

Summary of Applicants



MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS

Executive Summary

Montana Conservation Corps continues to develop our offering to mobilize a new generation of environmental stewards and young leaders to protect and restore the lands that enrich our lives in Montana and support a healthy economy. For all its beauty and wildness, Montana's environment remains at risk due to changes in climate and land use that contribute to the spread of invasive weeds, catastrophic wildfires and flooding, and deterioration of the natural assets that are the foundation of Montana's agriculture and outdoor recreation-based economy. For this Year 3 continuation application, MCC proposes to recruit 249 AmeriCorps young adult members (146.349 MSY), an increase in 0.97 MSY's over last year, to support refinements in program design for tribal members serving on the Bridging Cultures crew. Members will serve on small crews on diverse conservation projects lasting a few days to multiple weeks with 150+ partners. MCC recruits participants in Montana and from across the country, and ensures an inclusive program design to engage young people from diverse backgrounds, race and ethnicities, and with diverse disabilities. Through their activities, members will improve 650 miles of trails, enhance 2,500 acres of parks and public and tribal lands, and provide energy conservation education and services to 2,000 low income homeowners. Members will also mobilize 1,250 volunteers, including 130 Montana teens who serve on month-long Youth Service Expeditions during the summer. Veterans transitioning back to civilian life will engage in projects to mitigate wildfire risks and gain skills for wildfire fighting and green jobs. MCC's nationally acclaimed leader development program prepares AmeriCorps members to lead in their crews, as well as in their communities. Our program year begins in January with MCC training 85 crew leaders (61 FT and 24 PT) who serve in communities through April. The program expands in May with the recruitment of 134 PT and 30 Minimum Time crew members who serve on conservation, energy, and disaster projects primarily in Montana, but also in Idaho, North and South Dakota, and Wyoming, with most continuing until November. Members may be deployed to respond to disasters anywhere in the nation. The CNCS investment of \$1,872,000 is leveraged with \$3,449,464 in grantee match funds (65%).

	Current Grant ('13)	Request ('14)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$1,872,000	\$1,872,000	\$0
Cash Match	\$3,349,104	\$3,449,464	\$100,360
In-Kind Match	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Match	\$3,349,104	\$3,449,464	\$100,360
Match %	64%	65%	1%
Project Cost	\$5,221,104	\$5,321,464	\$100,360
MSY	145.38	146.35	0.97
Cost per MSY	\$12,877	\$12,791	(\$85)

JUSTICE FOR MONTANANS PROJECT

Executive Summary

The AmeriCorps*State Justice for Montanans Project will have 18 AmeriCorps members who will serve as navigators of the justice system to help low income individuals find the legal information and resources they need to solve their legal problems. Members will be located in Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell, and Missoula, Montana, but will provide services statewide through circuit rides and telephone and web-based services. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for helping 15,000 low and moderate income Montanans gain knowledge of the legal system and their legal rights and responsibilities, as well as learning what to do or not do to solve their legal problems. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage an additional 200 volunteers that will be engaged in helping low and moderate income Montanans access the justice system and receive the intended benefit of our laws. This program will focus on the CNCS focus area of Economic Opportunity, and the self-identified focus area of Access to Justice. The CNCS investment of \$226,965 will be matched with \$224,151, \$158,601 in public funding, and \$65,550 in private/other funding.

	Current Grant ('13)	Request ('14)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$172,895	\$226,965	\$54,070
Cash Match	\$58,322	\$122,547	\$64,225
In-Kind Match	\$90,553	\$101,604	\$11,051
Total Match	\$148,875	\$224,151	\$75,276
Match %	46%	50%	3%
Project Cost	\$321,770	\$451,116	\$129,346
MSY	13.00	18.00	5.00
Cost per MSY	\$13,300	\$12,609	(\$690)

MONTANA STATE PARKS AMERICORPS

Executive Summary

Montana State Parks AmeriCorps will host 20 AmeriCorps members who will promote healthy, active and environmentally aware communities by improving the condition of state park lands, enriching educational opportunities, building volunteer capacity, and strengthening community outreach through service in state parks across Montana. At the end of the first program year, the members will be responsible for improving 360 acres of land, delivering 250 education programs to at least 6,000 youth and 2,000 adults, and facilitate 20 new community partnerships. AmeriCorps members will leverage an additional 500 volunteers, who will assist park managers with keeping parks clean, providing educational programs, assisting with public events, and acting as stewards of the natural and cultural heritage for the Montana State Parks system. Members will also be available to respond to disasters as needed. This program will focus on the CNCS focus area of Environmental Stewardship EN4 and Capacity Building G3-3.1. The CNCS investment of \$176,161 will be matched with \$186,832 (\$174,832 in state funds and \$12,000 in private funding).

	Current Grant ('13)	Request ('14)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$143,500	\$167,161	\$23,661
Cash Match	\$171,097	\$186,832	\$15,735
In-Kind Match	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Match	\$171,097	\$186,832	\$15,735
Match %	54%	53%	-2%
Project Cost	\$314,597	\$353,993	\$39,396
MSY	10.79	12.57	1.78
Cost per MSY	\$13,299	\$13,298	(\$1)

MONTANA ENERGY CORPS

Executive Summary

The National Center for Appropriate Technology will have 10 AmeriCorps members who will design and conduct educational activities in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmentally conscious practices in Missoula, Butte, Helena, Havre, Bozeman, and Hamilton, Montana. At the end of the 1st program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for 1,275 service recipients showing an increase in knowledge regarding sustainable energy resources, energy efficiency, and other environmentally conscious practices. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage an additional 50 volunteers that will be engaged in community based energy education services.

This program will focus on the CNCS focus area of Environmental Stewardship. The CNCS investment of \$124,428 will be matched with \$59,450 in public funding and \$59,450 in private funding.

	Current Grant ('13)	Request ('14)	Difference
Federal Funds	\$0	\$124,428	\$124,428
Cash Match	NA	\$118,900	NA
In-Kind Match	NA	\$0	NA
Total Match	\$0	\$118,900	\$118,900
Match %	NA	49%	NA
Project Cost	\$0	\$243,328	\$243,328
MSY	0.00	10.00	10.00
Cost per MSY	\$0	\$12,443	\$12,443