, communities, partner agencies, staff and partner conservation corps in this effort have been remarkable. Conservation Legacy is humbled to continue to learn and grow together and to continue to provide systems, administrative and coordinating services that can build capacity at the local level to engage youth and young adults with public lands, for the betterment of our shared future.

## **APPENDIX A: PRESS AND MEDIA**

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### **Salida youth honored for youth corps**

The Mountain Mail | January 29, 2018  
[www.themountainmail.com/free\\_content/article\\_8b9efc0c-04fc-11e8-b00f-37aea0c134cd.html](http://www.themountainmail.com/free_content/article_8b9efc0c-04fc-11e8-b00f-37aea0c134cd.html)

### **The new (bipartisan!) conservation corps is a win-win**

Outside Online | January 26, 2018  
[www.outsideonline.com/2277306/21st-century-conservation-corps-win-win](http://www.outsideonline.com/2277306/21st-century-conservation-corps-win-win)

### **Tipton advances CSC opportunities**

The Valley Courier | January, 2018  
[www.alamosanews.com/article/tipton-advances-csc-opportunities](http://www.alamosanews.com/article/tipton-advances-csc-opportunities)

### **Veterans service & conservation corps: career pathways through continued service**

Huffington Post | November 28, 2017  
[www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/veterans-service-conservation-corps-career-pathways\\_us\\_5a0c94a0e4b06d8966cf344d](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/veterans-service-conservation-corps-career-pathways_us_5a0c94a0e4b06d8966cf344d)

### **Tipton: Support two House bills that help fund national lands, get every kid outdoors**

The Vail Daily | October 12, 2017  
[www.vaildaily.com/opinion/tipton-support-two-house-bills-that-help-fund-national-lands-get-every-kid-outdoors/](http://www.vaildaily.com/opinion/tipton-support-two-house-bills-that-help-fund-national-lands-get-every-kid-outdoors/)

### **Recycling program collects thousands of pounds of hay-bale twine in Southwest Colorado**

The Durango Herald | October 8, 2017  
[www.durangoherald.com/articles/187891-recycling-program-collects-thousands-of-pounds-of-haybale-twine-in-southwest-colorado](http://www.durangoherald.com/articles/187891-recycling-program-collects-thousands-of-pounds-of-haybale-twine-in-southwest-colorado)

### **A trifecta of partnerships restores a Forest Service cabin and trail**

SourDough News | October 6, 2017  
[www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/r10/home/?cid=FSEPRD561109&width=full](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detailfull/r10/home/?cid=FSEPRD561109&width=full)

### **Written Testimony of Kevin Heiner, Associate Director, Southwest Conservation Corps**

Subcommittee on Federal Lands Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3400 | October 3, 2017  
[www.docs.house.gov/meetings/11/110/20171003/106446/HHRG-115-1110-Wstate-HeinerK-20171003-U1.pdf](http://www.docs.house.gov/meetings/11/110/20171003/106446/HHRG-115-1110-Wstate-HeinerK-20171003-U1.pdf)

### **Land, Water and People: Kudos to the Saguache-Upper Rio Grande Resource Advisory Committee**

The Valley Courier | October 2017  
[www.alamosanews.com/article/land-water-and-people-kudos-to-the-saguache-upper-rio-grande-resource-advisory-committee](http://www.alamosanews.com/article/land-water-and-people-kudos-to-the-saguache-upper-rio-grande-resource-advisory-committee)

### **Forest Service expands worldwide influence**

Chaffee County Times | September 1, 2017  
[www.chaffeecountytimes.com/free\\_content/forest-service-expands-worldwide-influence/article\\_ffb9681a-8db1-11e7-bd31-a3ed2627241c.html](http://www.chaffeecountytimes.com/free_content/forest-service-expands-worldwide-influence/article_ffb9681a-8db1-11e7-bd31-a3ed2627241c.html)

### **Youth Conservation Corps empowers native youth in Alaska**

USFS Website | September 14, 2017  
[www.fs.fed.us/inside-fs/youth-conservation-corps-empowers-native-youth-Alaska](http://www.fs.fed.us/inside-fs/youth-conservation-corps-empowers-native-youth-Alaska)

### **Youth crews spend summer supporting public lands**

Lake Powell Life | September 1, 2017  
[www.lakepowelllife.com/youth-crews-spend-summer-supporting-public-lands/](http://www.lakepowelllife.com/youth-crews-spend-summer-supporting-public-lands/)

### **AZ Conservation Corps' graduates 21 members**

White Mountain Independent | August 29, 2017  
[www.wmicentral.com/news/latest\\_news/az-conservation-corps-graduates-members/article\\_ac55bf82-c7d9-5390-9429-7f71ec26376b.html](http://www.wmicentral.com/news/latest_news/az-conservation-corps-graduates-members/article_ac55bf82-c7d9-5390-9429-7f71ec26376b.html)

### **Cox and The Trust for Public Land announce Eric Sophiea as Arizona's 2017 Cox Conserves Hero**

Business Insider | August 29, 2017,  
[www.markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/Cox-and-The-Trust-for-Public-Land-Announce-Eric-Sophiea-as-Arizona-s-2017-Cox-Conserves-Hero-1002292371](http://www.markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/Cox-and-The-Trust-for-Public-Land-Announce-Eric-Sophiea-as-Arizona-s-2017-Cox-Conserves-Hero-1002292371)

### **Forest Service ranger cabins get new life**

The Taos News | August 24, 2017  
[www.taosnews.com/stories/forest-service-ranger-cabins-get-new-life,42556](http://www.taosnews.com/stories/forest-service-ranger-cabins-get-new-life,42556)

### **Conservation Corps plans USFS, AHRA summer work**

The Mountain Mail | May 3, 2017  
[www.themountainmail.com/free\\_content/article\\_758c2052-2ff0-11e7-8fb1-0384f3dffcd.html](http://www.themountainmail.com/free_content/article_758c2052-2ff0-11e7-8fb1-0384f3dffcd.html)

### **Creating fire-adapted communities: It takes a village**

The Durango Herald | April 28, 2017  
[www.durangoherald.com/articles/154404](http://www.durangoherald.com/articles/154404)

## APPENDIX B: 2017 PROJECTS

### 2017 CREW PROJECTS:

#### **Carson NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11030200-006

#### **Chattahoochee-Oconee NF**

Southeast Conservation Corps YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
15-PA-11083150-033 - Mod 3

#### **Cherokee NF**

Southeast Conservation Corps YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
15-PA-11083150-033 - Mod 3

#### **Cibola NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps AL Crew  
Improve recreational access  
Crew Orientation; Volunteer Project

#### **Cibola NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
Fuels reduction; protect communities from wild-  
fire and mitigate climate related impacts  
17-PA-11030300-006

#### **Coconino NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Riparian restoration; restore, protect and  
improve habitat  
14-PA-11030416-005

#### **Coconino NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
14-PA-11030416-035

#### **Coconino NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030408-015

#### **Coconino NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11030408-011

#### **Coconino NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11030406-034

#### **Coronado NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030500-051

#### **Coronado NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
17-PA-11030500-023

#### **George Washington & Jefferson NF**

Great Appalachian Valley CC YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
15-PA-11083150-033 - Mod 3

#### **George Washington & Jefferson NF**

Great Appalachian Valley CC Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
17-PA-11080800-009

#### **George Washington & Jefferson NF**

Great Appalachian Valley CC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
15-PA-11083150-033 - Mod 3

#### **Gila NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
15-PA-11030600-021

#### **Gila NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030600-012

#### **Gila NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030600-011

#### **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
Fuels reduction; protect communities from wild-  
fire and mitigate climate related impacts  
16-PA-11020400-030

#### **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
Fuels Reduction; protect communities from  
wildfire and mitigate climate related impacts  
17-PA-11020400-029

#### **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Herbicide Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
17-PA-11020405-014

#### **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11020406-072

#### **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11020405-069

#### **Kaibab NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
14-PA-11030700-005

#### **Kaibab NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps AL YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030704-014

#### **Kaibab NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps YCC Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030701-015

#### **Kaibab NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps AL Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
17-PA-11030701-006

#### **Lincoln NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030500-051

#### **Lincoln NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030800-017

#### **Lincoln NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
Fuels reduction; restore, protect and improve  
habitat  
17-PA-11030800-006

#### **Pike San Isabel NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
Protect communities from wildfire and mitigate  
climate related impacts  
15-PA-11021200-061

#### **Pike San Isabel NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11021202-070

#### **Pike San Isabel NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11021202-070

#### **Pike San Isabel NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps BAER Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
17-PA-11021202-070

#### **Pike San Isabel NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
CFI-2017-\$61,800

#### **Prescott NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
16-PA-11030901-016

#### **Prescott NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11030905-007

#### **Prescott NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Improve recreational access  
17-PA-11030900-016

#### **Prescott NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
Restore, protect and improve habitat  
18-PA-11030905-002

**Rio Grande NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-CS-11020900-013

**Rio Grande NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Saw Crew  
 Restore, protect and improve habitat  
 17-CS-11020900-012

**Rio Grande NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Saw Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-CS-11020900-021

**Rio Grande NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Saw Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-CS-11020900-021

**Rio Grande NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-CS-11020903-014

**Rio Grande NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Saw Crew  
 Restore, protect and improve habitat  
 2017-HPP Saguache RD-\$10,500

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
 Fuels Reduction; Protect communities from wildfire and mitigate climate related impacts  
 14-PA-11021300-015-Mod 2

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
 Fuels reduction; protect communities from wild-fire and mitigate climate related impacts  
 14-PA-11021300-015 Mod 3

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 16-PA-11021305-054

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Fuels reduction; protect communities from wild-fire and mitigate climate related impacts  
 17-PA-11021305-032

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Restore, protect and improve habitat  
 16-PA-11021300-052

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11021306-014

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11021305-031

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11021308-011

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Saw Crew  
 Fuels reduction; protect communities from wild-fire and mitigate climate related impacts  
 17-PA-11021300-030

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11021308-025

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
 Fuels reduction; protect communities from wild-fire and mitigate climate related impacts  
 14-PA-11021300-015-MOD 4

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
 Protect communities from wildfire and mitigate climate related impacts  
 16-PA-11021306-033-MOD 1

**San Juan NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps Saw Crew  
 Fuels reduction; restore, protect and improve habitat  
 17-PA-11021300-044

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 14-PA-11031202-028

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 15-PA-11031200-011

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 16-PA-11031200-015

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps VFC Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 16-PA-11031200-019

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11031200-010

**Tonto NF**

Southwest Conservation Corps AL Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11031200-026

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11031200-022

**Tonto NF**

Arizona Conservation Corps Crew  
 Restore, protect and improve habitat  
 17-PA-11221634-147 2

**TriForest (Cibola, Carson, Santa Fe)**

Southwest Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 17-PA-11030200-005

**USFS Region 8: Multi-Forest**

Southeast Conservation Corps Crew  
 Improve recreational access  
 15-PA-11083150-033 - Mod 3

## APPENDIX C: 2017 FUNDING

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USFS: Multiple Forests  
 \$33,597.00

USFS Bighorn NF  
 \$8,580.00

USFS Carson NF  
 \$135,450.00

USFS Cibola NF  
 \$117,937.00

USFS Coconino NF  
 \$284,944.46

USFS Coronado NF  
 \$142,900.00

USFS Gila NF  
 \$211,793.00

USFS Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre  
 & Gunnison NF  
 \$260,436.75

USFS George Washington & Jefferson NF  
 \$24,800.00

USFS Kaibab NF  
 \$63,710.00

USFS Lincoln NF  
 \$118,600.00

USFS Mark Twain NF  
 \$73,556.58

USFS Pike San Isabel NF  
 \$274,949.00

USFS Prescott NF  
 \$55,200.00

**Total Funding for 2017 Projects:  
 \$1,806,453.79**



CONSERVATION  
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