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CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** California

SITE SUPERVISOR: Stephen E. Jewett **COUNTY:**
NO OF MEMBERS: 5 **CLUSTER:** Lancaster
COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: 2

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Present conservation information to schools, teachers, homeowner groups, and the teneral public.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
More people will become aware of the contribution that they can make to improve the environment.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Use evaluation interviews or forms to rate success of presentations based on audience judgement.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
At least one known community environmental improvement made from each presentation such as a tree planting, cleanup project. mulching, wildlife enhancement, or erosion control project.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Presentations will be made to 2,000 K-12 students, 5 landowner or other organized groups and 2 workshops or environmental fair booths.

6. How many members will work on this objective?
Five

7. What is the cluster site for this group?
Lancaster/Somis

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** California

SITE SUPERVISOR: Stephen E. Jewett **COUNTY:**
NO OF MEMBERS: 5 **CLUSTER:** Lancaster
COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: 3

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Plan, present, and install conservation measures that will restore and protect watersheds and urban housing from flooding and debris flows caused from aftermath of wildfires.
2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Plans completed and presented to stateholders resulting in practices applied. Watersheds protected and flooding reduced.
3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Planning will be checked for compliance to NRCS guidelines and practice application will be according to NRCS specifications. Landowner judgement will also be used as a measure.
4. By what standard will you gauge success?
80% of practices recommended in watershed plans and presented to the public will be implemented. 100% will pass inspection by NRCS District Conservationist.
5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
200 participants directly. 75,000 individuals indirectly.
6. How many members will work on this objective?
Five
7. What is the cluster site for this group?
Lancaster/Somis

669

1. TITLE PAGE:

A) Title of Project:

Desert Soil Survey Accelertion/Chemehuevi Indian Tribe Outreach

B) Name of Organization:

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

C) Team Type

Rural Development Team

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members:

California

E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members:

San Bernardino County

F) Names of counties served by Members:

San Bernardino County

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members:

40

H) Name of site supervisor:

Rick Aguayo

I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor:

USDA NRCS

18484 Hwy. 18, Ste. 195

Apple Valley, CA 92307

Phone (619) 242-2903

Fax (619) 242-0203

J) Name of state project manager:

Tim Cattron

K) Address, phone number, and fax number of state project manager:

USDA NRCS

2121-C 2nd Street, Ste. 102

Davis, CA 95616-5475

Phone (916) 757-8300

670

L) **Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams:**

0

M) **Number of Members in Rural Development Teams:** 5

2. SUMMARY PAGE

A) Exactly what specific accomplishments where achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

Assistance has been provided directly or indirectly to the soil mapping of approximately 80,000 acres on 3 new soil survey sites. Vegetative data collection is in progress that will be used for the development of non-typical ecological site descriptions.

Community outreach activities related to the soil survey efforts are continuing. AmeriCorps Members have been working with school districts on educational materials related to soils. On specific activity, the "Soil Saver Club" program has enabled over 5,000 elementary students to actively participate in a hands on educational experience. Other outreach efforts on educating high school students, girl scouts, and teachers on soils and its importance to the environment has been provided by my AmeriCorps Members.

672

B) The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

CONSERVATION MEASURES:

Conservation measures application on the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation. Assistance will be provided to the Tribal staff in the establishment, management, and marketing of their planned agricultural program. The intent of this element is to provide assistance to enable the Tribal staff to continue this farming operation on their own.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Assistance will be provided to the Chemehuevi Indian Tribal planners in coordinating planning efforts; working with private contractors, and assisting them with grant application preparation. The Chemehuevi Tribe has many long term goals that have not been realized for more than 20 years due to many reasons. They are attempting to move forward with some of these goals, but will need some additional assistance. Assistance on the implementation of the Master Recreational Plan and establishment of the Native plant nursery is planned for this fiscal years program.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

18484 Hwy. 18, Ste. 195
Apple Valley, CA 92307
Phone (619) 242-2906
FAX (619) 242-0203

Subject: PGM-FY-96 Renewal Application
Summary for the Apple Valley FO

April 13, 1995

To: Tim Cattron
Information Systems Director
Davis State Office

I. Objective 1: Emergency Flood Recovery Work (Not Applicable)

II. Objective 2: Conservation Measures

1. What is the work to be done?

Providing daily assistance to the Chemehuevi Indian Tribal staff in the establishment, management, and marketing, initially, of 100 acres of irrigated cropland.

Windbreak planting around cropland, community park area.

2. What is the desired result?

The desired result is to enable the Chemehuevi Indian Tribal staff to be able to manage and market the agricultural cropland on their own, and also to create employment opportunities for the youth.

3. How will you measure the quality and the impact of the work?

Besides the obvious, the establishment of agriculture on the reservation, an increase in job opportunities related to this agriculture program.

4. What is the Standard for Success?

Initially it will be the establishment of agriculture on the reservation, and windbreak plantings. The ultimate standard for success will be the ability of the Tribal staff to manage their farming operation and market their crops on their own.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work?

The Chemehuevi Indian Tribal affiliation is 604 with 132 members living on the reservation with the remaining 472 living off reservation.

6. How many members will work on this objective?

One (1) with a strong agronomic and farming background.

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

7. What is the cluster site for this group?

Member will be part of the Apple Valley Field Office cluster group.

III. Objective 3: Conservation Education (Not Applicable)

IV. Objective 4: Salmon and Fishery Recovery (Not Applicable)

V. Objective 5: Water Quality & Watershed Protection (Not Applicable)

VI. Objective 6: Community Development

1. What is the work to be done?

Assist Chemehuevi Indian Tribal planners in coordinating planning efforts, working with private contractors, and assisting them with grant application preparation.

Assist Chemehuevi Indians with the implementation of the Master Recreational Plan that has been developed by the NRCS.

Assist establishment of native plant nursery that will be used to grow plants that were used by Tribal ancestors for food and medicinal purposes.

2. What is the desired result?

Establishment of native plant nursery, recreational improvement opportunities for adults and youth. Intangible results would be realized such as pride in achieving their long term goals. Community improvement and enhancement. Potential increase in employment opportunities for youth at the reservation.

Recreational improvements will enable reservation residents and visitors access to facilities that they do not currently have available to them.

Obtaining of grants to assist them financially to either begin or complete many of the projects planned, or provide funding for employment or training opportunities on the reservation.

3. How will you measure the quality and the impact of the work?

The quality and the impact of the work will be the obvious improvements that are constructed on the reservation and the response from the Tribal members.. Other intangible impacts will be the sense of community pride for their reservation and sense of accomplishment by Tribal residents.

4. What is the Standard for Success?

Establishment of native plant nursery.

Completion of a portion of the Master Recreational Plan
a. Sodding of baseball field
b. Automated irrigation system for baseball field
c. Soccer field with irrigation system
d. Initiate plans and develop funding strategies for planned community swimming pool and gymnasium.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work?

The Chemehuevi Indian Tribal affiliation is 604 with 132 members living on the reservation with the remaining 472 living off reservation.

6. How many members will work on this objective?

One (1) with a strong background in regional/area planning with grant writing capabilities.

7. What is the cluster site for this group?

Member will be part of the Apple Valley Field Office cluster group.

VII. Objective 7: Soil/Vegetative Resource Inventories

1. What is the work to be done?

Accelerate collection and input of soils data to be digitized on approximately 400,000 acres of land.

Develop digitized maps (3), one per reservation of baseline vegetation data to be used for ecological site descriptions.

Distribute available soils data and digitized soils maps and inform base planners on how to use data.

Assist surrounding communities with the expansion of soil survey activities to areas currently lacking soils data. Approximately 8 million acres will need soil survey data to assist land use planners, environmentalist, ranchers, and farmers to better utilize and protect the natural resources. In order to expand the soil survey activities, members will coordinate meetings with other federal, state, and local government agencies on the status of ongoing soil survey activities and the need for this soils data for their lands.

2. What is the desired result?

Improved resource planning which will enable base planners and others to protect and/or conserve the endangered species while allowing the military to continue with their military training exercises.

Acceleration of resource data to planners, community leaders, environmentalists and individuals both on and off the base.

Reduction of land use planning conflicts resulting from a better understanding of the natural resources, enabling environmental planners and military decision makers to make land use decisions that are more compatible with the training activities and the needs of the environment.

3. How will you measure the quality and the impact of the work?

Quality of digitized maps will be compared to original source materials.

Quality of soils and vegetative data collected will be reviewed by technical specialist for accuracy and completeness.

Community impact will be measured through discussions, and direct interaction with base planners acting as the primary measuring tools.

4. What is the Standard for Success?

Digitizing efforts will follow NRCS standards and specifications in addition to the standards.

Data gathering for soils and vegetation will follow NRCS standards and specifications.

Five (5) presentations or displays at each soil survey site area which will expand the community awareness of the benefits and uses of existing soil surveys and current surveys in progress.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work?

The 3 military reservations are used extensively for desert military training or for testing of new aircraft. Indirectly, the entire nation will benefit from the services provided by the AmeriCorps Program. The acceleration of the availability of soils and vegetation data will enable base decision makers to develop plans that will protect or conserve areas for endangered species and still allow them to continue their military training that is necessary for national security. Individuals directly benefiting from this program will be the environmental planners, engineers, and ecologists on each of the bases.

6. How many members will work on this objective?

Six (6) members, with 2 members being assigned to each of the 3 military reservations.

7. What is the cluster site for this group?

Members will be part of the Apple Valley Field Office cluster group.

Rick Aguayo
District Conservationist
Apple Valley Field Office

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Water Conservation Initiative
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Florida
E.	County of Duty Station:	Duvall
F.	Names of counties served (Up to 15)	Duvall
G.	Congressional District:	3rd, 4th & 6th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Allen Moore
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	5542 Dunn Ave. Jacksonville, FL 32118 Ph: (904) 232-2871 FAX: (904) 765-7172
J:	Name of St Project Director:	Jerry Joiner
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Federal Bldg, Room 248, 401 S.E. 1st Ave Gainsville, FL 32601 Ph: (904) 338-9506 FAX: (904) 338-9574
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	5

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Name

The AmeriCorps Water Conservation Initiative in Duval County, Florida.

Location

The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Jacksonville Field Office in Duval County, Florida.

Natural Resources Conservation Service 5542 Dunn Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32218

Needs to be Met

The needs to be met relate to protecting the natural environment. Specifically, this project will help protect the drinking water supplies in Duval County upon which approximately 800,000 people rely.

Key Elements of Design

The project will enroll five full time Rural Development Corps participants who will serve with the Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL). Duvall currently has no MIL team. While performing MIL tasks, the participants will inform residents about the Home Fuel Oil Recovery Program.

Administering organization and Primary Partners

The administering organization is the NRCS. The primary partner is the DSWCD. Additional partners consist of the St. Johns River Water Management District.

Mission

The project mission is to conserve and protect the drinking water supply of Duval County. It will do this by recruiting and training the participants to educate residents about landscape water conservation and threats to groundwater quality from abandoned home fuel oil tanks.

Annual Objectives

1.) Recruit a diverse workforce.
2.) Train participants in water conservation issues.
3.) Conduct public information activities on landscape irrigation and the home fuel oil recovery program.
4.) Conduct on-site MIL evaluations.

Budget

All operating costs such as training, transportation, equipment, supplies, and office space will be provided by the partner agencies. The estimated value of this contribution is $47,450 per year.

PROJECT SETTING

Location

The AmeriCorps project will serve Duval County, which is located on the Northeast coast of Florida and has a total area of 774 square miles.

Economic Profile

Duval County youth are confronted with a poverty level of 9.8 percent. They are also subject to a per capita income of $19,011, which is relatively low when considering that Duval County is a major transportation center and the headquarters for large corporations. With few opportunities for technical training, Duval County's youth have limited access to employment in the surrounding industries. As a result, many young people edge ever closer to the poverty level. Foreseeing a dismal future for themselves and their communities, they often resort to desperate measures, such as crime. This may be one reason why Duval County has an exceptionally high rate of both violent and nonviolent crime. The existence of an AmeriCorps project will assist those young adults who yearn for something better.

Hydrology

Groundwater accounts for 99 percent of total freshwater withdrawals in Duval County, while the remaining 1 percent is derived from surface water sources. The Floridan aquifer system underlies all of Florida, and parts of Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. In Duval County the Floridan aquifer system is the principal water supply source and supplies 91 percent of the total groundwater withdrawals. Duval County is comprised of poorly drained soils, which are impermeable and subsequently allow no recharge to the Floridan aquifer. Unfortunately, the existence of impermeable soils does not prevent the aquifer from being contaminated by industrial discharges, landfill leachates, and fuel spills.

Population Growth & Water Demands

Duval County's current population is approximately 700,000, and is the 7th most populous of 67 counties in Florida. Duval County's population is projected to increase by 19 percent to over 800,000 by the year 2010.

Currently, total freshwater withdrawals to serve Duval County average 156 million gallons per day (MGD). The tremendous population growth in Duval County will result in a 221 MGD of freshwater withdrawals by the year 2010. Huge water withdrawals in Duval County already result in temporary water restrictions, and in some instances render privately owned wells inoperable for several days, because of the decline in groundwater levels.

Irrigation Water Use

Irrigation water use consists of four categories: agriculture, commercial landscaping, residential landscaping, and golf courses. Agricultural use includes water used to irrigate all crops, nurseries, and improved pasture. Irrigation accounts for approximately 30 percent of the total freshwater withdrawals. Figure 1 illustrates the exorbitant amount of water that is utilized for irrigation purposes. The proportion of water used for irrigation is unnecessarily high and is mainly a result of improper landscape irrigation.

WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY PROBLEMS

Introduction

Population increases are affecting the quantity and quality of ground and surface waters in Duval County. Increasing groundwater withdrawals are hastening the intrusion of saltwater into the freshwater zones of the Floridan aquifer. Increasing groundwater withdrawals are also reducing the flow from springs, which sustain the St. Johns River. The potential for contamination of the Floridan aquifer from abandoned home fuel oil tanks continues to threaten drinking water sources.

Saltwater Intrusion

Population growth in Duval County is causing increased water withdrawals from the Floridan aquifer, which subsequently is causing a decline in the water levels of the Upper Floridan aquifer. In recent years the water level surface has been steadily declining at a rate of about one-third to three-fourths foot per year. This is directly attributed to increased pumping in Duval County. Water level declines of more 20 to 40 feet have occurred in Duval County as a result of increased pumping. This is accelerating the intrusion of saltwater in the freshwater zones of the Floridan aquifer. The incidence of saltwater intrusion is expected to continually increase as population growth causes greater withdrawals on groundwater resources. This is important because recharge to the aquifer from precipitation is negligible in Northeast Florida.

Irrigation Runoff

Improper irrigation practices in urban and agricultural sectors are prevalent in Northeast Florida. The use of pesticides and fertilizers in combination with irrigation systems on crops and landscapes result in nutrient laden runoff, which endanger fragile ecosystems and ever decreasing potable water supplies.

St. Johns River

Pollutants such as nutrients, pesticides, toxins, and bacteria occur in continually increasing amounts in the St. Johns River and surrounding tributaries. Increasing groundwater withdrawals threaten to decrease spring discharges into the St. Johns River, which may consequently diminish the river's flow. This will exacerbate existing water quantity and quality problems.

Contamination

The advanced deterioration of home fuel oil tanks pose a considerable threat to the Floridan aquifer. Tens of thousands of abandoned underground oil tanks remain filled or partially filled with oil in Duval County. The risk of aquifer contamination is alarming because just one gallon of oil can contaminate one million gallons of water. If the oil is not removed, ground and surface water contamination will inevitably occur as the tanks deteriorate and oil leaks into the soil.

PROCESS

Identification

Several agencies and groups in Florida have been cooperating to solve the problems described above. The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), as well as the other four water management districts in Florida are all developing water supply plans which are intended to set a framework around water use decisions in order to ensure an adequate supply of water while maintaining the functions of natural systems and the overall quality of water resources. All of these plans contain water conservation elements.

Important tools to help achieve water conservation objectives are Mobile Irrigation Labs (MILs). MILs conduct on-site evaluations of irrigation system efficiency and make improvement recommendations to the irrigation system operator. MILs have proven to be a popular and effective means of achieving water conservation in urban and agricultural settings. Currently there are nine MILs operating in Florida and several more have been proposed. All government agencies in Florida are facing severe

budgetary restrictions making it difficult to fully fund new initiatives such as MILS. Therefore, almost all MILs are funded by partnerships of sponsoring organizations.

The partnership members are continually searching for additional partners and recognize that the AmeriCorps Program may offer an opportunity to expand the partnership and build a more diverse base of support for water conservation in Florida. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Duval Soil and Water Conservation District (DSWCD), and the SJRWMD are currently cooperating to establish an MIL in Duval County.

Concern for water quantity is compounded by efforts to sustain water quality in Duval County. The DSWCD has received a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to establish a Home Fuel Oil Recovery Program (HFORP), which will provide a valuable service for communities by recovering and recycling home fuel oil from abandoned underground or above ground tanks. This service will directly contribute to the protection of ground and surface water sources in Duval County.

Establishment of Specific objectives

The interagency planning process established the following objectives:

1. Educate residents and businesses about water use and environmental impacts in the Northeast Florida ecosystem.

2. Provide an on-site irrigation system evaluation service which gives detailed specific instructions on how the individual can help protect the environment by conserving water.

3. Inform residents about the risks to groundwater from abandoned home fuel oil tanks and how the HFORP can prevent groundwater contamination.

4. Develop a cadre of young Floridians with an understanding of the complex Northeast Florida ecosystem.

5. Nurture the environmental, service, learning and work ethics of the participants by providing them with a meaningful and challenging way to contribute to society.

Benefits

The Rural Development corps participants will receive an educational stipend, which will be provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The participants will work 1,812 hours for $12,000 and have 9 holidays with 40 hours of personal leave each year when in service. The living allowance, FICA, health insurance, child care, and support costs will be funded by the NRCS National Office.

The participants will develop valuable working skills which can be used throughout their lives. These include public speaking, ability to collect and analyze data, teamwork, writing, organizing, and professional work ethics. In addition they will gain exposure to the landscape irrigation industry and knowledge of the environmental issues facing Florida.

Likewise the community benefits through the reduced threat of water shortage and contamination. The community will become educated in wise use of landscape irrigation practices and the potential risks from abandoned home fuel oil tanks.

DESIGN

Structure

This AmeriCorps project will consist of five full time Rural Development Corps participants who will serve as apprentice MIL technicians on the proposed DSWCD MIL. While performing MIL tasks, the participants will inform residents about the HFORP. A majority of the MIL evaluations will be conducted on urban irrigation systems.

The DSWCD currently has two employees. The employees will serve as the mentors for the AmeriCorps participants. After the training period, the five Rural Development Corps participants, in two teams of two, will conduct irrigation system evaluations and provide information about the HFORP to landowners. The membership on the MIL team will rotate among all five participants. This will allow for one person to work in the office to input and evaluate data.

Specific Activities

The Rural Development Corps team will undertake the following activities in order to achieve the established objectives.

1) Receive on-the-job training from the mentors about water usage and environmental impacts in Northeast Florida. This will include working with the DSWCD MIL team in action as well as a basic orientation to the groundwater hydrology and environmental issues in Northeast Florida.

2) Provide information to the public about MILs and the availability of the HFORP by staffing information booths at street fairs and malls, making presentations at elementary schools and homeowners association meetings as well as other community events.

3) Conduct field evaluations of urban irrigation systems. The evaluations consist of the following steps:

a) Visual inspection of system
b) Pressure variation check
c) Flow variation check
d) Distribution uniformity check
e) Landscape evaluation
f) Make recommendations for irrigation system improvement

Location

The headquarters for the MIL will be the Jacksonville Field office of the NRCS. The address is:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
5542 Dunn Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32118

Partnerships

The proposed MIL will be funded by a partnership of sponsoring organizations including the SJRWMD, the DSWCD and the NRCS. The partners are actively seeking additional partners such as private water purveyors and municipalities. Currently, the-FDEP is a partner in the HFORP. The existence of an AmeriCorps project in

the county will allow the partners to further leverage their funds and facilitate inclusion of additional partners.

Evaluation and Monitoring

The evaluation and monitoring of the MIL component of this project will be done according to the criteria of the NRCS Progress Reporting System and the Automated Data System for Water Quality. The evaluation of the progress and performance of the Rural Development Corps participants will be done using a performance appraisal and employee development system similar to the one used by the NRCS.

Typical Week

Approximately one day per week will be spent in a staff meeting or training session. The staff meeting will deal with organizational details. The training session will deal with the following:

1) Technical issues involved with MIL evaluations and the HFORP (including on-the-job training in the field).

2) Broader "context" issues to provide the participants with a more complete understanding of the environmental issues facing Northeast Florida.

3) Social issues in order to foster civic values.

The rest of the week will be spent performing duties such as informing residents about the HFORP, educating landowners about water conservation, conducting MIL evaluations, and providing follow up assistance.

Training Plan

An ad hoc committee is currently developing a statewide training plan for all MIL operators. It will be completed before any AmeriCorps participants are hired. The training plan will address the technical aspects of conducting a MIL evaluation such as checking water pressure, water distribution uniformity, collecting, and evaluating data and making recommendations. Participants will receive orientation about the HFORP from district staff in order to properly inform residents.

Recruitment, Placement, and Supervision

Because of the necessity to collect and evaluate numerical data, and the intense interaction with the public, Rural Development Corps participants are needed to ensure the success of this AmeriCorps project.

The NRCS District Conservationist will get the word out by conducting a wide-spread media campaign. In addition the District Conservationist will network with leaders from the various communities in Northeast Florida. This will include elected officials, clergy, social service providers, academic advisors and others. This project will be open to applicants to the national AmeriCorps pool of applicants. The NRCS District Conservationist will be responsible for the selection of the Rural Development Corps participants for this project.

All participants will be at the same level with regard to salary, benefits and responsibility. The existing MIL operators will be mentors and provide much of the on-the-job training. The District Conservationist will provide official supervision.

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Water Conservation Initiative
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Florida
E.	County of Duty Station:	Dade
F.	Names of counties served (Up to 15)	Dade
G.	Congressional District:	17th & 23rd
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Doug Ulmer
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	15600 SW 288th St. Suite 402 Homestead, FL 33033 Ph: (305) 242-1218 FAX: (305) 242-1292
J:	Name of St Project Director:	Jerry Joiner
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Federal Bldg, Room 248, 401 S.E. 1st Ave Gainsville, FL 32601 Ph: (904) 338-9506 FAX: (904) 338-9574
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	5

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Name

The AmeriCorps Water Conservation Initiative in Dade County, Florida.

Location

The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Homestead Field Office in Dade County, Florida.

Natural Resources Conservation Service
15600 SW 288th St., S-402
Homestead, FL 33033

Needs To Be Met

The needs to be met relate to conserving and protecting the natural environment. Specifically, this project will help protect the drinking water supplies in Dade County upon which 1.9 million people rely.

Key Elements of Design

The project will enroll five full time Rural Development Corps participants who will serve with the Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL). Once trained, the new Americorps team will serve as an Urban team. Currently, the MIL technicians work only on agriculture land.

Administering Organization and Primary Partners

The administering organization is the NRCS. The primary partner is the SDSWCD. The South Florida Water Management District is an additional partner.

Mission

The project mission is to conserve and protect the drinking water supply of Dade County, Florida. To help accomplish this, five full time Rural Development Corps participants will serve as assistants to the South Dade MIL and to other SDSWCD projects.

Annual Objectives

1) Recruit a diverse workforce.
2) Train participants in water conservation issues.
3) Conduct public information activities on landscape irrigation.
4) Conduct on-site landscape irrigation system evaluations, assist the SDSWCD in their composting project and other projects.

Budget

All operating costs such as training, transportation, equipment, supplies and office space will be provided by the administering organization or through additional grant funds from partner agencies. Estimated value of these contributions is $38,000 per year.

PROJECT SETTING

Location

The AmeriCorps project will serve Dade County, which is located on the Southeast coast of Florida.

Dade County is the third largest county in the state and has a total area of 1,945 square miles.

Economic Profile

Dade County is a land of extremes. Intermingled throughout areas of tremendous wealth are areas of tremendous poverty. These socioeconomic contrasts lead to tension and conflict. South Florida, especially Dade County, is known for the viciousness of criminal attacks, especially by youths, who lash out because they foresee a bleak future for themselves and their community.

Attempting to understand the actions of the despairing youth is not difficult when considering that Dade County has an unemployment rate of 7.7 percent, which is compounded by a 14.2 percent poverty level. The existence of an AmeriCorps project will assist young adults to create a better life for themselves.

RANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE:
ater Conservation (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Allen Moore **PHONE:** (904) 232-2871 **COUNTY:** Duvall

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Assist the Duval Soil & Water Conservation District (DSWC. with their Home Fuel Oil Recovery Program (HFORP) by conducting public information activities.

---

1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Conduct public information activities on the HFORP, make presentations to schools and homeowners association and other community events. Development and distribution of pamphlets & displays.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Residents will be more knowledgeable regarding the risks of home fuel oil tank deterioration.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By tabulating the number of residents that have taken advantage of this DSWC service and by the gallons of home fuel oil that has been retrieved as a result of the HFORP. The goal is 48,000 gallons per year.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Noting the number of interested customers who request the HFORP services.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Will inform hundreds of residents about the HFORP and thereby involving the community in protection of their water resources. Potential 10,000 county residents.

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Water Conservation Initiative
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Florida
E.	County of Duty Station:	Dade
F.	Names of counties served (Up to 15)	Dade
G.	Congressional District:	17th & 23rd
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Doug Ulmer
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	15600 SW 288th St. Suite 402 Homestead, FL 33033 Ph: (305) 242-1218 FAX: (305) 242-1292
J:	Name of St Project Director:	Jerry Joiner
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Federal Bldg, Room 248, 401 S.E. 1st Ave Gainsville, FL 32601 Ph: (904) 338-9506 FAX: (904) 338-9574
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	5

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Name

The AmeriCorps Water Conservation Initiative in Dade County, Florida.

Location

The United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Homestead Field Office in Dade County, Florida.

Natural Resources Conservation Service
15600 SW 288th St., S-402
Homestead, FL 33033

Needs To Be Met

The needs to be met relate to conserving and protecting the natural environment. Specifically, this project will help protect the drinking water supplies in Dade County upon which 1.9 million people rely.

Key Elements of Design

The project will enroll five full time Rural Development Corps participants who will serve with the Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL). Once trained, the new Americorps team will serve as an Urban team. Currently, the MIL technicians work only on agriculture land.

Administering Organization and Primary Partners

The administering organization is the NRCS. The primary partner is the SDSWCD. The South Florida Water Management District is an additional partner.

Mission

The project mission is to conserve and protect the drinking water supply of Dade County, Florida. To help accomplish this, five full time Rural Development Corps participants will serve as assistants to the South Dade MIL and to other SDSWCD projects.

Annual Objectives

1) Recruit a diverse workforce.
2) Train participants in water conservation issues.
3) Conduct public information activities on landscape irrigation.
4) Conduct on-site landscape irrigation system evaluations, assist the SDSWCD in their composting project and other projects.

Budget

All operating costs such as training, transportation, equipment, supplies and office space will be provided by the administering organization or through additional grant funds from partner agencies. Estimated value of these contributions is $38,000 per year.

PROJECT SETTING

Location

The AmeriCorps project will serve Dade County, which is located on the Southeast coast of Florida.

Dade County is the third largest county in the state and has a total area of 1,945 square miles.

Economic Profile

Dade County is a land of extremes. Intermingled throughout areas of tremendous wealth are areas of tremendous poverty. These socioeconomic contrasts lead to tension and conflict. South Florida, especially Dade County, is known for the viciousness of criminal attacks, especially by youths, who lash out because they foresee a bleak future for themselves and their community.

Attempting to understand the actions of the despairing youth is not difficult when considering that Dade County has an unemployment rate of 7.7 percent, which is compounded by a 14.2 percent poverty level. The existence of an AmeriCorps project will assist young adults to create a better life for themselves.

Groundwater Resources

Dade County is underlain by two major aquifer systems: the Biscayne and the Floridan.

Because the deeper Floridan aquifer in this area, contains nonpotable water due to a high dissolved mineral content, the Biscayne aquifer is the principal water-bearing aquifer for Dade County as well as the entire Southeast coast of Florida. The Biscayne aquifer varies in thickness from 40 to 150 feet. It occurs at or near the land surface in some places and is located under urbanized areas of Dade County. It is comprised of numerous limestone cavities, and is estimated to yield up to 7,000 gallons per minute from large public supply wells. Because the Biscayne aquifer is considered to be one of the most permeable aquifers in the world and extremely vulnerable to contamination, and it is the sole source of drinking water for more than 4 million people in Southeast Florida, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has designated it as a "sole-source aquifer" under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-523). Unfortunately, the Biscayne aquifer has been directly contaminated in some places by industrial discharges, landfill leachates, and fuel spills.

Hydrology

Rainfall patterns in this region are highly seasonal and average 54 inches annually. Approximately 65 percent of the annual rainfall amount occurs during the wet season (June through October) when demands are moderate. Only 35 percent occurs during the dry season (November through May) when demands are largest due to the influx of tourists and winter residents.

Because of the variability in rainfall, there is a need for large water storage reservoirs in this area. These reservoirs are called Water Conservation Areas, which are an integral part of the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF), the regional water management system. The C&SF Project was originally designed to provide drainage for agricultural and urban development, flood protection, and water supply. During recent droughts the system has not been able to meet existing urban and agricultural demands, resulting in water shortages. The C&SF water management system is also used to recharge coastal aquifers by regulating the flow of water in canals during periods of low

rainfall and drought. Flow infiltrates back and forth between canals to the aquifer, depending upon water levels.

Population Growth & Water Demands

Dade County is the most populous county in the state having over 1.9 million residents and is projected to increase 21 percent to over 2.3 million by the year 2010.

The present total demand for all freshwater uses in Dade County is approximately 579.1 million gallons per day (MGD) and is projected to increase to 796 MGD by the year 2010.

Irrigation Water Use

Irrigation water use consists of four categories: agriculture, commercial landscaping, residential landscaping, and golf courses. Agricultural use includes water used to irrigate all crops, nurseries, improved pasture, and livestock watering. Irrigation accounts for approximately 40 percent of the total freshwater withdrawals. Figure 1 illustrates the exorbitant amount of water that is utilized for irrigation purposes. The proportion of water used for irrigation is unnecessarily high and is mainly a result of improper irrigation.

WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY PROBLEMS

Introduction

The consequences of a century of development confront Dade County. Pavement covers land that once soaked rain into aquifers, and during the winter months when water supplies are falling, millions of tourists arrive. Current water demands place a tremendous strain on ecosystems and exacerbates existing water quality problems. The unique hydrologic features in this area; which consist of a thin soil layer, high water table, and porous limestone coupled with rapid population growth; contribute to a high incidence of groundwater contamination. As the struggle for water continues, fragile ecosystems; including the Biscayne Bay, confront a dismal future. Water that used to flow freely toward such ecosystems is now channeled to urban areas for water supply purposes and for the prevention of saltwater intrusion into wellfields and canals.

Irrigation Runoff

Improper irrigation practices in urban and agricultural sectors effect water quality in this region. The use of pesticides and fertilizers in combination with irrigation systems on crops and landscapes result in nutrient laden runoff, which endanger fragile ecosystems and ever decreasing potable water supplies.

Biscayne Bay

The entire ecosystem in Dade County has been drastically altered to allow humans to control the flow of water south to the populated areas. As the region's farms and cities expand, the flow of water increases toward populated areas, while it trickles into fragile ecosystems in ever decreasing, ever more polluted amounts. The Biscayne Bay is significantly affected by canal discharges from the Miami River, which is contaminated by nutrients, pesticides, coliform bacteria, and has one of the highest metals enrichments in the state of Florida. Pollutants such as these flow into Biscayne Bay and consequently threaten the natural habitat.

Saltwater Intrusion

Landward intrusion of seawater has been, and continues to be, the primary threat to public drinking water supplies to coastal Dade County. Increasing pumping of the Biscayne aquifer and recent drought conditions have accentuated this problem. Increasing chloride concentrations, which predict the encroachment of saltwater in wells, are commonplace in this area. once saltwater invades freshwater supply wells, drinking water becomes nonpotable and virtually useless.

Saltwater intrusion occurs when the increased drainage from canals lowers inland ground water levels and reduces the flow of freshwater to the sea, allowing an inland movement of seawater into the aquifer system. This inland movement of saline water occurs in two basic forms: (1) lateral migration of saltwater into the aquifer, and (2) landward movement of saltwater in canals during periods when the freshwater discharge is insufficient to restrict saltwater encroachment. Due to its greater density, saline water that migrates into inland areas along canals leaks downward into underlying fresh groundwater.

Control structures were constructed in all major canals to regulate inland water levels in hopes to retard saltwater intrusion. Despite such measures, increasing pumping due to the rising water demands is causing the progression of saltwater intrusion.

Increased population growth in coastal areas led to the construction of wellfields near the coast, which has also contributed to the saltwater intrusion problem by further lowering water levels locally.

PROCESS

Identification

Several agencies and groups in Florida have been cooperating solve the problems described above. The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), as well as the other four water management districts in Florida is developing water supply plans which are intended to set a framework around water use decisions in order to ensure an adequate supply of water while maintaining the functions of natural systems and the overall quality of water resources. All of these plans contain water conservation elements.

Important tools to help achieve water conservation objectives are Mobile Irrigation Labs (MILs). MILs conduct on-site evaluations of irrigation system efficiency and make improvement recommendations to the irrigation system operator. MILs have proven to be a popular and effective means of achieving water conservation in urban and agricultural settings. Currently there are nine MILs operating in the SFWMD and several more have been proposed. All government agencies in Florida are facing severe budgetary restrictions making it difficult to fully fund new initiatives such as MILS. Therefore, almost all MILs are funded by a partnership of sponsoring organizations.

The partnership members are continually searching for additional partners and recognize that the AmeriCorps Program may offer an opportunity to expand the partnership and build a more diverse base of support for water conservation in Florida.

Establishment of Specific Objectives

The interagency planning process established the following objectives:

* Educate residents and businesses about water use and environmental impacts in the South Florida ecosystem.

* Provide an on-site irrigation system evaluation service which gives detailed specific instructions on how an individual can help protect the environment by conserving water.

* Facilitate a composting project involving yard and food waste and promote other projects as assigned, such as the South Florida Urban Community Assistance Program, Rails to Trails, landfill beautification, wetland restoration, and recycling projects.

* Develop a cadre of young Floridians with an understanding of the complex South Florida ecosystem.

* Nurture the environmental, service, learning and work ethics of the participants by providing them with a meaningful and challenging way to contribute to society.

Benefits

The Rural Development Corps participants will receive an educational stipend, which will be provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The participants will work 1,812 hours for $12,000 and have 9 holidays with 40 hours of personal leave each year when in service. The living allowance, FICA, health insurance, child care, and support costs will be funded by the NRCS National Office.

The Rural Development Corps participants will develop valuable working skills which can be used throughout their lives. These include public speaking, ability to analyze data, teamwork, writing, organizing, and professional work ethics. In addition they will gain exposure to the landscape irrigation industry and knowledge of the environmental issues facing Florida.

Likewise, the community benefits through the reduced threat of water shortage and contamination. The community will become educated in wise use of landscape irrigation practices.

DESIGN

Structure

This AmeriCorps project will consist of five full time Rural Development Corps participants who will serve as apprentice MIL technicians on the existing South Dade Soil and Water

Conservation District (SDSWCD) MIL. The existing MIL conducts about 25 percent of its evaluations on urban irrigation systems. The addition of the apprentices will allow the MIL to place additional emphasis on urban water conservation.

The existing MIL currently has two operators. These operators will serve as the mentors for the AmeriCorps participants. After the training period, the five Rural Development Corps participants, in two teams of two, will conduct the irrigation system evaluations. The membership on the MIL team will rotate among all five participants. This will allow for one person to work in the office to input and evaluate data.

Other activities that participants might undertake are assisting the SDSWCD in other projects such as the South Florida Urban Community Assistance Program, Rail to Trails development, recycling projects, landfill beautification, wetland restoration and other projects as required. Training and supervision for each of these special projects would be provided by the SDSWCD.

Service Activities

The Rural Development Corps team will undertake the following activities in order to achieve the established objectives.

1) Receive on-the-job training from the mentors about water usage and environmental impacts in South Florida. This will include observing the existing MIL team in action as well as an orientation to the groundwater hydrology and environmental issues in South Florida.

2) Provide information to the public by staffing information booths at street fairs and malls, making presentations at elementary schools and homeowners association meetings as well as other community events.

3) Conduct field evaluations of urban irrigation systems. These evaluations consist of the following steps:

a) Visual inspection of the system
b) Pressure variation check
c) Flow variation check
d) Distribution uniformity check
e) Landscape evaluation
f) Make recommendations

4) Receive specialized training for participation in other special projects as needed by the SDSWCD.

Location

The headquarters for the AmeriCorps project MIL will be the Homestead Field Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The address is:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
15600 S.W. 288th Street Suite 402
Homestead, FL 33033-1239

Partnerships

The existing South Dade MIL is funded by a partnership of sponsoring organizations including the SFWMD, the SDSWCD and the NRCS. These partners are actively seeking additional partners such as private water purveyors and municipalities. The existence of an AmeriCorps project in the county will allow the partners to further leverage their funds and facilitate inclusion of additional partners.

Evaluation and Monitoring

The evaluation and monitoring of the MIL component of this project will be done according to the criteria of the NRCS Progress Reporting System and the Automated Data System for Water Quality. The evaluation of the progress and performance of the AmeriCorps participants will be done using a performance appraisal and employee development system similar to the one used by the NRCS.

Typical week

Approximately one day per week will be spent in a staff meeting or training session. The staff meeting will deal with organizational details. The training session will deal with the following:

1. Technical issues involved with MIL evaluations (including on the-job-training in the field).

3. Broader "context" issues to provide the participants with a more complete understanding of the environmental issues facing South Florida.

3. Social issues in order to foster civic values.

The rest of the week will be spent performing duties such as educating residents about water conservation, conducting MIL evaluations and providing follow up assistance.

Training Plan

An ad hoc committee is currently developing a statewide training plan for all AmeriCorps MIL operators. It will be completed before any AmeriCorps participants are hired. The training plan will address the technical aspects of conducting a MIL evaluation such as checking water pressure, water distribution uniformity,

collecting, and evaluating data and making recommendations.

Recruitment, Placement and Supervision

Because of the necessity to collect and evaluate numerical data,, and the intense interaction with the public, Rural Development Corps participants are needed to ensure the success of this AmeriCorps project.

The District Conservationist will get the word out by conducting a wide spread media campaign. In addition, the District Conservationist will network with leaders from the various communities in South Florida. This will include elected officials, clergy, social service providers, academic advisors and others. This project will be open to applicants to a local AmeriCorps pool of applicants.

All participants will be at the same level with regard to salary, benefits, and responsibility. The existing MIL operators will be mentors and provide much of the on-the-job training. The District Conservationist will provide official supervision.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Water Conservation (5 Members - RDT) **SITE:** Dade County, Florida
SITE SUPERVISOR: Doug Ulmer **PHONE: (305) 242-1218** **COUNTY:** Dade

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Conduct public information activities on landscape irrigation.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Staff information booths at fairs and make presentations to schools and homeowners associations.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Promote a community awareness about the extreme environmental risks, such as saltwater intrusion, associated with tremendous demands on the Biscayne aquifer & other drinking water resources.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By the number of events attended and the number of requests for assistance. Also, an informal census taken at functions, a poll will be given by Members to participants.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Presentations will be made at 24 events. 50 people will request assistance.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
10.000 County residents

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Dade County, Florida
Water Conservation (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Doug Ulmer **PHONE: (305) 242-1218** **COUNTY:** Dade

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Conduct on-site landscape irrigation system evaluations.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Conduct field evaluations and evaluations on urban irrigation systems and prepare reports for the irrigation users on the MIL recommendations.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Users learn efficient operation of their irrigation systems and save millions of gallons of water per year.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By measuring the actual water savings per year (AWS). NRCS will calculate the AWS.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
54 million gallons of water will be saved per year.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
2,100 people

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Dade County, Florida
SITE SUPERVISOR: Doug Ulmer **PHONE: (305) 242-1218** **COUNTY:** Dade

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Assist the SDSWCD in their composting project and other projects.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Members will collect, transport, process, package compost materials and market the compost products.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Reduce the amount of organic wastes going to landfills by 100,000 square feet & reduce the usage of fertilizer products by 50,000 pounds.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Members will develop procedures to estimate the amount of waste that has been diverted from landfills and the amount of fertilizer replaced.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
By the amount of landfill space preserved and the amount of commercial fertilizer used.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Over 1,000 customers.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 4

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Dade County, Florida
Water Conservation (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Doug Ulmer **PHONE: (305) 242-1218** **COUNTY:** Dade

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Assist the SDSWCD in the Rails to Trails project.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Will convert defunct railroad beds to bicycle trails; they will dispose of litter and clear undergrowth.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Provide a recreational source for neighboring communities and promote community spirit.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Comparison to other rails to trails projects, the amount of trails prepared and by the number of users. The goal is 35 trails of over 100 miles.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
By tracking the number of users.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Eight hundred people.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 5

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Dade County, Florida
Water Conservation (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Doug Ulmer **PHONE: (305) 242-1218** **COUNTY:** Dade

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Conduct on-site nutrient management assessments.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Conduct assessments of fertilizer usage through interviews, assist landowners to develop a plan to properly utilize nutrients and emphasizing the use of compost.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
A reduced risk of ground and surface water contamination from nutrient runoff from overuse of fertilizer.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By assessment of the amount of fertilizer used before plan development and after plan development.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
NRCS Technical Guide and a 5% reduction of fertilizer use.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Approximately 2,100 people.

GEORGIA

TITLE PAGE

A.	Title of Project: :	Urban Conservation Program
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Georgia
E.	County of Duty Station:	Cobb
F.	Names of counties served	Cobb, Fulton, Clayton, Gwinnett, DeKalb, Rockdale, Henry, Walton
G.	Congressional District:	3, 4, 5, 6, 7,, & 10
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Cindy L. Haygood
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	1738 County Farm Road, Suite 275 Marietta, GA 30060-4012 Ph: (404) 528-2218 FAX: (404) 528-2212
J:	Name of St Project Director:	James Ford
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	355 E. Hancock Avenue Athens, GA 30601-2769 Ph: (706) 546-2272 FAX: (706) 546-2145
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	10

GEORGIA

SUMMARY PAGE

Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?

Members have been given individual project responsibilities throughout the second quarter. This has allowed them to develop greater leadership and planning abilities. The community service objectives are being met through small team approach as well as the entire team.

Water quality is the first of our community service objectives. Two corps members monitor thirty locations each month within the Big Creek watershed. This information is entered into a computer and sent to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources annually. All of the storm drains in the city of have been stenciled. Three inner city parks have been cleaned. As a result of these clean-ups, ten dump truck loads of trash were carried away, three waterbars were installed, 1/2 acre was seeded (inside an inner city common area). Approximately 600 feet of nature trails have been installed at three different locations. Streambank stabilization work has been done on the Chattahoochee River - approximately 500 square feet. The team learned first hand about bioengineering techniques.

Conservation Education was the second of our community service objectives. Participants coordinated 12 sponsors for ``fall into recycling'' activities this year. They assisted with the Christmas tree recycling programs in ekalb County. Five dump truck loads of mulch were distributed to county rks as a result. AmeriCorps members assisted with creating fliers, organizing individual events, handing out seedlings, buttons, instructions, and environmental literature. (Forty thousand trees were chipped in Dekalb as a result!) An environmental education library has been initiated. Videos, tapes, cassettes, recycling and litter brochures, flyers, books, magazines, and journals will be available for ``checkout''. The plan is to have ``pick-up'' environmental tips in libraries, banks, grocery stores, and other public places. Educational programs have been done at fifteen schools and daycare centers. Fifteen inner city groups have been assisted with gardens. Ten schools have been assisted. Approximately 100 students have been taught about composting and urban gardening.

Plant materials is our final community service objective. The construction of the greenhouse is complete. The 5,000 square feet of nursery area has been tilled and raked clean to provide suitable nursery area for the PMC. The nature trail has been cleaned of undesirable species and mulched. All plant materials on campus have been located on a preliminary map and assigned numbers for logging.

B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

The second year of AmeriCorps will be handled somewhat differently than this year. The first year has been a learning experience and through this, it s been discovered that the members function much better throughout t field offices and a smaller team will be needed as a result. They will be able to benefit by working directly with the field office staffs and can be more closely supervised as well. Ten AmeriCorps positions will be needed (instead of the twenty needed last year). These positions should be Rural

Development Team positions. More experienced personnel are needed to perform more technical activities. The AmeriCorps members will work through the NRCS field offices and provide technical services through the Soil & Water Conservation Districts. Water quality monitoring and stream stabilization (using bioengineering techniques), environmental education, and plant materials will be our key objectives. These objectives will be met through field office organized activities as well as some team activities. The concept of using ``sponsors'' will not be pursued next year. The work that will be accomplished will be both rural and urban in nature -- generally meeting the natural resource needs of the counties involved. The work will be more technical in nature: involving planning as well as implementation. The need for more experienced, dependable persons is important.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Atlanta, Georgia
Urban Conservation Program (10 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Cindy Haygood **PHONE:** (404) 528-2218 **COUNTY:** Cobb

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Operate the Satellite Plant Materials Center established year one.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Grow and propagate plant materials. Approximately 25,000-35,000 plants will be grown. Plants will be planted by AmeriCorps members along with volunteers.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
To have plants available for the Atlanta Olympics.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Will be measured by the staff agronomist and the State Plant material specialist.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
80% of plants live.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Thousands.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Atlanta, Georgia
Urban Conservation Program (10 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Cindy Haygood **PHONE:** (404) 528-2218 **COUNTY:** Cobb **SITE SUPERVISOR:**
PHONE: ( ) **COUNTY:**

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Educate the public on conserving and managing natural resources.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Teach at least 50 school programs, install outdoor classrooms

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Increased awareness of natural resources.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
50% acceptance by schools and quizzes given to students to determine if the information was understood (75% of quizzes will reflect comprehension).

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
NRCS Field Office Technical Guide for installation of outdoor classrooms and satisfaction by teachers on curriculum.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
At least 1,000 students.

715

IDAHO HOME*A*SYST PROJECT

A Homestead Assessment System for Environmental and Drinking Water Protection

AmeriCorps FY 96 Project Application
USDA-NRCS
Idaho

SUMMARY

AmeriCorps Participants will assist with the implementation of the Idaho Home*A*Syst environmental and drinking water protection program. Participants from diverse backgrounds will be important, as will the ability of participants to work with individuals from diverse background. The National Farm*A*Syst program and the Idaho Home*A*Syst program provide an organized process for working directly with local residents and communities to providing education, pollution-risk assessments, and recommendations.

Specific needs to be met include: 1) receiving educational training and associated skills on the Home*A*Syst Program and the specifics of the pollution-risk assessment as well as providing educational opportunities for local citizens enabling them to better understand their impacts on the environment and their drinking water; 2) increased assistance to citizens within local communities, especially low-income, elderly or disabled citizens, and available assistance programs identified to provide financial or technical support; 3) protection of domestic drinking water supplies by assessing pollution-risk as they relate to activities within and around individual home sites and correcting at risk activities or conditions; 4) eliminating environmental hazards by educating the public, evaluating pollution-risk, and correcting at risk activities or conditions.

An Idaho a Home*A*Syst planning committee was formed in 1993 and is key to the site design as well as the overall success of the project. The committee includes representatives from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Idaho Department of Agriculture, Idaho Department of Water Resources, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare-Division of Environmental Quality, Idaho Health Districts, University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service, Idaho Water Resources Research Institute, Consolidated Farm-n Services Agency and Idaho Soil Conservation Commission.

An EPA 319 grant proposal was submitted and approved for FY 1995 funding to complete a number of task, but most importantly to hire a full-time project specialist for two years. This position is currently being filled and will be housed at the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Office. This will hopefully encourage a better acceptance of the program within local Soil Conservation Districts and communities than might

otherwise occur if the position were housed under a state or federal agency.

Participants will be located in local Natural Resources Conservation Service/Soil Conservation District water quality project offices and will work with existing information & education specialist. The participants will be supervised and administered by project NRCS and District personnel, with overall supervision coming directly from the Home*A*Syst Project Specialist. The Home*A*Syst Planning Committee will provide assistance where necessary.

By completing the Home*A*Syst process the participant will provide a direct service to those individuals they are able to work with and likewise to the community as a whole. Quantifiable services will include the completed assessment, program evaluations forms, and recommendations for correcting at risk activities.

The number of AmeriCorps participants requested is up to 20 (see attachment #1). Twenty of the forty water quality projects are jointly located in one office. Each position is for the most part independent of the other, therefore any number less than 20 will accomplish individual project goals.

MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

Idaho Home*A*Syst Mission Statement

To protect and enhance Idaho's environment and drinking water sources by providing rural home owners with assistance in conducting voluntary pollution-risk assessments.

Annual Objectives

Increase public awareness of the availability of an environmental/water quality, voluntary assessment tool called Home*A*Syst.

Increase the knowledge and awareness of rural citizens and communities on activities that impact the environment and water quality.

Assist rural citizens and communities with voluntary assessments.

Assist rural citizen and communities in implement management practices that will benefit the environment, water quality, and public health.

NARRATIVE

Needs to be Met

Assist with the implementation of the Idaho Home*A*Syst environmental and drinking water protection program.

To protect rural America's water, Farm*A*Syst (Farmstead Assessment System) has been established as a national cooperative program. This program has been proven to be instrumental in bringing about a greater awareness of environmental concerns while providing a mechanism for protecting rural America's drinking water with a voluntary homestead pollution risk assessment. Idaho has modified appropriate materials, is currently in the process of hiring a Home*A*Syst Project Specialist and now faces the task of implementing the program across the state in local communities needing assistance.

Idaho currently has 38 State Agricultural Water Quality Projects, 1 USDA Hydrologic Area Project and 1 USDA Demonstration Project. These projects are located in rural agricultural areas with identified water quality problems. The objective of these project is to install water quality protection practices. Project resources provide the ability to demonstrate, promote, and install BMP'S, however, no provisions exist for working one-on-one with community and rural citizens for protection of individual drinking water systems.

Needs

The AmeriCorps Program would provide rural communities with a greater ability to implement the Home*A*Syst program by sponsoring an individual within the local community that can

reach and work directly with individual citizens needing assistance.

Education: The relationship of this AmeriCorps Project to the educational priority area is two-fold. 1) AmeriCorps participants would receive educational training on the Home*A*Syst Program and the specifics of the pollution-risk assessment. 2) AmeriCorps participants would then be able to provide educational opportunities for local citizens enabling them to better understand how activities around their home can impact the environment as well as their immediate source(s) of drinking water.

Human Needs: Human needs will be met by providing assistance to citizens within local communities, especially low-income, elderly or disabled citizens. In addition, once pollution-risk assessments are completed, available assistance programs may be identified to provide financial or technical support to correct any critical problems.

Public Safety: Protection of domestic drinking water supplies is the primary goal of the Home*A*Syst program. By assessing pollution-risk as they relate to activities within and around individual home sites and correcting at risk activities or conditions via best management practices or recommended modification, domestic drinking water supplies will be protected.

Environment: Environmental hazards will be eliminated by educating the public, evaluating pollution-risk, and correcting at risk activities or conditions via best management practices or recommended modification.

Process

Environmental and wellhead protection programs have been around for a long time. The National Farm*A*Syst program and the Idaho Home*A*Syst program provide an organized process for working directly with residents and communities to providing education, pollution-risk assessments, and recommendations.

The National Program Staff located in Madison, Wisconsin provide support to individual states. In Idaho a Home*A*Syst planning committee was formed in 1993. This committee still exist and will continue to exist throughout the life of this project. The

committee includes representatives from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District, Idaho Department of Agriculture, Idaho Department of Water Resources, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare-Division of Environmental Quality, Idaho Health Districts, University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service, Idaho Water Resources Research Institute, Consolidated Farm Services Agency and Soil Conservation Commission.

An EPA 319 grant proposal was submitted and approved for FY 1995 funding to complete a number of task, but most importantly to hire a full-time project specialist for two years. This position is currently being filled and will be housed at the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Office. This will hopefully encourage a better acceptance of the program within local Soil Conservation Districts and communities than might otherwise occur if the position were housed under a state or federal agency. The project specialist will receive direction from the Executive Director and the Home*A*Syst Planning Committee via monthly meeting.

AmeriCorps Participants will receive training and support directly from the Project Specialist and will receive additional support from the Home*A*Syst Planning Committee as well as the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Executive Director and Board of Directors. Participants will be located in local Natural Resources Conservation Service/Soil Conservation District water quality project offices and will work with existing information & education specialist.

Design

The Home*A*Syst Program has been established to provide rural home owners with assistance in conducting voluntary pollution-risk assessments related to activities within and around their home, for the protection of the environment and their domestic drinking water supply. The Home*A*Syst program consist of a series of 11 fact sheets and 13 worksheets designed to help residents assess how effectively their homestead practices protect the environment and their drinking, water.

One of the project task identified and funded under the EPA 319 grant is to develop and conduct a state-wide measurement plan

that will be used to evaluate activity and outcome objectives for implementation of the Home*A*Syst Program Completed evaluation worksheets and action plans will provide a direct measure of project results. In addition, a brief questionnaire will be developed to track pre- and post-evaluation results providing information on social attitudes and changes following project implementation.

Concept

The Home*A*Syst Program has been established to provide rural home owners with assistance in conducting voluntary pollution-risk assessments related to activities within and around their home, for the protection of the environment and their domestic drinking water supply.

AmeriCorps Participants will receive training and support directly from the Project Specialist and will receive additional support from the Home*A*Syst Planning Committee as well as the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Executive Director and Board of Directors. Participants will be located in local Natural Resources Conservation Service/Soil Conservation District water quality project offices and will work with existing information & education specialist.

Implementation Strategies and Delivery Options:

Implement statewide to assist farmsteads and rural home owners to protect the environment and drinking water quality.

Delivery Options may include but are not limited to:

One-on-one assistance on the farm.
Group assessments with educational and technical assistance.
Group orientation with follow-up.
One-on-one assistance.
Incorporation into other education programs.
Self-assessments.

Delivery Team Members may include but are not limited to:

AmeriCorps participants
County health departments.
County planning and zoning departments.

Extension service.
State Agricultural Agency.
Natural Resources Conservation Service.
Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
Private sector (farm cooperatives, crop consultants, petroleum representatives)
Water User Groups
Youth groups (4-H, FFA)
Trained volunteers
Vocational agriculture consultants (youth and adult)
Environmental groups
Producer associations
Lenders

Delivery may be incorporated into other educational programs including but not limited to:

USDA water quality demonstration and hydrologic unit projects.
State watershed projects.
State Agricultural Water Quality Projects (SAWQP).
Municipal wellhead protection efforts, Wellhead Protection Program (DEQ).
Idaho Ground Protection Plan implementation components
Drinking water education programs.
Water User Group educational programs.
Agricultural Industry and Commodity Group educational programs.
Environmental Consulting educational programs.
Whole farm assessments.
NRCS conservation planning.
IDA and UL-CES pesticide applicator training programs.
IDA Waste Pesticide Disposal Program.
Homemaker or family living education programs.
Adult education farm management training programs.
Club activity or program promotion by trained volunteers from youth groups, community service organizations, farm organizations, and environmental groups.
Youth farm management education programs
Program sponsorship by lending institutions and/or agribusiness's.
Programs targeted at nonfarmers

Service Activities

AmeriCorps Participants will assist with and conduct pollution-risk assessments using some or all of the Home*A*Syst work/fact sheets developed for Idaho. The first 11 work/fact sheets include: #1 Drinking Water Well Condition; #2 Pesticide Storage and Handling; #3 Fertilizer Storage and Handling; #4 Petroleum Products Storage; #5 Hazardous Waste Management; #6 Household Wastewater Treatment; #7 Livestock Waste Storage; #8 Livestock Yards Management; #9 Silage Storage; #10 Milking Center Wastewater Treatment; and #11 Lawn and Garden Management. The final worksheets include: #11 Site Evaluation Worksheet; and Overall Summary Evaluation.

By completing the Home*A*Syst process the participant will provide a direct service to those individuals they are able to work with and likewise to the community as a whole. Demonstrateable services will include the completed assessment, program evaluations forms, and recommendations for correcting at risk activities.

A typical week for an AmeriCorps Participant would be to assist local home owners in conducting and completing 2-5 Home*A*Syst evaluations. In order to accomplish this successfully the participant would have received adequate training prior to completing any evaluations. The participant would contact each home owner in advance and arrange a site visit. During the site visit the participant would spend a few minutes introducing themselves, giving some background on their position and involvement, as well as some specifics about the Home*A*Syst Program. They would then ask some questions about the individuals home site and the type of management practices conducted. From this information they would then be able to determine which work/fact sheets would need to be discussed and completed. Once these sheets were completed the participant would assist the owner in completing the Site Evaluation Worksheet and the Overall Summary Evaluation. These worksheets will enable the participant to assess those activities or conditions on the home owners immediate setting that may negatively impact the environment or their drinking water, while pointing out best management practices or recommended modifications to correct these at-risk activities or conditions. The participant would make note of the worksheets that were completed and any recommendations that were made. Since the Home*A*Syst program is confidential the participant would leave

the completed worksheets with the home owner along with a project evaluation form to be completed by the home owner and returned to the Home*A*Syst project office. The participant would thank the home owner for their participation and would return to the local conservation office. Any evaluations and recommendations would be summarized in a general form to track participant as well as project accomplishments.

Relation to need

The service activities provide direct information to local residents, assistance in completing a voluntary pollution-risk assessment, recommendations for correcting any identified problems. The participants activities will help protect and enhance Idaho's environment and drinking water sources.

Participant training and support

Training workshops will be developed to provide participants with the background necessary to adequately perform the job responsibilities. State specialist that worked on the Farm*A*Syst modifications in Idaho will be utilized as trainers to transfer as much of their individual expertise as possible to participants. Actual field exercises will be used to provide hands-on training.

Participants will also have an invaluable opportunity to interact with different project personnel to gain additional training and experience on other aspects of water quality and environmental protection. It is optimistic that once the program has been established, local communities will provide a means for continuation.

With the knowledge gained from training and practical experience, the participant will have the background necessary to continue their education and/or move directly into the work force.

Participant placement and supervision

AmeriCorps participants will be trained in small groups. They may work in teams initially, but will eventually work individually. Local groups of participants will come together at a minimum of once a month to discuss and share their experiences (problems and successes). The Home*A*Syst Project Specialist and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Water Quality

Specialist will work with local project offices to orient them and prepare them for the AmeriCorps participant. The participant will be supervised by project NRCS and District personnel, with overall supervision coming directly from the Home*A*Syst Project Specialist. The Home*A*Syst Planning Committee will provide assistance where necessary.

Attachment #1

State Water Quality Project	SCD	SCS Contact	SCD Contact
Cedar Draw	Balanced Rock	Kevin Davidson	Zena Cook
E. Upper Deep Creek	Balanced Rock	Kevin Davidson	Zena Cook
W. Upper Deep Creek	Balanced Rock	Kevin Davidson	Zena Cook
Mission Sheep	Benewah	Mike Combs	Arlene Grose
Upper Hangman Creek	Benewah	Mike Combs	Arlene Grose
Tensed/Lolo Creek	Benewah	Mike Combs	Arlene Grose
Plummer Creek	Benewah	Mike Combs	Arlene Grose
Arkansas Basin	Portneuf	Ron Davidson	Amyllen Bodily
Lone Creek	Portneuf	Ron Davidson	Amyllen Bodily
Upper Rapid Creek	Portneuf	Ron Davidson	Amyllen Bodily
Badger Creek	Eastside	Dennis Hadley	Marny Nelson
Meadow Creek	Eastside	Dennis Hadley	Marny Nelson
Antelope Creek	EastS]de	Dennis Hadley	Marny Nelson
Tex Creek	Eastside	Dennis Hadley	Marny Nelson
Conway Gulch	Canyon	John Gleim	Debbie Comfort
Sand Hollow West	Canyon	John Gleim	Debbie Comfort
S.F. Palouse River	Latah	Ken Kouska	Nancy Weatherstone
Aspendale/Potlatch	Latah	Ken Kouska	Nancy Weatherstone
Lenville	Latah	Ken Kouska	Nancy Weatherstone
Wide Hollow	Oneida	John Bechtold	Linda Daniels
Dairy Creek	Oneida	John Bechtold	Linda Daniels
Daniels	Oneida	John Bechtold	Linda Daniels
N.E. Worley	Kootenal/Shos.	David Brown	Patricia Farrar
Lake Creek	Kootenai/Shos.	David Brown	Patricia Farrar
Bancroft	Caribou	Tim Schroeder	Larry Lewis
Upper Portneuf	Caribou	Tim Schroeder	Larry Lewis
Bedrock Creek	Clearwater	Bruce Hanson	Mike Hoffman
Lolo/Fords Creek	Clearwater	Brtice Hanson	Mike Hoffman
Upper Conant Creek	Yellowstone	Ken Beckmann	Mark Hogen
Squirrel Creek	Yellowstone	Ken Beckmann	Mark Hogen
Pine Creek	Nez Perce	Frank Gariglio	Barry Holben
Vinyard Creek	Northside	Tom Burnhai-n	Rob Rogerson
Lapwal	Lewis	Rob Fredrickson	Chuck Pentzer
Mission Creek	Lewis	Rob Fredrickson	Chuck Pentzer
Crane Creek	Weiser River	Toi-n Yaiikey	Aleta Si-nith
Boulder Creek	Valley	Randy Phelan	Daryl Gallup
Teton River	Teton	Steve Ray	Darwin Josephson
Lower Payette River	Payette	Mike Raymond	Nancy Hutchinson
USDA Water Quality Projects			
Snake River DEMO	Cassia Minidoka	Jeff Bohr	Dyane Rigas
Payette River HUA	Payette Canyon Washington Adai-ns	Tii-n Stack	Nancy Hutchinson

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Increase public awarness of the availability of an environmental/water qualilty, voluntary assessment tool called Home*A*Syst.

---

1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**

5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Increase the knowledge and awareness of rural citizens and communities on activities that impact the environment and water quality.

(NOTE: Seems very similar to objective one. Please be sure we can differentiate.)

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

128

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Assist Rural citizens and communities with voluntary assessments.

---

1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**

5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Assist rural citizens and communities in implementing management practices that will benefit the environment, water quality, and public health.

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1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**

2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**

3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**

4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**

5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Lee Brooks **PHONE:** (208) 334-1601 **COUNTY:** Ada

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Increase public awareness of the availability of an environmental/water quality, voluntary assessment tool called Home*A*Syst.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Through one-on-one and/or group visits with individual homeowners located in 35 operational water quality projects, members will work with NRCS and Conservation District I&E personnel to familiarize local participants with Home*A*Syst program, review fact sheets and worksheets and assist homeowners in performing site specific evaluations to identify water quality conditions and at risk situations.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
90% of all farmers within the 35 operational watershed project areas will be aware of the availability of the Home*A*Syst program.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
80% of the farmers located in the 35 operational watershed project areas will indicate in the planned follow-up evaluation that they were satisfied with the quality of the service provided and that they had a very good understanding of the Home*A*Syst program.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
50% of the farmers who have been exposed to the Home*A*Syst program will volunteer to complete the necessary worksheets.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

Approximately 900 farms, involving about 1800 people, will be made aware of the Home*A*Syst program.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Lee Brooks **PHONE:** (208) 334-1601 **COUNTY:** Ada

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Increase the knowledge and awareness of rural citizens and communities on activities that impact the environment and water quality.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Provide assistance to the landowners in conducting the voluntary risk assessments related to activities within and around their homes. Review a series of fact sheets and worksheets designed to help residents assess how effectively their homestead practices protect the environment and the drinking water.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
90% of the landowners who participate in the voluntary program will have better understanding of what activities impact the environment and water quality.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
80% of the farmers located in the 35 operational watershed project areas will indicate in the planned follow-up evaluate that they were satisfied with the quality of the service provided and that they have learned to identify farmstead practices or activities that are potentially damaging to the environment.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
50% of the participants will request assistance in discussing or designing solutions to the problems that are identified as they complete the risk analysis worksheets and assessments.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Approximately 700 farms, involving about 1400 people, will be more knowledgeable about activities that harm the environment and/or water quality.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Idaho
Home*A*Syst (15 FT Members & 5PT Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Lee Brooks **PHONE:** (208) 334-1601 **COUNTY:** Ada

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Assist Rural citizens and communities in implementing management practices that will benefit the environment, water quality, and public health.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Provide assistance to the landowners in conducting the voluntary risk assessments related to activities within and around their homes. Review a series of fact sheets and worksheets designed to help residents assess how effectively their homestead practices protect the environment and the drinking water. Assist residents in identifying proper corrective actions to minimize at risk situations.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
20% of residents who identify at risk situations will install corrective measures or take corrective actions.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Of the estimated 50% of the farmers located in the 35 operational watershed project areas where potential problems exist, 90% will indicate in the planned follow-up evaluation that they were satisfied with the quality of the service provided and that they have learned to identify corrective farmstead practices or activities that area potentially beneficial to the environment and to water quality.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

A statewide measurement plan will be developed that will be used to evaluate activity and outcomes objectives for implementing the program. Completed evaluation worksheets and action plans will provide a direct measure of project results.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Approximately 90-100 farms, involving 200 people, will be involved in installing corrective actions on their residences. These people, as well as surrounding residents within and downstream of the watersheds, will all benefit as a result of improved water quality.

TITLE PAGE:

	Title of Project:	East St. Louis & Metro-East Environmental Project
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	PL&E
D.	State of Duty Station:	Illinois
E.	County of Duty Station:	St. Clair
F.	Names of counties served: (Up to 15)	Madison and St.Clair
G.	Congressional District:	12
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Rufus Williams
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	601 James R. Thompson Blvd, East St. Louis IL 62201 Ph: (618) 271-9540 FAX: (618) 271-9737
J:	Name of St. Project Director:	Gary Parker
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	1902 Fox Drive, Champaign, IL 61820 Ph: (217) 398-5271 FAX: (217) 398-5310
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	20
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	0

East St. Louis & Metro-East SUMMARY PAGE:

Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?

The East St. Louis Environmental Project of AmeriCorps has made the following progress during the Second Quarter:

10 of the 15 community garden sites have been prepared for planting.

75% of the 20 lots have been cleared of all minor debris and are ready for heavy equipment.

11 AmeriCorps Members attended Master Gardening Training.
Members planted 100% of National Tree Trust trees (57) on the SCC campus.

Members conducted joint gardener training with Operation New Spirit staff.

Members conducted educational program with local elementary school.

Members have started hundreds of plants in SCC greenhouse and have transferred them to Jones Park Greenhouse for use by community groups.

Members have completed 50% of East St. Louis Senior High School greenhouse renovation.

Member teams have prepared 20% of flower beds on the SCC campus.

Members received chain saw training.

Member has scheduled community garden training session for first week in April.

Member team put together seed packets for community gardens.

Member has started preparing site signs.

Team has established a demonstration garden on the SCC campus using biodynamic gardening techniques.

Team has completed 75% of the work to renovate the landscape at the Dunbar Elementary School

ıe project has made giant strides in the areas of community service, ommunity development, and member growth. Aside from the basic training necessary to complete the projects, members have been provided training in

sexual harassment, civil rights, and chain saw usage. Members have assisted Operation New Spirit in getting local community gardeners prepared to begin ring planting, worked with a group of elderly citizens from Granite City to prepare for spring plantings, met with citizens about gardens and lots, and share their views about service and their committees with guests and other residents. Members have met with all the local mayors, several local ministers, the chamber of commerce, and residents concerning heavy equipment needs and assistance with lot renovation.

B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

We will continue to work on community beautification through lot renovations, maintenance of lots and gardens and maintenance of landscape work started on the State Community College Campus. We plan to expand the project into Urban Forestry, career awareness and public parks rehabilitation.

Also, we plan to provide environmental/education training to 5 community/neighborhood groups and 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students from the Lovejoy and East St. Louis schools.

ıe principal local partner on this project is State Community College. NRCS currently has a cooperative agreement with the college. Under this agreement, NRCS is providing the College $70,000, and the college is providing the day-to-day site management. in FY 96, NRCS will provide the day-to-day site management. The principal partner will be the State Community College, but there will be no exchange of funds

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** **East St. Louis Illinois**
East St. Louis Environmental Project (20 Members)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Rufus Williams **PHONE:** (618) 271-9540 **COUNTY:** St. Clair

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Restore 10 abandoned lots in residential settings & establish 5 community gardens.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Clean up and restore abandoned urban lots.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
To have an immediate impact on public safety, health and aesthetics of the community.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
A plan for each site will be developed and a final assessment of the restoration conducted by the needs team.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
10 lots will be restored and 5 community gardens will be established.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
200-300

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: East St. Louis, IL**
East St. Louis Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Rufus Williams **PHONE:** (618) 271-9540 **COUNTY:** St. Clair

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Provide environmental/educational training for 5 community groups and 6th, 7th & 8th grade students.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
To provide training and motivation to community groups and students on the restored lots, gardens and at the community college.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Involve the community in maintenance and public safety and to teach youth about career opportunities.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
A needs assessment will be done and training plans developed. An assessment will be conducted after each training project.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Training will be completed for 5 community groups and students from 2 schools.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
50-100

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** **East St. Louis, Illinois**
East St. Louis Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Rufus Williams **PHONE:** (618) 271-9540 **COUNTY:** St. Clair

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Improve the condition & public use of 10 of the city parks.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
To determine needs and improve the conditions of city parks.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
To improve the conditions and the public usage of parks.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
The needs team will set minimum standards needs will be assessed, plans developed and a final assessment will be conducted.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
The 10 parks will be 100% restored or renovated and pass the minimal standards set by the needs team.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
30,000 - 40,000 potential residents.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 5

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** **East St. Louis, IL**
East St. Louis Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Rufus Williams **PHONE:** (618) 271-9540 **COUNTY:** St. Clair

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Install 2 timber bridges.

---

1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
To install timber bridges as demonstration projects.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Access from previous transfer to community college, increase student safety, demonstrate resource utilization for infrastructure replacement, stimulate economic development.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Final inspection meets FS standards.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
2 bridges completed and certified by engineers.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
over 1,000 students and citizens.

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Chicago Environmental Action Project
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	PL&E
D.	State of Duty Station:	Illinois
E.	County of Duty Station:	Cook
F.	Names of counties served: (Up to 15)	Cook, Lake, Dupage, and Will
G.	Congressional District:	1
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Carzella Pritchett
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	4434 S Lake Park, Chicago, IL 60653 Ph: (312) 373-9956 FAX: (312) 373-9960
J:	Name of St. Project Director:	Gary Parker
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	1902 Fox Drive, Champaign, IL 61820 Ph: (217) 398-5271 FAX: (217) 398-5310
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	20
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	0

ILLINOIS

Chicago Environmental Action Project

SUMMARY PAGE:

A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?

Major accomplishments towards member objectives is the successful establishment of primary liaison roles for the team leaders and other members. The number of partners that we work with is large and a team leader or member has the responsibility to be the liaison between USDA/AmeriCorps and each partner.

AmeriCorps members have provided over 6,200 hours of urban greening and environmental improvement. Plantings were completed at four community sites including two youth centers, a church and a community center. Members assisted with plant production at three conservatories and a nursery.

Members assisted with 136 hours of construction of Habitat for Humanity and the rehabilitation of 30 apartments at Lathrop. AmeriCorps members exceeded their plans to provide environmental education to 2,670 public school students at eight schools and provided tutoring at two main school sites. Members recruited 120 volunteers to plan and create urban green safety sites. The AmeriCorps members are serving as liaisons with community groups and learning how to organize to solve community problems.

The Kennicott Park Facility has been designated by the Mayor's office as one of six Youth and Family Centers in Chicago. This partnership has become an opportunity to dovetail into this new city program.

The growth in individuals and community pride is the most gratifying reward of this program. Some of our team members have already found career opportunities directly related to our work.

Additional accomplishments are detailed in the AmeriCorps USDA, Chicago Environmental Action Notebook of Accomplishments under separate cover.

B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

We will continue to assist existing community organizations such as the Chicago Youth Centers, Schools, community groups such as Neighbors Against Gang Violence, grass roots Advisory Councils and government agencies such as the Chicago Park District.

Continue urban greening and gardening, structural environmental improvements and educational objectives at three Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) Home sites and two neighborhood areas of Little Valley and the Kennicott Park area. The number and location of additional sites have not been determined at this time, but our proposed impacts are:

1. Creation of about 90 to 100 acres of new or revitalized green space in and adjacent to partner neighborhoods.

2. Remodel and improve at least 1 building (low-rise 4 stories) at 3 CHA Home Sites (about 56 apartments made habitable).

3. Creation of at least 1 new community center in Little Village and assist with improvements at Kennicott Park facility in Kenwood-Oakland Community.

4. Provide environmental education, and general science and mathematics tutoring to about 20,000 students

In the first year we have reached out to as many partners as possible. We intend to evaluate our efforts to determine the most productive partners to work with in the future. Our focus will be greater community empowerment activities for long-term objectives to create, improve and maintain green spaces. This empowerment will involve students as well as community members and will hopefully increase our impact and improve our efficiency.

We will assist the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) to train and assist residents with improvements, weatherization and maintenance of apartments. Hopefully, this will lead to self reliance for minor repairs and upkeep on apartments by residents in cooperation with CHA.

Assist students and teachers to plan and build an environmental education site near the schools in their community. This will include help in procuring physical elements and the labor to construct the education site.

There will be no major changes in the management structure or partner organizations at this operating site.

COMMUNITY SERV[illegible] OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: Chicago, IL**
Chicago Environmental Project (20 Participants - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Carzella Pritchett **PHONE:** (312) 373-9956 **COUNTY:** Cook

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Conduct workshops for community control & utilization of vacant lots for green space

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Conduct community natural resource training sessions for redevelopment of green sites (15 total sessions). Includes existing natural resource courses in a customized curriculum to meet the needs of specific communities. Members along with invited experts from partner agencies will conduct the workshops. Existing course resources: master gardeners, tree keepers, NRCS training, and others. This activity is a subset of objective 1

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
To develop local expertise among community residents to establish & maintain urban green space. Also to increase AmeriCorps' impact on the community. This includes maintenance of 90 to 100 acres of new greenspace in our direct program objective and hopefully additional new acres by the community.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Feedback from the community & display of motivation to implement action plans.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Development of natural resource curriculums for each of the 5 communities. The completion of at least two primary courses & one hands-on training for at least one green site per community.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Direct involvement - 200 natural resource volunteers (this doesn't include public school students, see objective 4.) Indirect impacts - approximately 20,000-30,000 residents.

COMMUNITY SEk\ \ OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: Chicago Illinois**
Chicago Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Carzella Pritchett **PHONE:** (312) 373-9956 **COUNTY:** Cook

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Establish in-city plant materials sources as temporary use and ecological revitalization of vacant lots.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
The creation of a minimum of five small city nursery sites on green sites. Members will help in the procurement of nursery stock, transplanting, and maintenance. We will also provide assistance in plans for community marketing of plant materials for private lands.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Development of five local community owned nurseries to provide business opportunities and a source for plant materials that have survived the city environment. A parallel benefit is the soil improvements caused by planting, transplanting, and maintenance activities. Private lands will benefit from local source of plant materials.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Feedback from the community.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
A minimum of one nursery site per community (5 nursery sites total).

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Direct involvement - 200 natural resource leaders volunteers; indirect impacts - approximately 20,000 - 30,000 residents.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 4

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** **Chicago, IL**
Chicago Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Carzella Pritchett **PHONE:** (312) 373-9956 **COUNTY:** Cook

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Provide environmental education, including hands-on activities, to primary and secondary school students.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Provide environmental education to public school students from existing programs (2 sessions/25 students/20 classes/20 schools) in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy, the Chicago Academy of Sciences & others. Also student service competition (projected participation: 5 classes/20 schools) helping with community gardening/greening and service tied to objectives 1,2, & 3. (Criteria will be developed to rate service.)

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Awareness & understanding of basic environmental principles & the importance of conservation & improvement of degraded "natural" environments. Increased student service activities to support the community.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Feedback from student & teacher surveys. Student & teacher involvement in community organized efforts to develop & maintain green sites.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
A minimum of two structured school activities for five high schools & their feeder elementary schools in the communities (20 schools total). Service activities from 2 classes in each of these schools.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Direct involvement - service activities: 5,000 students & 160 teachers.
Direct involvement - a minimum of two training sessions: an additional 15,000 students.
Indirect involvement - approximately 20,000 - 30,000 residents.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 5

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** **Chicago Illinois**
Chicago Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Carzella Pritchett **PHONE:** (312) 373-9956 **COUNTY:** Cook

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Encourage & assist schools with creation of outdoor environmental education classrooms.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Help teachers & students to plan & build an environmental education site near the schools in their community. This includes help with materials and labor. This will be the reward for the service competition among hopefully 5 classes/20 schools. Only one class/school can win, therefore 20 educational sites will be developed assuming participation from each school.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
This is planned as a reward to teachers & students that become involved in community service. This will hopefully teach students the value of community service & redevelopment of natural resources to improve the quality of life in the city.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Feedback from the teachers & students.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Level of involvement in this objective. We hope for 5 classes/school (20 schools). A minimum level of success will be 50% of the schools we work with (10 school outdoor educational sites.)

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Direct - 5,000 students & 160 teachers. Indirect - 20,000 - 30,000 residents.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 6

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: Chicago, IL**
Chicago Environmental Project (20 Members - PL&E
SITE SUPERVISOR: Carzella Pritchett **PHONE:** (312) 373-9956 **COUNTY:** Cook

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Work with the Chicago Housing Authority to train & assist residents with improvements, weatherization, and maintenance.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Additional remodeling & major structural repairs to apartments. Training & follow-up with new residents to maintain & repair their new homes. Provide basic remodeling training to residents as assisted with CHA.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Self reliance for minor repairs & upkeep on apartments by residents in cooperation with CHA.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Feedback from resident surveys & level of interest in training.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Remodeling of 50 apartments and major structural repairs to 6 apartments. One workshop held in three CHA home sites.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Direct involvement - 100 residents; indirect - app. 5,000 to 10,000 residents.

AmeriCorps Renewal for FY 96

A) Title of Project: Flood Recovery

B) Name of Organization: NRCS

C) Team Type: RDT

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Iowa

E) County of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Iowa

F) Names of Counties served by Members: Iowa, Tama, Benton, Johnson

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: 2

H) Name of site supervisor: Steven J. Johnston

I) Address: 435 N Highland

PO BOX 210

Williamsburg IA 52361-0210

Telephone Number: (319) 668-2359

Fax Number: (319) 668-9004

J) Name of State Project Manager: James E. Ayen

K) Address: Natural Resources Conservation Service

FEDERAL BUILDING

210 WALNUT ST STE 693

DES MOINES IA 50309-2180

Telephone Number: (515) 284-4370

Fax Number: (515) 284-4394

L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams: 0

M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams: 20

2. SUMMARY PAGE for clusters located in Palo Alto, Iowa and Warren Counties

A. Members responded directly to the needs of the communities in the project areas by writing news releases; distributing information flyers, developing mailing lists and preparing mailings to contact landowners adversely affected by the 1993 floods. As a result over 200 landowners with close to 10,000 acres responded and offered lands to the NRCS for enrollment into the Emergency Wetlands Reserve Program (EWRP).

They are currently involved in working with the landowners in developing the restoration plans on these 10,000 acres.

Members have received job training in meeting landowners, applying technical principles to the development of the flooded areas, and evaluating the restoration needs of the offered sites. They have become very effective in meeting both the EWRP and AmeriCorps objective.

B. Members will continue in the development of the EWRP plans and contract documents, restoration and assist in the implementing of the restoration plans. They will also work with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, County Conservation Boards, local school districts, and non government organizations like Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and The Nature Conservancy in restoring these areas and establishing outdoor classrooms and carrying out education an informational activities. They will continue in the development of the Geographic Information System (GIS) data layers in the targeted wetland restoration areas in Iowa.

They will be key members of the team working with landowners in the implementation of the 1995 Wetlands Reserve Program by contacting landowners; determining eligibility; and developing restoration plans.

AmeriCorps Renewal for FY 96

A) Title of Project: Flood Recovery

B) Name of Organization: NRCS

C) Team Type: RDT

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Iowa

E) County of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Warren

F) Names of Counties served by Members: Warren, Polk, Dallas, Madison, Lucas, Wayne, Monroe

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: 3

H) Name of site supervisor: Al Younk

I) Address: 515 N JEFFERSON SET G

INDIANOLA IA 50125-1700

Telephone Number: (515) 961-8932

Fax Number: (515) 961-8939

J) Name of State Project Manager: James E. Ayen

K) Address: Natural Resources Conservation Service

FEDERAL BUILDING

210 WALNUT ST STE 693

DES MOINES IA 50309-2180

Telephone Number: (515) 284-4370

Fax Number: (515) 284-4394

L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams: 0

M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams: 20

SUMMARY PAGE FOR CLUSTER IN POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY

A. The Members have been collecting resource data for building Geographic Information System (GIS) layers. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands are being identified in specific counties for evaluating land use and flooding damage. Wetland locations and there relationships with the eligibility for WRP and EWRP are being evaluated.

The Loess Hills Scenic Byways brochure has been revised and distributed for western Iowa.

The landscape architecture use in beautification projects for rural communities and the Iowa Department of Transportation have been very positive for the development of outdoor classroom and recreational outreach. They have also developed plans for the restoration of damaged communities in southern Iowa

They have received intensive on the job and formal training on GIS and Landscape Architecture equipment, working with units of government leaders; resolving conflicts and making decision.

B. We plan on continuing the current projects brining them to closure and opening new opportunities for local communities in the development of their community's possibilities.

We will also provide in-depth career counseling and provide opportunities for advancement in the work force.

AmeriCorps Renewal for FY 96

A) Title of Project: Flood Recovery and Rural Development

B) Name of Organization: NRCS

C) Team Type: RDT

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Iowa

E) County of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: Black Hawk, Allamakee

F) Names of Counties served by Members: Black Hawk, Tama, Benton, Clayton, Fayette, Floyd, Chickasaw, Howard, Winneshiek, Allamakee, Bremer, Buchanan

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: 2

H) Name of site supervisor: James W. Frederick

I) Address: 142 N LAWLER

PO BOX 348

POSTVILLE IA 52162-0417

Telephone Number: (319) 864-7112

Fax Number: (319) 864-7113

J) Name of State Project Manager: James E. Ayen

K) Address: Natural Resources Conservation Service

FEDERAL BUILDING

210 WALNUT ST STE 693

DES MOINES IA 50309-2180

Telephone Number: (515) 284-4370

Fax Number: (515) 284-4394

L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams: 0

M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams: 24

2. SUMMARY PAGE FOR BLACK HAWK AND ALLAMAKEE COUNTIES CLUSTER

A. Members are divided between the NE Iowa RC&D and the non profit economic development group - Silos and Smokestacks. Their products have been the development of tourism and recreational projects expressly to improve the economy and strength of the north east area of Iowa. They have developed:

- tourism brochures for the NE Iowa

- Public Market place in downtown Waterloo

-Amish interpretive center

-Norman Borlaug birth place site and the Institute for Bio-diversity at Decorah

-Mesquakie Indian Settlement Interpretive Center

-Rockford fossil and prairie area

-Rural heritage museum

-Intensive grazing system education and demonstration - established " Pasture Walks" in 5 counties though the summer

-Joint training and meeting session in Rochester, MN for Intensive grazing system development

B. These elements will continue. The first six months have been very productive. Now the work on developing relationships will result in finalizing the products that will be produced for the betterment of NE Iowa

Objectives

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1:
GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: IOWA, IOWA

SITE SUPERVISOR: STEVE JOHNSTON PHONE NO: (319) 668-2359

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To assist landowners in developing wetland restoration plans for inclusion in the wetlands reserve programs and in doing so have a positive effect on the environment and surrounding communities.

1. What work will be done?

a. Meeting landowners to develop Emergency Wetlands Reserve Program (EWRP) and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) restoration plans and contract documents.

b. Surveying and assisting in the design of wetland restoration plans including engineering and seeding practices.

c. Develop informational and educational materials for the project area.

d. Develop Geographic Information System (GIS) data layers for the Iowa River Corridor Project.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

a. Over 70 landowners will have EWRP and WRP easements filed.

b. Over 4000 acres of wetlands and adjacent lands will be restored.

c. The general public will learn of the success and benefits of the restored area.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

a. The number of easements filed within the established time frame.

b. The number and acres of retired wetlands and adjacent areas.

c. Number of communities served and reports of benefits received.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

a. In addition to Item 3, long term success will be measured by the effect the restoration activity will have on the communities adjacent to the project areas.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

a. Between 70 and 100 landowners initially with upwards of 150 additional during the remainder of the year.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #2

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: IOWA, PALO ALTO

SITE SUPERVISOR: RODNEY HANSEN PHONE NO. (712) 852-2701

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To assist landowners in developing wetland restoration plans for inclusion into the wetlands reserve programs and in doing so have a positive effect on the environment and surrounding communities.

1. What work will be done?

a. Meeting landowners to develop Emergency Wetlands Reserve Program (EWRP) and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) restoration plans and contract documents.

b. Surveying and assisting in the design of wetland restoration plans including engineering and seeding practices.

c. Develop informational and educational materials for the project area.

d. Develop Geographic Information System (GIS) data layers for the Iowa River Corridor Project.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

a. Over 80 landowners will have EWRP and WRP easements filed.

b. Over 6000 acres of wetlands and adjacent lands will be restored.

c. The general public will learn of the success and benefits of the restored area.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

a. The number of easements filed within the established time frame.

b. The number and acres of retired wetlands and adjacent areas.

c. Number of communities served and reports of benefits received.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

a. In addition to Item 3, long term success will be measured by the effect the restoration activity will have on the communities adjacent to the project areas.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

a. Between 150 and 400 landowners initially with upwards of 600 additional during the remainder of the year.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #3

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: IOWA, WARREN

SITE SUPERVISOR: AL YOUNK PHONE NO: (515) 961-8932

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To assist landowners in developing wetland restoration plans for inclusion in the wetlands reserve programs and in doing so have a positive effect on the environment and surrounding communities.

1. What work will be done?

a. Meeting landowners to develop Emergency Wetlands Reserve Program (EWRP) and Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) restoration plans and contract documents.

b. Surveying and assisting in the design of wetland restoration plans including engineering and seeding practices.

c. Develop informational and educational materials for the project area.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

a. Over 65 landowners will have EWRP and WRP easements filed.

b. Over 2500 acres of wetlands and adjacent lands will be restored.

c. The general public will learn of the success and benefits of the restored area.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

a. The number of easements filed within the established time frame.

b. The number and acres of restored wetlands and adjacent areas.

c. Number of communities served and reports of benefits received.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

a. In addition to Item 3, long term success will be measured by the effect the restoration activity will have on the communities adjacent to the project areas.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

a. Between 65 and 100 landowners initially with upwards of 125 additional during the remainder of the year.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #4

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: IOWA, POTTAWATTAMIE

SITE SUPERVISOR: MARTIN L. BRASTER PHONE NO: (712) 432-3029

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: The planning and design for rural communities and landscapes in Iowa including water for watershed protection and awareness, excessive soil loss, habitat restoration and enhancement, and outdoor education and recreation.

1. What work will be done?

a. Meeting landowners and community leaders to assist them in determining their community and resource needs.

b. Conducting surveys to used to resource development plans.

c. Develop informational and educational materials for the project area.

d. Develop landscape architectural materials for the presentations.

e. Develop schematic plans for rural beautification.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

a. 100 requests for assistance are received.

b. 40 requests will be completed.

c. The general public will learn of the success and benefits of the activity through information and educational activities.

d. Geographic Information System (GIS) information will be entered on data bases to identify various land cover characteristics for use by planning professionals in resource management.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

a. The number of requests received and projects completed with in the established time frame.

b. The number of quad sheets of data layers developed with in the established time frame meeting the required quality standards.

c. Number of communities served and reports of benefits received.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

a. In addition to Item 3, long term success will be measured by the effect the projects will have on the communities being served.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

a. Potentially 5000 persons annually will benefit from this activity.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #5

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: IOWA, POTTAWATTAMIE

SITE SUPERVISOR: JAMES W. FREDERICK PHONE NO: (319) 864-7112

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT: To plan and organize tourism attractions or service which has public, environmental, educational value, and economic development, including museums, farm tours, countryside tours, and the development of an Agricultural Heritage area.

1. What work will be done? Continuing with the projects begun during the first year of AmeriCorps including: the development of tourism brochures for north east Iowa; the establishment of a downtown public market place in historic downtown Waterloo; development of an Amish and Mesquakie Indian Interpretative centers; establishing the Norman Borlaug birth place and Institute of Bio-diversity in Decorah; and the Rural Heritage Museum.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

That the north east Iowa area has tourism and rural development as an integral part of the economy of the area.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

By the number of project proposals developed, numbers of requests for northeast Iowa information received; and the increase in of tourism dollars reported.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

a. In addition to Item 3, long term success will be measured by the effect the projects will have on the communities being served.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

Potentially upwards of 10,000 persons annually will benefit either economically or from the enjoyment of the area.

1. TITLE PAGE:

A) Title of Project:
Parks and Wildlife Restoration Team(s)

B) Name of Organization:
National Resources Conservation Service and Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined):
PL&E

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members:
KS

E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members
Clay, Ellsworth, Jefferson, Mitchell, and Rooks

F) Names of counties served by Members (up to 15 counties):
Brown, Clay, Ellsworth, Jefferson, Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne, Russell, Rooks, and Sheridan

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members:
Congressional District No. 1 and No. 2

H) Name of site supervisor (at the local or county level):
Glen Elder - Mike Nyhoff; Kanopolis - Rick Martin; Milford - Mark Mohler;
Perry - Gary Bernasek; Webster - Michael Zajic

I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor:
Glen Elder Reservoir, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Box 162 A,
Glen Elder, KS 67446; (913) 545-3345; Fax (913) 545-3347

Kanopolis Reservoir, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, RR1, Box 26D,
Marquette, KS 67464; (913) 546-2565; Fax (913) 546-2343

Milford Reservoir, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Box 301, Wakefield, KS 67487; (913) 238-3014; Fax (Not Available)

Perry Reservoir, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Box 464 A, Ozawkie, KS 66090; (913) 246-3449; Fax (Not Available)

Webster Reservoir, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, RR1, Box 153, Stockton, KS 67669; (913) 425-6775; Fax (913) 425-6775

J) Name of state project manager:
Larry D. Miles

K) Address, phone number, and fax number of state project manager:
760 S. Broadway, Salina, KS 67401; (913)823-4578; Fax (913)823-4540

L) Number of Members in Public Lands and Environment Teams:
20

M) Number of members in Rural Development Teams:
5

2. SUMMARY PAGE - on one page provide an overview of:

A) Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half a year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- refurbished picnic shelter damaged by vandals (120)
- assisted with construction of Boy Scout Shelter (32)
- assisted with Heritage Village Community Development Project (32)
- designed and planned a parking lot and boat ramp (60)
- installed fish habitat using recycled Christmas trees (16)
- assisted local residents cleanup ice storm damage debris (100)
- worked with a rest home to cleanup storm damage debris (7)
- presented career day program to Jefferson High School students (4)
- helped City of Valley Falls remove ice storm damage debris from city park and adjacent area (30)

Specific project accomplishments are:
Wildlife and Parks Teams:

Kanapolis Reservoir:

- installed 163 international signs
- installed 2 wind warning devices
- cleaned and painted park workshop
- planted 150 cedar trees
- installed 6 fishing regulation signs
- placed fish structures (cedar trees) in the lake
- cleaned and repaired 25 bluebird boxes
- pulled flight feathers and banded 60 geese
- built 24 wood duck boxes
- rebuilt 30 picnic tables
- installed drain pipes in 4 beaver dams
- trapped and relocated beaver causing damage to the park
- built two information shelters
- assisted high school student with research project
- assisted with snow removal
- repaired park vehicles
- assembled and transported 24 geese nesting structures
- repaired and modified 8000 feet if fence
- repaired water crossing
- cleared 16,000 feet of trail
- captured and relocated prairie dogs to flood damaged areas

- dug and transplanted 40 trees

Wilson State Park:
- removed protective wire and support ropes from transplanted trees
- assisted fisheries biologist with walleye netting and egg collection
- assisted with tree and flood debris removal
- transplanted numerous cedar trees in campgrounds
- rebuilt fee collection booth

Webster Reservoir:
- installed 60 feet of fence and gate to control hunting access
- installed barrier posts to control access to 4 wildlife areas
- repaired damaged gates and fence at Sheridan Wildlife Area
- cleaned flood debris from 106,000 feet of reservoir shoreline
- repaired park maintenance equipment
- cleaned campsites and support facilities and stocked with firewood in preparation for hunting season
- mulched new trees
- cut and removed over 150 flood damaged trees
- placed cut trees in reservoir for fish habitat
- assisted fisheries biologist with trout stocking
- constructed over 100 brush piles for wildlife habitat
- assisted wildlife biologist with deer survey
- rebuilt 6 damaged picnic shelters
- repaired boat docks
- removed damaging trees from Rooks State Fishing Lake Dam
- assembled gill nets for fishery biologist
- picked up debris at Rooks State Fishing Lake shoreline
- refinished 20 picnic tables
- cleaned, organized and inventoried park supply storage facility
- repaired 10,500 feet of fence

Glen Elder Reservoir:
- repaired 79,000 feet of fence
- assembled and finished picnic tables and shelters
- cleaned camp grounds
- completed deer survey
- prepared fire break
- repaired road
- repaired and maintained park vehicles and equipment
- assisted with computer input of park agricultural permits
- cleaned up and burned trees at the camping sites
- installed 45 stone posts
- installed fish habitat (cut trees) at Lovewell Reservoir
- installed fish habitat (cut trees) at Glen Elder Reservoir

- repaired 15 gates
- conducted two wildlife surveys
- installed 300 signs
- rebuilt a toilet facility
- prepared 25 bags of grass seed

Perry Reservoir:

- installed 15 people control signs
- erected one large informational kiosk
- repaired one informational kiosk
- updated 6 informational kiosks
- cleared trees and brush from 22,000 feet of marsh dikes
- constructed over 100 brush piles for wildlife habitat
- removed ice storm tree debris from 26,000 feet of roadway
- repaired marsh outlet control structure
- conducted two deer surveys
- conducted four waterfowl surveys
- conducted two hunter surveys
- cleaned and repaired 4 geese nesting structures
- repaired 100 picnic tables
- painted 40 trash containers
- removed two courtesy docks
- planted two park flower plots
- installed 200 Christmas trees in reservoir for fish habitat
- repaired 18 rest rooms
- assisted fishery biologist set nets at Atchison State Lake
- repaired 1300 feet of fence at Green Wildlife Area
- cleared 5000 feet of hiking trail at Green Wildlife Area
- repaired and cleaned bluebird houses
- constructed boat ramp at Brown State Fishing Lake
- cleared limbs from 1300 feet of road at Brown State Lake
- constructed 1200 feet of fish habitat at Brown State Lake
- cleaned and organized workshop at Shawnee State Lake
- cleaned Shawnee Lake shoreline and camp grounds of brush and debris
- planted 8 trees at Shawnee State Lake
- repaired a floating dock
- repaired and repainted 4 rest rooms
- removed 6 tons of scrap iron from park
- repaired one bridge

Milford Reservoir:

- cleaned up ice storm debris from Pott. 2 SFL
- cleaned up Pott. 2 SFL shooting range
- preparing sites for building 3/4 of a mile of fence on Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area

- opened 1 1/2 miles of roads from ice storm debris at Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area
- helped fisheries division put in trout habitat at Tuttle Creek State Park
- replaced directional and boundary signs at Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area
- put up bird feeders at 4 nursing homes in Marshall County
- cleared the trees off 1/2 mile of the Nemaha Dam
- helped build wall extensions for lift stations in the state park
- picked up trash along shoreline of Rocky Ford Fishing Area and Pott. 1 fishing area
- applied stain to 20 benches for the chapel in the state park
- put 2 new seats on pit toilets at the Nemaha Wildlife Area
- made mulch out of Christmas trees for the state park
- general maintenance of the chain saw and tree planter and other wildlife area equipment

established 200 feet of walkway along bank of trout stream for better fisherman access in the Tuttle Creek State Park

- aided fisheries biologist in stocking 1400 rainbow trout in streams below Tuttle Creek Dam
- applied 2 loads of sand to 2 miles of icy roads at Pott. 2 SFL
- put 4 loads of rip-rap into wash-out on the Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area to help prevent soil erosion
- planted 2 acres of new waterways to brome and native grass on the Tuttle Creek Wildlife Area
- cleared trees, prepared sites and planted 10 acres of native grass west of Blue Rapids
- helped the parks clean out the beach house to get ready for the summer concession stand
- helped wildlife biologist prepare 4 floating nest structures to be placed at Tuttle Creek State Park
- retrieved plow from TCRR wildlife area and prepared it for operation
- picked up pallets and trash from Pott. 2 SFL
- received defensive driving training and conflict and resolution training
- assisted in placing boat dock in the Tuttle Creek River pond area
- helped build a staircase in the park office
- made approximately 105 cement patties for sinking fish habitat in Tuttle Creek Reservoir

B) The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project to be performed by the Members.

Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

The elements of the program design for next year are the same as this year ie, restore and enhance the parks and wildlife areas to the pre-1993 flood conditions.

3. OBJECTIVES

For each Rural Development Team project you must have at least one and for each Environmental Team Project you must have at least three. In no case, should you have more than five Community Service Objectives.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1:

Restore and enhance Perry, Milford, Glen Elder, Kanapolis, and Webster state parks to pre-1993 flood conditions.

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

KS - Clay, Ellsworth, Jefferson, Mitchell, and Rooks

SITE SUPERVISOR: Please refer to Title Page (H) PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Provide biological (plant identification) input for identification of Kansas riparian areas and wetlands.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Provide cleanup and maintenance support for state parks and wildlife areas including grounds, facilities, and habitat damaged during the 1993 flood.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
State park grounds and facilities will be restored to preflood conditions and suitable for public recreation.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
Comparison of the recreational use of the parks and wildlife areas to pre-flood conditions.
Comparison of wildlife population and diversity to pre-flood conditions.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Four thousand acres of parks grounds, facilities, and habitat will be restored and enhanced.
Recreational use and wildlife population and diversity is at least 90 percent of pre-flood conditions.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
Recreations with over four million user days of recreational use at parks and wildlife areas.

3. OBJECTIVES

For each Rural Development Team project you must have at least one and for each Environmental Team Project you must have at least three. In no case, should you have more than five Community Service Objectives.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1:

Restore and enhance Perry, Milford, Glen Elder, Kanapolis, and Webster state parks to pre-1993 flood conditions.

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

KS - Clay, Ellsworth, Jefferson, Mitchell, and Rooks

SITE SUPERVISOR: Please refer to Title Page (H) PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Provide biological (plant identification) input for identification of Kansas riparian areas and wetlands.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Provide cleanup and maintenance support for state parks and wildlife areas including grounds, facilities, and habitat damaged during the 1993 flood.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
State park grounds and facilities will be restored to preflood conditions and suitable for public recreation.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
Comparison of the recreational use of the parks and wildlife areas to pre-flood conditions.
Comparison of wildlife population and diversity to pre-flood conditions.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Four thousand acres of parks grounds, facilities, and habitat will be restored and enhanced.
Recreational use and wildlife population and diversity is at least 90 percent of pre-flood conditions.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
Recreations with over four million user days of recreational use at parks and wildlife areas.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #2:

GRANTEE: NRCS station

SITE: State, County of duty

SITE SUPERVISOR: Please refer to Title Page (H)

PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Provide opportunities for young people to gain experience in working in a team environment and gain experience in the recreation and wildlife field.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Repair, renovation and enhancement of parks' grounds, facilities, and wildlife areas. Work with volunteer citizen groups in park and wildlife area renovation. Bring five parks teams together periodically to share experiences, goals, and objectives.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Members gain a greater appreciation for the type and extent of facilities available for public use. Members will learn technical skills related to parks and wildlife area management. Members will learn to work with others in a team effort to accomplish a common goal.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
Observation of members ability to work with other members, parks staff, wildlife managers, and volunteers.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Members are 70 percent successful at completing tasks assigned by parks and management personnel

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
Those individuals with over four million user days of recreational use at parks and wildlife areas. Twenty five AmeriCorps members and their families.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #3:

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

SITE SUPERVISOR: Please refer to Title Page (H) PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Developing partnerships with agencies and associations.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Working with volunteer groups and communities to build partnerships in the effort or restoring and enhancing the park and wildlife areas.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Increased volunteering to assist parks and wildlife personnel in the restoration and maintenance of the park and public land system. Increased volunteering will allow park and wildlife personnel to concentrate on jobs requiring technical skills.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
Observation of the citizen volunteer group's appreciation and respect for public use and wildlife facilities and areas. Observation of the interaction of citizen volunteers with AmeriCorps members and parks staff in accomplishing restoration tasks. Survey volunteers to determine perceived success of the AmeriCorps team.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
The participation of 100 volunteers. Eighty percent of the volunteers surveyed believe the AmeriCorps team effort was successful.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
Communities in the immediate geographic vicinity of the park. The recreation community with over 4 million user days of recreational use at parks and wildlife areas. Twenty five AmeriCorps members.

1.TITLE PAGE:

A) Title of Project: Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Area Restoration

B) Name of Organization: Natural Resources Conservation Service;

C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined): RDT

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: KS

E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members: Shawnee

F) Names of counties served by Members: Shawnee and Wabaunsee

G) Congressional District: No. 1 and No. 2

H) Name of site supervisor: Norman Sawyer

I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor:
3231 Southwest Van Buren, Topeka, KS 66611; (913) 267-5721;
Fax (913) 267-3013

J) Name of state Project Directors: Larry D. Miles

K) Address, phone number, and fax number of State Project Director:
760 S. Broadway, Salina, KS 67401; (913) 823-4578;
Fax (913) 823-4540

L) Number of Members in Environmental Teams: 0

M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams: 8

2.SUMMARY PAGE - Aquatic Habitat and Riparian Area Restoration

NEEDS:

Demonstration of methods and techniques to restore and enhance wetland and riparian areas in Shawnee and Wabaunsee Counties. Members will provide community service as they demonstrate stream channel cleanup, streambank stabilization, and public information programs to promote riparian area and wetland restoration and enhancement. The demonstrations will show the "how to" in improving the environment and the public information will inform rural and urban people about how these natural resources are important to all of us.

The Shawnee County Non-Point Source Coordinator will provide direct supervision to the team. The City of Topeka will provide office space and equipment storage space. Kansas State and Extension Forestry or another participating agency will provide a camera and a vehicle. The wetlands and riparian area programs will provide office equipment and supplies. The State Conservation Commission will donate a stream model demonstrator and other informational equipment. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide general administration of the program including training, recruitment, and personnel services. The Corporation for National and Community Service will provide for the living stipend and the educational award.

Mission and objectives.

Mission statement:

Increase public awareness of riparian values.

Annual objectives:

1. Restore wetlands in Shawnee and Wabaunsee Counties.

2. Enhance riparian areas in Shawnee and Wabaunsee Counties.

3. Provide public education on methods and benefits in restoring and enhancing wetland and riparian areas.

Narrative:

Needs:

The values of riparian and wetland ecosystems have been well documented. These values include water quality and quantity improvement from removal of sediments and pollutants of surface runoff (Welsch 1991, Leventhal 1991), and reduction of sharp runoff peaks and reduced flooding (Novitzik 1979). These areas provide direct economic benefits in terms of attracting tourists and recreational users (KBS KGS 1987), and production of commercial saw timber (Spencer et. al 1984).

State-wide and national benefits are realized through the important role riparian and wetland areas play in the life history of all fishes and the majority of terrestrial wildlife in the State. These areas provide food, water, wintering habitat, and escape cover. Eight of Kansas' twelve federally-listed threatened or endangered species are moderately to highly dependent on wetland or riparian areas. The recovery of these species is of national concern and riparian and wetland conservation is an important component of this goal.

Based on current United States Fish and Wildlife Service estimates, Kansas lost 405,600 acres of 48 percent of its wetlands between the 1780s and 1980s (Dahl 1990). Most of the losses in Kansas have been associated with the draining and conversion of wetlands associated with agriculture. Riparian areas have not been inventoried to the same extent as wetlands, and the trends are difficult to establish. The losses of riparian areas through agricultural conversion, urban development, channelization, and dewatering has been extensive. These issues of habitat loss are recurring themes at the national level. The need for action has also been identified at a local level based on the demand for technical and management assistance in these areas. Past land use practices have resulted in decreased water quality and quantity, increased in damaging flood, and increased soil erosion. The Americorps team would be used to address these needs through project implementation and general education activities.

The successful conservation of wetland and riparian areas must be founded on a firm understanding of the functions and values that these areas posses. Protection of these areas will be socially justified only when the benefits of conservation outweigh the benefits of conversion. This Americorps proposal is based on this belief, and will concentrate on putting the participants out in contact with local communities to emphasize the valuable resources that are literally "in their back yards". By increasing this awareness, it is hoped that these project will encourage land planners and managers to consider these areas as deserving of conservation and wise management. The projects that the Americorps participants undertake will be used as

demonstration sites that are or will be highly visible. Therefore, the goals of restoration and education will be simultaneously realized. It is believed that the benefits received will not be restricted to the treated sites, but will influence future planning and management decisions.

B) DESIGN.

Concept:

The Americorps team will be utilized by concentrating their efforts on high priority and high visibility areas. This includes reaching the rural communities through streambank stabilization and riparian restoration projects, and increasing the urban population's awareness through stream clean-up and revegetation projects. These projects will be directly linked to restoring riparian and wetland values by improving water quality, increasing wildlife habitat, and creating a more aesthetically pleasing environment. As mentioned earlier, these activities will employ the latest bioengineering techniques.

The Shawnee County Non-Point Source Coordinator will provide direct supervision to the team. Initial work will begin in and around the City of Topeka. The local parks and recreation department is very interested in the possibility to utilize this crew. These clean-up efforts will be used to generate interest and agreement with small rural communities and even with individual property owners. As the project progresses, the efforts will be expanded into the area of streambank and riparian area restoration. The participating agencies will be utilized to provide training and supervision on identified projects. This will be based not only on skills needed for successful project implementation, but will also include training to develop the skills and knowledge of the team members themselves.

Service Activities:

A typical week in the life of the program participants may include a half of a day of site assessment and planning, two days of stream clean-up work, two days working on a restoration project, and another half day on documentation and sharing information with the local community. The work itself would consist of manually removing solid waste pollution such as cans, bottles, paper trash, old tires, and plastic containers. This debris would be gathered in piles which would then be hauled away to a proper landfill area by the community or individual landowner. The restoration work would consist of cutting dormant willows and placing them on the eroding banks of steams, anchoring cut cedar trees to reduce against bank velocities, and planting native tree and shrub seedlings. This work would involve lifting, running chain saws and equipment, and difficult manual labor. Site analysis and planning would consist of

working the streambanks or wetland perimeter to record degraded sites and ranking them in priority. Community education and documentation would include discussing projects with planning boards and individuals and recording progress and accomplishments to be used in evaluating program success.

Relation to Need:

These activities directly address the local, state and national needs discussed earlier by putting the team in direct contact with local decision makers, and completing high priority projects. No program for accomplishing this type of work currently exists in partnership agencies.

Participant Training and Support:

Basic Americorps program training will be provided through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. This will familiarize participants with the program as well as provide basic first aid, CPR, interpersonal relationships, and conflict resolution skills. Technical training will be provided by the primary program partners. This will provide skills in site analysis and planning, project implementation and problem solving, and additional knowledge in speciality areas (forestry, wildlife biology, and soil science). Participants will be supported through the state-wide WRAP network including state offices and field personnel. State-wide updates on program progress will distributed through an existing newsletter format. Interpersonal and social skills will also be gained by working with other participants, local units of government, state and federal agencies, and nongovernment organizations Training will take place during project implementation and on days where circumstances prevent field work. The experiences gained by participants will be commensurate with an entry level natural resource management technician position.

Participant Placement and Supervision:

The participants will be supervised on a daily basis by the Shawnee County Conservation District Non-Point Source Coordinator, a district conservationist, or a WRAP agency specialist. The supervising agency will change based on the type and location of work that is being performed. Overall supervision will remain with the Shawnee County Conservation District Non-Point Source Coordinator to provide consistency and stability. Host sites or sponsors will receive an information packet on the Americorps program, acceptable project guidelines, and supervisor contact information. The program supervisor or a primary partner specialist will meet with the service sponsor to go over this information and answer specific questions.

The participant will work as a team in most cases, unless two smaller projects justify breaking the complete team into two working groups temporarily.

Although the type of work involved may tend to attract natural resource graduates, the positions will be open to anyone who posses at least some college experience (preferable a BA/BS degree). Member selection will be based on a demonstrated desire to learn and develop skills. Recruitment will be carried out by utilizing mass media, universities and junior colleges, and agency distribution. Diversity of the team will be ensured by recruiting through Latin American Organizations, at Haskell Indian College, and in urban as well as rural areas.

5.OBJECTIVES

For each Rural Development Team project you must have at least one and for each Environmental Team Project you must have at least three. In no case, should you have more than five Community Service Objectives.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1:

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

SITE SUPERVISOR: First and last name PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

To increase the public awareness of riparian values by restoring and enhancing aquatic habitat and riparian areas in Northeast Kansas.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?

Americorps members will directly serve rural and urban communities in northeastern Kansas by working on wetland and riparian restoration and enhancement projects. These projects would include wetland restoration and creation, bank stabilization, restoration of riparian forest habitat, removal of solid waste pollution and public education activities.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

Solid waste debris will be cleaned-up on approximately ten miles of urban and rural streams. Approximately three additional miles of stream will be improved through bank stabilization and restoration of riparian forests (30 acres targeted). The acres and miles treated will consist of 35 to 30 project sites. The prescription will concentrate on the use of bioengineering techniques to restore degraded areas. The team will also participate in public education outreach by making presentations at local schools and preparing media news releases.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?

A reduction in streambank erosion and survival of riparian plantings on at least 80 of restoration sites. Quality will also be judged by surveying the communities and individuals that own the restored and cleaned-up streams.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

A plan will be prepared for each restored area. This plan will include standards and specifications that will be used to determine successful project implementations. Each area that the crew works in will be photo documented to record improvement. The crew members will also be encouraged to provide input to streamline the process and gain experience in project design and planning.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?

All citizens of Kansas, but in particular residents of northeast Kansas.

1.TITLE PAGE:

A) Title of Project: Big Creek Bank Stabilization

B) Name of Organization: Natural Resources Conservation Service

C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined): combined

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: KS

E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members: Ellis

F) Names of counties served by Members: Ellis

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: Congressional District 1

H) Name of site supervisor (at the local or county level): Daniel H. Meyerhoff

I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor: 1010 E. 17th
Hays, KS 67401
Ph: (913) 625-2588
Fax (913) 628-3746

J) Name of state Project Directors: Larry D. Miles

K) Address, phone, and fax numbers Director: 760 S. Broadway
Salina, KS 67401
Ph: (913) 823-4578
Fax: (913) 823-4540

L) Number of Members in Environmental Teams: 20 (Part-time)

M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams: (4 full-time)

2.SUMMARY PAGE - on one page provide an overview of:

This cooperative effort of federal, state and local agencies as well as private organizations will improve the riparian area of Big Creek in Frontier Park and Fort Hays State University (FHSU) by utilizing a diverse work force of university students and area youth to improve the area for educational, public safety, environmental, and human need purposes. This project was identified as a community need by not only this project's community partners but also within the City of Hays strategic plan.

During the flood of 1993, Big Creek and the area bordering the creek suffered much damage due to rising waters. Problems include sloughing banks, vertical drop-offs, and fallen trees. These problems must be corrected before additional damage occurs to the area.

By meeting the objectives of the project as outlined earlier, this project will meet all the needs as identified for national service projects.

Educational opportunities for the AmeriCorps members will occur as they install structures and plantings to stabilize the streambank, plant trees and shrubs, and install hiking trials and signs identifying plants species along the trail.

The general public, university students, scouting groups, and other organizations will be provided educational benefits from the nature trail that is constructed as well as the streambank stabilization project. The project will also be used as a demonstration project to prove the benefits of bioengineering techniques in stabilizing streambank erosion.

Human needs will be met by making the park a more useful and aesthetically pleasing area. Also, areas within the park will be made handicapped accessible which is not currently the case.

The environment will benefit by reducing the streambank erosion and also by educating the public on environmental needs. The nature trail will also provide public with more environmental awareness.

The issue of public safety will be met through the stabilization of the banks of big creek which will reduce the safety hazards caused by sloughing banks, vertical drop-offs and fallen trees.

3. Mission and objectives. Answer the following questions;

A)What is your mission statement?

The mission of the project is to improve the riparian area of Big Creek in Frontier Park and FHSU by utilizing a diverse work force of university students and area youth to improve the area for educational, public safety, environmental, and human need purposes.

B)What are your annual objectives in the issue area? (list at least three)

1. Reduce erosion through the stabilization of the streambank using bioengineering techniques.

2. Improve the riparian area of Big Creek.

3. Increase the usefulness of the park for educational and recreational activities.

4. Use the AmeriCorps project site as a demonstration showing proper bioengineering techniques for streambank stabilization.

4. Narrative: (not to exceed 7 pages)

In approximately seven pages, organized and labeled in the stipulated categories, provide the following information in a narrative form with as much specificity as possible.

AmeriCorps members for this project will be made up of rural development and environmental corps members. Two rural development members will be hired to provide guidance and direction to the project as well as carrying out some of the more complex tasks. A work group made up of sixteen part-time environmental members will complete the team.

Personnel from the City of Hays and FHSU will serve as the project supervisors. The AmeriCorps team will be headquartered at the Hays parks department office, which is adjacent to the project area. Technical assistance will be provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) and KSEF. Equipment needs will be met by the City of Hays and FHSU. Equipment will consist of chain saws, shovels, pry bars, hand tools, etc. Heavy equipment such as backhoes, dozers, trucks, etc., will be operated by city and university employees. All administrative aspects for the AmeriCorps members will be performed by the NRCS. FHSU AmeriCorps program will assist with the recruitment of participants. The Ellis County Conservation District through its county wetland and riparian program will assist with obtaining grant monies for materials needed to complete the project. Other community partners such as civil groups, university student organizations and others will provide other in-kind and monetary contributions which will indicate their commitment to the success of the project.

AmeriCorps members will engage in activities to accomplish a riparian renovation, enhancement and stream bank stabilization project on Big Creek which runs through the south part of the City of Hays and FHSU. The property is controlled by the City of Hays and FHSU. The project will be broken down into several stages:

1. The 1993 floods cause severe damage to the streambanks of Big Creek as it flows through Frontier Park. Severe bank sloughing and sediment deposit in the stream channel was the result. Bioengineering techniques will be used to stabilize these banks and restore the natural aesthetic beauty of this area.

2. Much of the riparian area in Frontier Park is in need to renovation to maintain the beauty and usefulness of the park area. Also, on FHSU property, a cut channel around the university to prevent flooding does not have riparian vegetation established. Part of this stage would include repairing eroded streambanks and establishing a natural riparian corridor along this section of the stream.

3. A nature trail that is handicapped accessible through part of the park will be established that will run on both sides of the stream through Frontier Park and along the north side of the stream on FHSU property. Native plantings of tree, grass, and shrub species will be identified by signs to be constructed along the trail.

4. A major cleanup of the stream to remove trash, fallen trees, demolished picnic tables, etc., will be conducted to enhance the beauty of the area, including the old stream channel that runs through FHSU campus.

AmeriCorps members are necessary to complete these stages of the project. AmeriCorps members will be recruited through a process which will match their skills and interests with the outcomes to be performed. Specific attention will be given to recruitment in order to attract a diverse group of individuals who are committed to getting things done. Once recruited, member orientation and training will be provided through the USDA NRCS in Salina, Kansas. Participant support will be provided through the Hays NRCS Area Office.

Once completed, the project will enjoy sustainability as plans are being laid for the continued maintenance of the area. The 23rd Judicial District is beginning a restitution program for juvenile offenders who, for different reasons are unemployable. These individuals as well as other area youth will be used to maintain the area once the project is completed. Again, this will be done under the supervision of personnel form FHSU and the City of Hays.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #1:

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

SITE SUPERVISOR: First and last name PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Using bioengineering techniques stabilize about 4 miles of streambank on Big Creek in the City of Hays near Fort Hays State University.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Using willow stakes, cedar tree revetments, lunker boxes, and other techniques stabilize stream channel banks.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
The stabilized stream banks will demonstrate how effective bioengineering methods can be in solving these stabilization problems. The stabilized streambanks will add to the natural beauty of the riparian area. The diversity of the aquatic and terrestrial habitat in the riparian corridor will be improved and add to the educational utility of the area for University outdoor classroom use.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
Quality will be measured by the change in use of the riparian area for leisure activities by city residents and University students and the change in use of the area for outdoor classrooms.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Seventy percent of the stream bank stabilization methods will be successful.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
About 50,000 to 60,000 residents of the City of Hays, FHSU and residents of surrounding counties. An estimated equal amount of visitors to the area annually will also benefit. Eighteen AmeriCorps members will gain valuable technical training and team work experience.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #2:

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

SITE SUPERVISOR: First and last name PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Establish a nature trail adjacent to an in the riparian area for use as an outdoor educational area.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Handicapped accessible trail will be constructed. Trees and shrubs will be identified with appropriate signs.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
A nature trail for general public use as well as educational use will be developed for community use.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
A survey of users of the nature trail will be made to measure the quality of the work.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
1/2 mile of trail will be constructed; seventy percent of the surveyed users of the nature trail indicate the experience has been positive.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
About 50,000 to 60,000 residents of the City of Hays, FHSU, and surrounding counties will benefit from the nature trail. An estimated 1000 handicapped residents annually will benefit from a facility not previously available to handicapped persons. An additional number of high school and grade school students plus others visiting the university campus will benefit from the nature trail. Eighteen AmeriCorps members will gain technical hands on training and team work experience benefits from the project.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #3:

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE #3:

GRANTEE: NRCS SITE: State, County of duty station

SITE SUPERVISOR: First and last name PHONE No.:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENT:

Accomplish a major cleanup of the stream channel to remove trash, fallen trees, demolished picnic tables, etc. to enhance the natural beauty of the area.

Then answer the following questions:

1. What work will be done?
Pick up trash and debris from the stream channel and adjacent area.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Enhance the natural beauty of the area. Make the area a pleasant place to visit. Give AmeriCorps members, community volunteers, and the community in general a sense of pride in community accomplishment.

3. How will you measure the quality of your work?
Site evaluations and feedback from the campus community.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
One mile of stream channel
One half mile of the creek channel situated on campus.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work of your Members?
An estimated 50,000 to 60,000 residents of the city of Hays, FHSU students, and adjacent county residents would benefit directly. Student and other visitors to the university campus and the city would also benefit. Eighteen AmeriCorps members would gain valuable team work experience. An estimated 300 to 400 local resident volunteers will benefit from the community service provided to the project.

□

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Farm*A*Syst Project
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Louisiana
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Jefferson Davis
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, & Cameron
G.	Congressional District:	7th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	James D. Neveu
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Imperial-Calcasieu RC&D Area USDA, NRCS 317 North State Street, Suite 1 Jennings, LA 70546 Ph: (318) 824-9533 FAX: (318) 824-9684
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Madison (2 members)
F.	Names of parrishes served:	East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, & Tensas
G.	Congressional District:	4th, 5th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Anthony R. Bridgewater
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Tallulah Field Office USDA, NRCS 505 East Green Street Tallulah, LA 71282 Ph: (318) 574-1606 FAX: (318) 574-1931
J:	Name of St Project Director:	Billie Moore
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	3737 Government St Alexandria, LA 71302 Ph: (318) 473-7768 FAX: (318) 473-7682
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	3

Farm*A*Syst Project - Louisiana
SUMMARY PAGE:

A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?

Through presentations to farmers, high school students, landusers, cooperators, and federal, state, and local agencies, AmeriCorps Members have created an awareness of potential and existing groundwater pollution problems. Through the education of adults and children, this public awareness campaign will help protect the groundwater of Louisiana for years to come. Over 785 landusers have gained knowledge of the Farm*A*Syst groundwater protection program through presentations given by AmeriCorps Members. Thousands of other landusers have gained knowledge of the program through newspaper articles, radio broadcasts, public service announcements, and television interviews generated by AmeriCorps members. Eighty-two farmsteads directly benefited from one-on-one assessments conducted by AmeriCorps Members. The University of Wisconsin is incorporating the results of the pre- and post assessment surveys in their analysis of the program. Along with these accomplishments, Members have voluntarily become involved in various other community service activities. They have helped prepare food, greet guests, and organize tours during the opening day of Hope Youth Ranch in Minden, Louisiana--a ranch dedicated to helping troubled teenagers. Also, during a tri-agency cluster meeting in Winnsboro, Louisiana, AmeriCorps Members assisted at a local festival. During a cluster meeting in Tallulah, Louisiana, members planted trees in the city park. These Americorps Members have developed a sense of community, and community involvement has become a natural extension of the hours dedicated to accomplishing the Farm*A*Syst project goals.

B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Objectives for the next year's project will be 1) develop the knowledge and skills of five AmeriCorps Members within six weeks in order to provide technical assistance necessary to carry out the Farm*A*Syst program, 2)create public awareness of farmstead pollution problems in a nine-parish area resulting in a broad based knowledge of groundwater pollution risks, and 3) conduct Farm*A*Syst assessments on 90 farmsteads to help the landowners become knowledgeable about water pollution. There are no major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** **Louisiana**
Farm-A-Syst (3 Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Create public awareness of farmstead pollution problems in a nine parish area resulting in a broad-based knowledge of groundwater pollution risks.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Organize a farm field day, develop a Farm*A*Syst and attend agency and organization meetings.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Result in increased public awareness of groundwater pollution risks and best mgmt practices addressing the solutions.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By increased interest and participation by rural landowners and by increased program delivery participation by other groups.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Three requests per parish received for Farm*A*Syst assessments per member and by the number of participants at field days, meetings, etc.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Thousands of rural landowners will be notified of the availability and scope of the Farm*A*Syst program targeted parishes. At least 90 farmsteads will directly benefit from assessments conducted by AmeriCorps members.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: Louisiana**
Farm*A*Syst (3 Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Conduct Farm*A*Syst assessments on 90 farmsteads (9 per parish) to help the landowner become knowledgeable about water pollution.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Conduct Farm*A*Syst assessments which will include 8 worksheets, a site evaluation, and an overall assessment for each landowner contacted. Members will also evaluate the assessment materials and program implementation strategies to see how they can be made more user friendly.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Landowner will make changes to reduce pollution risks and the knowledge and awareness of landowners of water pollution problems will be increased. It will also give the landowners information needed to d9 the best possible job of protecting the groundwater.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By the actions taken by landowners to change some of their practices that may be affecting their drinking water. Also by the number of requests received for technical assistance.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
At least 90 farmsteads completing the assessment.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
90 farm families.

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Dry Fire Hydrant Project
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Louisiana
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Lincoln
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Bienville, Bossier, Claiborne, Lincoln, Jackson, Union, Webster, & Winn
G.	Congressional District:	4th, 5th & 6th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	P. Ellzey Simmons
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Trailblazer RC&D Area USDA, NRCS 302 Reynolds Drive Ruston, LA 71270 Ph: (318) 255-3554 FAX: (318) 251-9199
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Franklin
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, LaSalle, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, & West Carroll
G.	Congressional District:	4th, 5th & 6th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Donna J. Remides
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Northeast Delta RC&D Area USDA, NRCS P.O. Box 848 Winnsboro, LA 71295 Ph: (318) 435-7328 FAX: (318) 435-7436
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Livingston
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Baton Rouge, & West Feliciana
G.	Congressional District:	1st, 3rd, 4th, & 6th

H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Danny W. Clement
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Capital RC&D Area USDA, NRCS 2191-B Tower Street P.O. Box 1296 Denham Springs, LA 70727 Ph: (504) 664-5368 FAX: (504) 664-7734
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Natchitoches
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Beauregard, Caddo, Desoto, Grant Natachitoches, Rapides, Red River, Sabine, & Vernon
G.	Congressional District:	4th, 5th, 6th, & 7th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Benny R. Dobson
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Twin Valley RC&D Area USDA, NRCS 428 Dixie Plaza Natchitoches, LA 71457 Ph: (318) 352-4946 FAX: (318) 352-5559
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	Jefferson Davis
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Allen, Beauregarad, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, & Cameron
G.	Congressional District:	7th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	James D. Neveu
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Imperial-Calcasieu RC&D Area USDA, NRCS 317 North State Street, Suite 1 Jennings, LA 70546 Ph: (318) 824-9533 FAX: (318) 824-9684
J:	Name of St Project Director:	Billie Moore
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	3737 Government St Alexandria, LA 71302 Ph: (318) 473-7768 FAX: (318) 473-7682
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	5

DRY FIRE HYDRANTS PROJECT - LOUISIANA
SUMMARY PAGE:

A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?

Police juries and fire departments in 52 parishes in Louisiana have been contacted by AmeriCorps members and asked to participate in the statewide dry fire hydrant project. The response has been extremely positive. At least 175 dry hydrant sites have been identified. Construction material storage locations have been identified. preliminary work on the production of a video has been accomplished. As a direct result of efforts of AmeriCorps Members, hundreds of citizens of rural Louisiana will soon have access to fire protection. Because of efforts by AmeriCorps Members countless lives will be saved because of increased rural fire protection. Insurance rates will be reduced because of availability of water supplies, and communities are working together to solve their own problems.

Along with these accomplishments, Members have voluntarily become involved in various other community service activities not directly related to their project goals. As a part of cluster meeting activities, AmeriCorps Members helped to prepare food, greet guests, and organize tours during the opening day of Hope Youth Ranch in Minden, Louisiana--a ranch dedicated to helping troubled teenagers. Also, during a tri-agency cluster meeting in Winnsboro, Louisiana, AmeriCorps Members assisted at a local festival. During a cluster meeting in Tallulah, Louisiana, members planted trees in the city park. These Americorps Members have developed a sense of community, and community involvement has become a natural extension of the hours dedicated to accomplishing dry fire hydrant project goals.

B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Objectives for the next year's project will be 1) develop the knowledge and skills of five AmeriCorps Members within six weeks in order to provide technical assistance necessary to carry out the dry fire hydrants program, 2) complete planning activities for the installation of 35 dry fire hydrants per parish, and 3) plan and install, as appropriate, 35 dry fire hydrants in each receptive parish within the respective area of

esponsibility and perform required evaluation. There are no major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: Louisiana**
Dry Fire Hydrant (5 Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Complete planning activities for the installation of 35 dry fire hydrants per parish.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Participate on parish dry fire hydrant committees, maintain minutes, and assist with applications; meet with parish government, soil & water conservation districts, and local volunteer fire departments to present program guidelines and solicit participation; conduct site location inventories with assistance from local committees; and verify completion of the planning activities by reviewing easements, design, permits storage of materials, etc.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Completion of planning activities for the installation of 35 dry fire hydrants per parish.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By successful and timely implementation of the planned activities. All installation locations will be tested by a certified member of the dry fire hydrants committee. The sites will be strategically located as to impact on insurance rates.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
The willingness of parish governments to actively participate in the program. Also on the successful coordination with parish governments, soil & water conservation districts, and local volunteer fire departments and the establishment of a work plan for installation of dry fire hydrants.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Thousands of rural homeowners, 64 parish governments, 43 soil & water conservation districts, and local volunteer fire departments in all parishes of Louisiana.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 4

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE: Louisiana**
Dry Fire Hydrants (5 Members - RDT)

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Plan & install 35 dry fire hydrants in each receptive parish within the respective area of responsibility and perform required evaluation.

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1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Make an accounting of material shipped to central locations; monitor and document (photo) installation; work closely with parish representative to schedule installation; document and solicit volunteers to assist in the installation; coordinate local media coverage; write at least one news article with approval to publish; assist in quality control; and prepare monthly progress reports.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
The planned installation of 35 dry fire hydrants in each receptive parish within the respective area of responsibility. AmeriCorps Members are responsible for planning the installation of 1,435 dry fire hydrants in 41 parishes.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
By each dry fire hydrant inspected and certified. Quality will also be measured by the good working relationships established with parish representatives, quality control inspections, and successful use of community volunteers to complete the tasks to install the dry fire hydrants.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?
Success will be gauged by at least 80% of the 41 parishes participating in the dry fire hydrant program and 100% of the dry fire hydrants installed passing inspection.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
Thousands of rural homeowners will benefit by receiving fire protection. Many communities will receive an economic benefit through reduced fire insurance rates.

TITLE PAGE:

A.	Title of Project:	Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Environmental Corps
B:	Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C.	Team Type:	9 PL&E/1 RDT
D.	State of Duty Station:	Louisiana
E.	Parrish of Duty Station:	LaFourche
F.	Names of parrishes served:	Cameron, Vermillion, Iberia, St.Mary, Terrebonne, LaFourche, Jefferson, Plaquemines, Orleans & St. Bernard
G.	Congressional District:	1st, 2d, 3rd, & 7th
H.	Name of Site Supervisor:	Gary L. Fine
I:	Address, phone & fax numbers:	Golden Meadow Plant Materials Center USDA, NRCS 438 Airport Road Galliano, LA 70354 Ph: (504) 475-5280 FAX: (504) 475-6545
J:	Name of St Project Director:	Billie Moore
K.	Address, phone & fax numbers:	3737 Government St Alexandria, LA 71302 Ph: (318) 473-7768 FAX: (318) 473-7682
L.	Number of Members in PL&E:	9
M.	Number of Members in RDT:	1

AmeriCorps Program Application

Title o f Project:

Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Environmental Corps

Name of Organization:
USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302