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AmeriCorps

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

4th Quarter Report 1994-1995 Program

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AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **San Bernardino National Forest** **Mentone, Ca**

Name Location
2. Operating Site ID #: 4047F160
3. Corporation Grantee Name: U.S.D.A Forest Service
4. Quarter:

1st Quarter
(10/1-12/31)

2nd Quarter
(1/1-3/31)

3rd Quarter
(4/1-6/30)

4th Quarter
(7/1-9/30)
5. Name of person completing this report: Gary A. Earney
6. Position of person completing this report: Acting Program Director
7. Telephone number: 909-794-6198
8. Fax number: 909-794-5673
9. e-mail address/D.G.: Guest.AC:R05F12D52A

10. Members and Service Hours:

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	92	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	72	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	71	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	30,768	0
Total Members service hours to date	111,148	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

- (a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 0

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 0

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

- 1) Maintain, improve or construct recreation facilities such as hiking trails, off highway vehicle trails, and campgrounds;

Progress: 15 miles of hiking trails improved.
2 developed campgrounds maintained/improved.
350 person-days new construction on a major Forest visitor information center on the Inyo NF.
10 person-days litter cleanup at Lake Fulmer.

- 2) Maintain or enhance habitat for threatened and endangered (T&E) plant and animal species;

Progress: 1 square mile of habitat protected by fencing.

(related: 1 nursery improved and T&E seeds sorted for sowing
1 greenhouse constructed for T&E plants.
1 sensitive plant survey team for Forest Botanist.)

- 3) Reduce the unfunded backlog of timber management activities so necessary to forest health and vigor (such as tree planting, plantation release and thinning);

Progress: 147 acres of timber stand thinning (TSI).
2 acres shaded fuelbreak (fire safety veg. thinning).
23 acres plantation release/hazard reduction.

- 4) Provide environmental education for school children.

Progress: 66 person-days of such at National Children's Forest.

- 5) MISCELLANEOUS Accomplishments:

10 miles of fence repair due to Devil Fire.
1 borrow pit site restoration (Cactus Flat).
1 illegal mining cabin removal/clean up.
30 person days reroofing & painting Ranger Station buildings.
2 fire stations, asphalt driveway repair.
1 4-person crew given to Forest Carpenter for construction of local visitor's information center.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Provide members with a sense of national pride, self-worth, self-confidence, and basic work ethics; provide information on environmental and civic careers, along with focus on any such goals.

Progress:

- 1 2-person sensitive plant survey team, trained and supervised by the Forest Botanist.
- 1 4-person crew trained and supervised by the Forest carpenter on new building construction.
- 1 2-person National Children's Forest Environmental Education team to help interact with the children.
- 1 2-person Special Uses Team, trained to issue and administer special uses on the Forest (water line permits, utility rights-of-way, etc.)
- 1 2-person crew trained and supervised by the Forest Fisheries specialist.
- 50 members received a Basic 32-hour Wildland Fire Fighting Training session, qualifying them to fight forest fires.
- 12 members received formal training for and acquired Class B Drivers Licenses for >15 person vehicles.
- 6 members received On-The-Job training as supervisors of other agency youth program crews that worked on this Forest.
- 10 members assisted in removing a marijuana patch after it was secured by law enforcement.
- 4 members were allowed training by the California State University, San Bernardino, AmeriCorps program, as teaching assistants, so they could qualify to join that program in FY 96.
- ALL members received on-the-job training relative to the tasks accomplished in #12a above.
- Most members received environmental awareness training during their crews' service trips to the Inyo National Forest, by touring Yosemite National Park and the Mono Lake area.

IN ADDITION: Some members have volunteered on their off time to contribute to the surrounding communities by continuing to participate in volunteer fire departments, tutoring school children, participating in local fairs and community presentations as well as assisting other volunteer agencies that work with the Forest Service.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

- 1) Contribute to local communities in ways that provide direct benefits to the communities, and
- 2) Provide the citizens of these communities information and awareness of just what the AmeriCorps program is all about.

Progress:

AmeriCorps members assisted in the Cajon Ranger District Open House at the Lytle Creek Ranger Station, with the objective of helping the public to better understand both what the National Forests have to offer, and what AmeriCorps is and how it is assisting in improving the Forest.

10 person crews were rotated to the Mammoth Ranger District, Inyo National Forest, for 8 day "spike camp" assignments to assist in the construction of the Bristlecone Pine Visitor Information Center. Mammoth, California is a small community with a tourist based economy that will directly benefit from the resultant increased tourism.

The Forest held a major recreation/environmental awareness event, Public Lands Appreciation Day, at a mountain lake resort area (Lake Arrowhead). Members helped shuttle visiting public and dignitaries to various events of the day, assisting in explaining the value of the Forest, and of AmeriCorps, to all.

This AmeriCorps Program held a formal graduation ceremony in the ballroom of the Hilton Hotel in San Bernardino, with appropriate media coverage. The AmeriCorps program was explained, with much emphasis on the \$17,600/member cost of this project; Members were awarded their graduation certificates, and special awards and recognition as appropriate.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Progress: None not already mentioned above AND below in #15-2.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

AmeriCorps Member-Supervisors Insure SMART Program Success

S.M.A.R.T is an acronym for Study Methods Applying Retention Techniques, a grant sponsored program providing summer employment for at-risk urban high school youth. We formally trained (2 weeks) and supplied 6 AmeriCorps members to SMART as supervisors for Forest crews of 8-10 young people each. The Members performed admirably, and were the key ingredient in the SMART program's resounding success.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

1) Management Shakeup/Regional Level Internal Investigation

On August 17 Forest Supervisor Gene Zimmerman requested a sexual harassment/misconduct investigation by the Regional Office. In order to prevent possible allegations of cover-ups, etc., he

temporarily relieved Program Director Terry Murphy and Operations Manager Pat Bicondova until further notice, installing myself and Louis Nuno in those respective positions. This was the third change of Program Director this year, and the fourth change of Operations Manager. The impacts of such a lack of program continuity within a given year on Members are obvious, as well as those of a current formal investigation. The investigation terminated 9-26, and the formal report is due to the Forest Supervisor by 10-6. I anticipate a decision by the Forest Supervisor by 10-16 on whether or not Terry and Pat will be returned, or Louis and I will start up the FY 96 Program.

2) Discipline

The lack of timely, appropriate, and fair discipline in the Program quickly became apparent to me and Louis after August 17. In summary: the crew supervisors were not being supported by the Director and Operations Manager in administering proper discipline, the Members soon figured this out, and Program cohesiveness dissolved to the point that the crew supervisors basically threatened to resign en masse; thus, the Forest Supervisor's decision to temporarily relieve the Program Director and Operations Manager. Louis and I quickly restored proper discipline, and rebuilt Program morale and effectiveness to the extent possible with only 6 weeks left in the Program.

3) Uncertainty of Program/Management Continuation/Continuity

Keeping Member and employee morale up in the face of the many Director, Operations Manager, and Crew Supervisor changes, and of the uncertainty of the 1996 Program and who its management will be, has been challenging. We have no control over the occurrence of a 96 Program, but advise Members to hope for the best, dwelling on the great good AmeriCorps has done here. We have also created a Shelf Plan for starting up the 96 program on short notice, and have so advised all concerned so that they know we plan on being here, at least for a while.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

This AmeriCorps Program held a formal graduation ceremony in the ballroom of the Hilton Hotel in San Bernardino, with appropriate media coverage. The AmeriCorps program was explained, with much emphasis on the \$17,600/member cost of this project. Members were awarded their graduation certificates and special awards and recognition as appropriate. Media coverage included The Sun, the largest newspaper in the "Inland Empire" (eastern edge of the Los Angeles basin), and other newspapers and radio stations from individual members' hometowns (as alerted by our pre-graduation press release).

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

Management Shakeup: see 15-1 above.

Member attrition: 1 resignation (return to school & full time job)
1 termination for cause (theft & sale of government property)

1.Operating site: Six Rivers National Forest	Eureka, CA
Name	Location

were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 10

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 160

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) **Direct Service Objectives:** In our original objectives we planned a strategy for community and economic revitalization area by first developing a recruitment plan which targeted the families of displaced timber workers. During the last few years our locality has been economically depressed because of the decrease in logging activities. This has resulted in a large unemployment rate for Humboldt, Trinity, and Del Norte Counties. By being awarded an AmeriCorps grant, we were able to recruit family members of displaced timber workers to be part of our AmeriCorps project. Simultaneously we planned projects which support our ecosystem management practices and enhance opportunities for tourism and recreation.

We have developed a number of different systems to keep track of program/project accomplishments:

1. Each AmeriCorps crew member is responsible for keeping a journal of daily activities.
2. A project development form has been designed to record and establish project goals, standards and accountability for projects performed on the Forest.
3. Use of the CCC project documentation process (project evaluation, completion reports, monthly worksheet, tailgate safety, etc.)
4. Each project completed will have a final report documenting the project accomplishments, value associated, and other pertinent information associated with the project. This report will be prepared in conjunction with respective Forest program managers.
5. Project completion - public notification.

Direct Service Objectives were met by completing an array of projects to improve recreation sites, rehab work for stream restoration, supporting the monitoring efforts for management of threatened and endangered species, and providing environmental education for school children.

Specific Projects which directly relate to Service Objectives:

Reforestation - Last quarter the AmeriCorps crew attended the USFS

Basic 32 hour Firefighter course whereby the crew actually cut fire line as a practical part of the training. During this quarter, two crew members served on a fire incident working side by side with established fire fighting personnel.

Trail Maintenance:

South Kelsey Trail - (905 Project hours)

Last quarter the crew started work on clearing and renovating the South Kelsey Trail, and this quarter they completed the project by finalizing trail construction and clearing to the Eight Mile Creek crossing. At several stream crossings the crew constructed elevated causeway, using plastic culvert pipe to get the hikers and pack animals out of the muddy bog. At another stream crossing they used large rock stepping stones to ensure a safe and dry crossing. At the Eight Mile crossing the crew cleared alder and willow trees, allowing easier access to that part of the trail.

Due to the remote location and the distance the crew had to travel, the crew participated in a primitive spike. This spike involved packing freeze dried food and carrying their tools and personal gear. They also packed in their tents, sleeping bags, ground mats, water, mess kits, and campstoves.

Sugar and Domingo Creek Trail Maintenance - (1002 Project Hours)

The Recreation Manager and Project Director assigned the AmeriCorps crew to improving one of the most popular hiking routes enroute to the Trinity River. The AmeriCorps Intern assigned to the Lower Trinity Ranger District served as the liaison for the District and the crew. This path down to the river has been a favorite access route for swimmers and for fishing people for years. The terrain is steep and marred with various foot paths created by people who etched their own routes to the river. The crew constructed a permanent trail which was designed to allow easier access to the river and to obliterate and rehabilitate the area which was marred by earlier users. The crew constructed new tread at side angles to lessen the steep grade, placed log cribbing and constructed protective guard railings at switch backs. The crew then placed brush piles and other woody materials in the areas previously used as trails to help disguise and restrict use. In several rocky areas where rock impeded their progress, the crew constructed rock steps. As the crew worked on this trail, they were often complimented by hikers as to the great job they were doing in the enhancement of this high-use trail.

Domingo Creek Trail is a hiking trail, although the primary use

is a route where livestock are driven into high county grazing areas in the Six Rivers National Forest. At several stream crossings the cattle created areas that were causing sediments to be released into critical salmonid spawning habitat. The crew constructed crossings that would eliminate the sediment discharge and enhance the crossing for foot traffic.

The crew constructed a rock and gravel crossing with a small section in the thalweg left open to handle low seasonal water flows. The crossing was constructed in such a way as to allow large winter flow to flow over the top of the rock crossing. The crew started with larger rocks as a base and then filled in with smaller crushed rock, locking the structure together, which is designed to stand up to the livestock traffic and winter season heavy water flows.

South Fork Trinity/Grouse Creek Trail Maintenance - (508 Project Hours)

The crew completed brushing on two trails. The trails had not received any maintenance or brushing in several years and were heavily covered with poison oak. There was one section of the South Fork trail that had to be re-routed off private property to keep trail within the USFS boundaries. Besides clearing the brush, the crew had to do some trail work to widen the size of the trail, log out several downed trees, re-route two sections of the Grouse Creek Trail and construct a new trail route down to Grouse Creek. The AmeriCorps intern assigned to Lower Trinity Ranger District served as the District liaison for this project.

Recreation

River Access Smith River (NRA) - (272 Project Hours)

The AmeriCops Crew traveled and worked on several locations within the Smith River National Recreation Area to perform annual maintenance on river access trails to the Smith River. They cleared brush and picked up trash on all road-side River access areas. The crew then traveled to Bear Basin Butte, an old abandoned look-out post, which the Forest Service has plans to reactivate. They plan to remove the present Camp 6 look-out post and move it to the Bear Basin Butte location. The crew was directed to clear the brush from and widen the path to the site and to clear the brush from the access road.

Theatre Building Renovation - (340 Project Hours)

Through an interagency agreement, the crew assisted with the construction of a handicap access ramp and covered deck for the Redwood National Park. In addition, through a multiagency

agreement, the crew attended a "mini" carpentry class provided by the California Conservation Corps and College of the Redwoods. The crew learned: how to use power and carpentry hand tools; lay out, form, and pour ramps and footings; lay out and construct a deck; extend an existing roof which covered the deck.

Direct Benefits:

Wildlife/Fisheries

Five of the interns contributed direct benefits to wildlife and fisheries support under the Forest's ecosystem management program, by participating in six Marbled Murrelet surveys and completing several fisheries surveys. The intern at the National Recreation Area completed Fur-Bearer Track Plate and Photo Site Collection and Interpretation, a bat colony study. These activities support ecosystem management and give direct service benefit in support of the President's Proposal, which in turn will support long term environmental needs.

Water Quality: Our intern assigned to engineering completed a condition and engineering report on the Ruth Guard Station water system. He researched water quality monitoring requirement for the Forest Service water systems as a first step towards creating a plan for routine monitoring, record keeping, and reporting to the District Hydrologist. He assisted in the procurement of necessary equipment (pipe locator, camera, reference materials regarding regulations and standards). He updated the status of the well at Fir/Baily campground; included were procedures for determining inaccuracies in well drilling log, obtaining corrected records from well driller, and making contact with State regulatory personnel.

Environmental Education and Community Awareness:

Four of six of our interns participated in environmental education programs and other environmental education programs designed for students. Our intern from Orleans Ranger District participated in a Youth Summit and represented and sponsored tribal members in the Planet Environmental Project held in Utah. Her Karuk tribe representatives were among 2000 participants. The summit mission is to strengthen awareness in the world's natural resources. Workshops included ranged from the ecosystem of the Great Salt Lake to wet land restoration and wildlife preservation. This intern also taught environmental education to 4th and 5th graders at Orleans Elementary School. She participated in summer steelhead dives in Red Cap Creek, Bluff Creek, and Camp Creek. She also did rehabilitation work with the Karuk Tribe of California on the Pony Fire by Dillon Creek. She assisted the fish crew with laser surgery on Fish Lake.

Three of the interns provided environmental education at Arcata Summer Day Camp to 60 children. Their subject area covered the web of life, tree cookies, and the history of wilderness areas in our

country. The Members also trained six members of the Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation on creating and implementing an environmental education program for their organization. They also organized and held an overnight campout for Humboldt County Girl Scouts at Ruth Lake. They held an environmental seminar for the Girl Scouts centered on wilderness, tree cookies, fire Safety talks, a fishing clinic, nature hikes and a special appearance by Smokey.

Recreation:

One intern developed five new or revised recreational opportunity guides for visitors to the Forest. She also developed new maps/publications for 2 Districts on Forest to give to the public and created a recreational display. Two other interns had liaison responsibilities when the crew performed trail rehab and projects.

Two of the interns planned graduation activities for the September 1 graduation.

All of the above mentioned activities will have direct effect on the public for tourism and educating the public about the Forest lands and give direct support of ecosystem management

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

The Developmental Objectives provide an opportunity for Members to receive formal accredited educational college instruction and college level credit, leading towards a Natural Resource Conservation Technician Certificate. In previous quarters, the crew members were given hands-on training and accumulated college credit for the environmental classes. This quarter they were able to utilize their educational and practical experiences to do a number of high quality resource projects.

Stream Condition: Five of the interns received stream condition inventory training. It was a three-day training on protocol to identify stream status in Northern California.

The Engineering AmeriCorps Member increased his knowledge of engineering practices and gained familiarity with water systems design and operation. He also became familiar with relevant regulations.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

The Members continued their quality work to build relationships and partnerships with community groups. New groups include the Girl Scouts, the Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation, Arcata Parks and Recreation, and the Kuraks.

Community Building has been ongoing since the inception of our AmeriCorps Project. Even at graduation, we involved the state parks by holding the ceremony at a state-run facility. We invited parents

and our partners to the event.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

During the mid-part of this quarter, we had the opportunity to do conflict resolution with some of our crew members. Through a series of meetings we were able to work towards agreements whereby the members were able to finish the program.

Other accomplishments were three of the staff attending FY 96 Department of Agriculture AmeriCorps meeting. Our field project for next year is in place and we are waiting for congressional funding.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Resource staff and managers recognize the quality work of all the Members. During graduation, the Forest Supervisor echoed her Leadership Teams' support of AmeriCorps. On behalf of the entire Forest, she thanked them for their quality service.

Several of our AmeriCorps Members transitioned to careers as a result of their AmeriCorps experience. Two Members received competitive positions in the Forest Service resource programs which support ecosystem management. One Member received a competitive appointment with the Park Service. Another Member received a state-funded position as a Learning Center Coordinator. At least six of our graduating Members have enrolled in college to complete their degrees, including one Member who is in graduate school. Eight Members have applied to return to AmeriCorps Programs, including our own Forest project. Two Members transitioned to construction jobs. We have another Member who is considering joining Peace Corps.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

The primary challenge this quarter was dealing with some disciplinary problems amongst some of the Members. This was the end of the season and some of the Members were tired and needed a break.

The other challenge was dealing with attrition. A few of our Members wanted to transition to higher paying jobs. Even though they would like to work in an AmeriCorps Program next year, congressional approval and funding is uncertain and some thought if they found a professional job, they should take it.

The final challenge which exists is to build and maintain a partnership where two different programs with different objectives and missions can function and coexist, recognizing the differences of both programs.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

One of our crew members was selected as the Northern California representative to attend the California Commission on Improving Life

through Service. This responsibility gave him the opportunity to serve on the Sacramento Ad Hoc Committee. He also attended the San Diego Statewide Conference.

Our site uses a banner to identify the Six Rivers AmeriCorps Project. The banner includes the AmeriCorps logo and the words "Getting Things Done". This banner is used at various community functions and during presentations. We also used it at the graduation.

One intern is currently taking a media class sponsored by Public Access TV to enable her to make videos. We use her talents to help with our media events and making videos for the project.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

No changes

National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: Fort Worden AmeriCorps - Olympic National Forest
WA

	Name	Location
2. Operating Site ID # :	4047F180	

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA Forest Service National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter _ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter **X Fourth Quarter**
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Dave Johnson

6. Position of person completing this report: Program Director

7. Telephone number: 360-765-2221

8. Fax number: 360-765-2202

9.e-mail address (if available):
d.johnson/ou=r06f09d02a@mhs.attmail.com

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	32	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	31	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	31	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	18,043	
Total Members service hours to date	58,893	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:
(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were

involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 22

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 144

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Our direct service objectives address the needs of the Olympic National Forest and the local communities. Many of the projects AmeriCorps accomplished were selected and paid for by the communities because of the direct benefit to the community. In addition, AmeriCorps Members accomplished a number of projects to attract visitors to our Forest and to the community. Our objectives are: Restoration and enhancement of ecosystems for threatened and endangered species throughout the Olympic National Forest; Watershed restoration for protection of municipal watersheds and salmon bearing streams; Complete rehabilitation and maintenance on Forest recreation sites including campgrounds, trails and trailheads; Improve forest health through tree pruning, planting and maintenance of a seed orchard.

Objective:	Target Accomplished	Accomplished this qtr.	Total
Wilderness Rehab	3 sites	2 sites	4 sites
Trail Construction	10 miles	2.2 miles	6.3 miles
Interp signing	30 signs	12 signs	52 signs
Trail Mtc	150 miles	40.3 miles	103.1 miles
Trail Bridge Const	2 bridges	5 bridges	5 bridges
Rehab campground	15 sites	0 sites	14 sites
ADA campsite rehab	30 sites	0 sites	30 sites
Rehab campsites	100 sites	40 sites	80 sites
Historical site Rehab	2 sites	1 sites	3 sites
TES Habitat Mtc	300 boxes	20 boxes	278 boxes
T&E Habitat Survey	50 acres	50 acres	750 acres
T&E Species surveys	200 acres	0 acres	0 acres
Install Fences	3000 feet	500 feet	4825 feet
Fence removal	50 feet	1000 feet	1300 feet
Stream structures	20 structures	15 structures	18 structures
Watershed imp	2 miles	3 miles	4 miles
Pruning	130 acres	0 acres	30 acres
Seed Orchard mtc	110 acres	0 acres	110 acres
Tree planting	180 acres	1 acres	253 acres
Non native plant rem	.5 acres	0 acres	.5 acres

Other non-target accomplishments include:

- * repaired and painted 33 park and fairgrounds buildings for Clallam County

- * 5 illegal dump sites cleaned up on National Forest lands

- * 1000 feet of sand bagging installed during flood emergency
- * 20 campground picnic tables constructed
- * 5 high lakes surveys completed for the Forest
- * A wet lands survey completed for the Quilcene Ranger District
- * A member functioned as the writer/editor of a watershed analysis for the Forest.
- * 30 miles of stream surveys for the Forest completed
- * 5 miles of roadside brushing completed
- * 1000 native plants transplanted
- * 350 cedar steps split from native material and installed

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Member development objectives include: development of a sound work ethic; develop conflict resolution skills; develop leadership skills; develop team building skills; develop responsible community citizenship skills and develop work skills.

One of the greatest accomplishments is that the four Members working toward their GED's have completed the study and testing and received their GED's. This is a great tribute to the Members and to the program.

We continued our education program, modifying it to fit the logistics of numerous spike camps. We had several provocative Wednesday night education sessions and an all day education day in Seattle.

Responsibility for the facility was handed over to the Members. This met with limited success, but encouraged responsibility in those willing to accept it and was a continuation of our efforts to teach responsibility, teamwork and conflict resolution.

We increased the number of individual projects Members worked on. These allow Members to get specific job training directly from a Forest Service employee and encourage responsibility while enhancing job skills and a work ethic.

The Six Week Intensive program offered Members an opportunity to develop particular work skills they were interested in. Members signed up for one of four different areas of concentration, then spent six weeks working in that field, receiving job skills training from professionals. The four focus areas were; fish and stream habitat improvement; habitat surveys; Back Country Ranger; and high technology trail and bridge construction.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

AmeriCorps work in the communities surrounding the Olympic National Forest continues to be a source of great pride. Our Members regularly participate in community activities and were instrumental in the success of the recent Quilcene Recreation Fair. All work projects accomplished by AmeriCorps Members contribute to community building and strengthening objectives. With community economies based on tourism, projects are implemented that will increase the

enjoyment by visitors, improve the quality of forest products and hasten the process of providing products to customers. Many of the projects accomplished were off National Forest lands, on city and county lands, sponsored and paid for by the local community. Port Townsend Mayor John Clise recently sent a letter to U.S. Senator Patty Murray stating, "We are writing to express our appreciation for the AmeriCorps program as a beneficial use of federal tax dollars in support of communities. Our local AmeriCorps program was very ably administered by the USFS in the Olympic National Forest division, and the work group was made available to fill some specific project needs within our city. The projects that were accomplished by this hard-working, energetic group of young people may not have been possible to complete based on our own resources. We thank you for making this program available."

In addition we have made great progress in strengthening our AmeriCorps community through establishment of a leadership council. This took the place of the planning teams, with an extended goal of acting as mediator between the NYC (Northwest Youth Corps, our third party contractor) and the Members. Five Members worked on this committee along with everyone in the AmeriCorps community. Membership in this group encouraged responsibility as well as challenged Members to increase their consensus building skill. We did two outstanding recreation events this quarter. One was a sea kayaking tour and the other was an airplane ride over the area where Members have been working. Both events were well attended and resulted in significant experiences for the Members. Events such as these contribute a great deal to the success of the program.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

The Olympic National Forest Fort Worden AmeriCorps program had a wonderful graduation ceremony that brought closure for many Members. This was an important event for many Members who had just been through the most intensive experience of their lives. It was an opportunity to reflect as a group on the impact this program has had on our community, our environment and our lives. The ceremony was well attended by local community leaders. In addition, Josh Andrews, a Member who was severely burned in an accident several months ago and who had been absent from the program due to extensive rehabilitation, was well enough to attend and take part in the graduation ceremony. Josh's hospitalization had been extremely tough on everyone, and Members continuously sent letters and gifts of support to Josh. His presence at the graduation ceremony was one of the great happenings of the year.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

One amazing story is seeing the bond that exists between all members. After living, and working together, side by side for so long with such a diverse population of people, they get along extremely well together. The trust, communication, and friendship that takes place is an amazing thing to behold.

Members spent eight straight days high in the backcountry of the Cascade Mountains with very little reprieve from rain. Positive attitudes, hard work and commitment to the job at hand were contributing factors to the early completion of two trail puncheons, thirty-five feet long over extremely difficult and rocky terrain.

Members, with the use of froes and mallets, cut over three hundred stair blocks from a downed cedar tree to use as erosion control and stairs on Mt. Ellinor. This being a 6000 foot peak with no fresh water, it required Members to carry all equipment, personal gear and water up to the base camp. The work will aid not only in erosion control but also an estimated 10,000 people who visit the peak each year.

Members worked in partnership with a Forest Service Fisheries Biologist for six weeks doing high mountain lake surveys. Without the Members help the amount of data collected would have been far less, and perhaps nonexistent.

Members conducted surveys of widely varying stands of trees providing valuable information previously unavailable to the Forest Service on hundreds of acres of National Forest lands. This information on the number of snags and amount of downed woody debris is critical in determining forest management practices and designing and meeting the habitat needs for a wide variety of animals.

The team of Members built a 50 foot log bridge over Big Creek on the Hood Canal Ranger District. From start to finish it took only an astounding eleven days. The crew went on to build three smaller bridges in less than two weeks.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Challenges faced this quarter continue to be the result of facility issues. The facility is small and cramped with the number of Members who lived in it. This, combined with the requirement in the contract with the third party contractor to provide around the clock coverage of the facility, lead to issues of Members not being able to get away from crew leaders and crew leaders having to spend 24 hours a day with the Members. This will be resolved in next years program by not requiring all Members to live in the facility and by a different arrangement with the third party contractor, Northwest Youth Corps.

As we look to the 95-96 AmeriCorps program, we need to build upon the success of the program we just completed. Some renovations are necessary. Questions that arise for next year include:

- * How do we get more accurate information to incoming Members based upon what we have learned from existing Members?
- * What will be the responsibilities of second year Members? Are their responsibilities expanded? If so, how?
- * How do we increase the recognition of National Service? How do we make AmeriCorps Members feel a greater part of a historical movement?

*How do we deal with the facility issues? Have Resident Assistants who have this responsibility? How do we lessen the burden of 24 hour days for staff?

* How do we continue to promote leadership in new and exciting ways?

* What steps have been taken, and need to take place, to better the partnership (communication) between the Forest Service and the third party contractor, Northwest Youth Corps, (NYC)?

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

AmeriCorps Members worked on the Quilcene Recreation Fair. Thuy Vu and Cheri Ude worked with the Quilcene community to make this year's event a big success.

High profile projects this quarter include: further work on the Haines Place Transit Center in downtown Port Townsend, the Big Creek Bridge, and erosion control on Mt. Ellinor.

The use of AmeriCorps banners on the facility and at the work site.

Three Members participated in a three day statewide AmeriCorps convention held in Ellensburg, Washington.

The Port Townsend Leader newspaper has published a large follow-up article on the Fort Worden AmeriCorps program.

The graduation ceremony.

One Member, Marya Felenchak, was one of 50 to be accepted into the AmeriCorps Leaders program.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

None

National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

Jacksonville, OR
Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047F190

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA Forest Service National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter **X Fourth**
Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: **Mindy Martin**

6. Position of person completing this report: Program Director

7. Telephone number: (503) 899-1812

8. Fax number: (503) 858-2401

9.e-mail address: /s=m.martin/ou1-r06f10d01a@mhs-fswa.attmail.com

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	35	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	28	3
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	28	3
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	1
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	10,271	1388
Total Members service hours to date	49,558	3394

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this

quarter: 38

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 740 hours

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

RECREATION

Trail Maintenance:

During the fourth quarter, AmeriCorps crews maintained 72 miles of trail, including major reconstruction of two separate sections of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. In addition, crews built two trail bridges on the Prospect Ranger District and installed a puncheon in a wilderness access trail on the Butte Falls Ranger District. For the year, AmeriCorps crews completed over 238 miles of trail maintenance and built 8 bridges on the Prospect District. Members not only met all Recreation objectives, but they were able to complete an additional 14 miles of trail maintenance.

Campground Improvement:

As part of our annual objective to enhance developed recreation sites on the Rogue River National Forest, AmeriCorps crews worked at French Gulch Campground on the Applegate Ranger District and Union Creek Campground on the Prospect Ranger District, cleaning up debris and flushing a contaminated water system. Combined with campground improvements performed during previous quarters, Rogue River AmeriCorps crews fulfilled our objective to significantly enhance developed recreation sites on our Forest. In addition to the stated goals, crews improved accessibility and prepared an additional 101 campsites for the busy visitor season, bringing the total to 201 sites for the year.

SILVICULTURE:

During the fourth quarter, crews completed 64 acres of pre-commercial thinning, exceeding the stated objective by 10 acres. This accomplishment completes our objective of promoting healthier trees by thinning timber stands. Crews enhanced the value of the Forest's future timber supply by hand pruning 190 acres this quarter. Combined with previous quarters, this amounts to 496 acres of pruning for the year, 146 acres more than our stated objective of 350.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Rogue River AmeriCorps Members have had numerous opportunities to

accomplish personal objectives during the last quarter. The educational component of our program has been a huge success. Over half of the Members are taking college-level courses offered by Southern Oregon State College. The instructors travel to Star Gulch and provide credit courses for Members enrolled in the program. This has been a real boost to the morale of the program, resulting in several of the Members pre-registering for the Fall term! The seminar provided by Oregon State University was also a success. Members spent the day with Staff-level professors learning about the Natural Resource curriculum offered by the University. The Members are beginning to see that their AmeriCorps work experience pays off in many ways. They are actually being recruited by a major university!

AmeriCorps goals outlined in the AmeriCorps Program Handbook have also been accomplished in many ways. The Members had the opportunity to complete a formal program evaluation during the last quarter. The extensive form asked for input on programmatic issues as well as personal growth in the areas that were identified as goals of the AmeriCorps program. The responses that were received were overwhelmingly positive. Most Members felt that they were "getting things done" by feeling a sense of accomplishment through participation in the program. One Member says that she has "learned continually how to work with people to get the job done." Addressing the "developing conflict resolution skills" goal, another Member says that "it has given me the opportunity to learn how to resolve a problem in a professional manner." Many Members felt a strong sense of strengthening communities as they completed projects in Butte Falls and Prospect. Another Member said that "the leadership program helped me gain much needed confidence," and that "the long hours and constant hard work has given me a great work ethic."

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Working in the communities surrounding the Rogue River National Forest continued to be an important part of our program this quarter. AmeriCorps crews worked in the community of Prospect completing renovation of the kiosk and construction of a bandshell at the Lions Club Park. Crews dug trenches and holes for electrical lines and power poles providing lighting to the community football and softball fields. The community plans to host various sporting events "under the lights" in the coming years to help generate funds for additional community improvements. Members also spread gravel, constructed rock retaining walls, and planted trees in the native plant Arboretum which has become the community centerpiece.

AmeriCorps crews helped Mt. Ashland Ski Area perform off-season maintenance this quarter. Mt Ashland is a major ski resort that is a community owned, non-profit facility operated under a Forest Service lease agreement. Crews cut and distributed 1/2 acre of

slash, constructed and maintained erosion control water bars, and protected 100 feet of snow barriers with sealant.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

It is important to document the additional work that has been performed by AmeriCorps Members during the weekends. On numerous occasions, AmeriCorps Members have volunteered to work on special projects that were unfunded and only achievable through the efforts of volunteers. For instance, 5 Members volunteered to assist a Forest Service Back Country Ranger in the Red Buttes Wilderness. This involved hiking several miles with the needed tools and equipment for the project, as well as basic survival gear for several days. Members completed heavy trail maintenance along several miles of trail in the Wilderness. These experiences not only benefit the general public, but they instill a sense of pride and accomplishment for the Members who choose to participate on their own time.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

There are many successes to report this year. The partnership that has been formed with the City of Ashland has proven to be most successful. Ashland is nestled adjacent to the Ashland Watershed, which is completely surrounded by National Forest land. The threat of extensive wildfires continue to plague local residents each year. The fuel reduction project was a first attempt to help reduce the threat of massive fire destruction for local residents. Members felt a great sense of community pride as they could actually see the results of their work. Community members were impressed with the accomplishments and grateful to the Members for their help. Positive press stories also gave the Members a boost. The City of Ashland has asked to be a partner in future AmeriCorps programs and will continue to support the efforts of the AmeriCorps Members.

Working with the communities of Butte Falls and Prospect this year has provided the most exciting aspect of our AmeriCorps program. Watching the communities receiving badly needed facelifts and observing the Members receive constant praise and admiration for their accomplishments has been overwhelming. With the help of a Community Assistance grant, Prospect and Butte Falls were able to accomplish numerous improvements in their neighborhoods. Butte Falls renovated the community hall and the City Park, and built an addition to the library and museum complex. In Prospect, Members built a magnificent Arboretum in the middle of town that is quickly becoming the showpiece of the community. Members also completed extensive renovations in the community park and installed lighting for the local football and softball fields. AmeriCorps Members provided all of the labor to complete these projects. The community members were extremely impressed with the accomplishments and provided many "perks" during the 5 week project. Local townspeople would appear on the job site with cookies, words of praise, and even a lasagna lunch!

At the completion of the projects, the communities held a pot-luck dinner in honor of the Members who worked on the projects. Members recieved official community t-shirts, a beautiful engraved plaque, Certificates of Appreciation, and several letters of appreciation. The Members involved not only benefited from the community projects, but the enthusiasm for "Getting Things Done" touched all Rogue River AmeriCorps Members.

The opportunity to work on the Hull Mountain Fire Recovery project also provided a moving experience for many of the Members. The Hull Mountain Fire claimed numerous homes, thousands of acres, and a human life in the summer of 1994. Members built check dams and planted willows in the watersheds of the area in order to prevent further streambank erosion. The importance of the project was highly visible as early rains inundated the region and Members could actually see the mountainside eroding into the streams. Members felt an extreme sense of purpose and accomplishment during this project. This project also received excellent television coverage as TV crews were reporting on local damage from the early rain storms.

The restoration of the Upper Table Rock Trail provided an exciting work experience for several of our Members. This work was accomplished through a partnership with the Medford BLM. This project was a high visibility project, as over 5,000 school children and countless other hikers visit the wildflower interpretative trail yearly. The area is a focal point of the Rogue Valley and a tourist attraction during the Spring season. The BLM produced a national press release and composed an article detailing the project for their national newsletter.

One Forest Service project supervisor provided some interesting information to a crew that was working on a pruning project. He compared the quality of work that AmeriCorps Members were doing to the quality of a contract crew that was working on a similar project. He said that AmeriCorps Members "provided a much better product than the work that he was paying twice the money for." He continued to say that Members were not only efficient, but that the quality was much higher and the work was much neater.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

The uncertainty of program funding for the next fiscal year has impacted our program in several critical areas. Most importantly, the funding issue has hindered our ability to develop and further our community and agency partnerships. The ability to foster and follow through with commitments is critical to building and maintaining partnership relations. We have been reluctant to request planning time and resources from our partners without being able to offer, with some degree of certainty, a promise of a 1996 AmeriCorps program. Uncertainty in funding has also impacted program staff and Members. Many of the challenges we faced this year were endured by

focusing on improvements that could be made in next year's program. The prospect of not being able to implement program learning deflated the morale and enthusiasm of both Members and staff. Recruitment and retention has also suffered as delays in funding notification have pushed us past several recruitment windows for new Members, while staff has been forced to consider other employment opportunities.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

One event which fostered national identity this quarter was a statewide graduation ceremony for AmeriCorps Members in Bend, Oregon. Many of our Members were reluctant to participate in this event. However, after spending two days with other AmeriCorps Members from around the state, most of which were from programs vastly different than our own, our Members began to feel a sense of pride and affiliation with a larger sense of purpose. One Member, speaking at our own graduation ceremony several weeks later, remarked that "something happened in Bend" which helped him understand the significance and importance of the work he had accomplished.

The graduation ceremony for Rogue River AmeriCorps was a huge success! In addition to the 31 Members present, there were over 120 local supporters to witness the event. Featured speakers included a writer from the major newspaper in the valley who has been following the progress of the program throughout the year. Paul Fattig spoke of the tremendous impact that the Members have made in southern Oregon and the lasting results that will be realized for years to come. Numerous other recognitions were made to the Members thanking them for their contributions to the community. Perhaps the highlight of the evening was when several of the Members spoke of their experiences during the past year. It was quite evident that the AmeriCorps experience had affected these individuals in numerous life-changing ways.

The importance of the AmeriCorps program has been greatly recognized in the small communities in the area. As southern Oregon recovers from the declining timber industry, communities like Butte Falls are receiving assistance in efforts to diversify local economies. Tourism has been identified as a major source of income in the future in many Community Strategic Action Plans. The refurbishment of city parks and libraries will boost the image of the community and attract visitors to the local area.

The presence of AmeriCorps crews in these small communities has given the program a boost. Members are welcomed in the community and greeted with open arms. The national identity of AmeriCorps has been greatly strengthened as communities actually observe the work being accomplished. Letters have been written to State Senators and Congressmen in an effort to keep the program alive. Working in and with the local community has been a positive experience for everyone involved.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

No significant changes.

AmeriCorps*USA

Operating Site Quarterly Report

National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site: Arizona AmeriCorps
Name

Arizona National Forests

Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047F200

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA Forest Service

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:

First Quarter (10/1-12/31)	Second Quarter (1/1-3/31)	Third Quarter (4/1-6/30)	Fourth Quarter (7/1-9/30)
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5.Name of person completing this report: **Mike Baca**

6. Position of person completing this report: AZ AmeriCorps Liaison

7.Telephone number: 602-225-5200

8. Fax number: 602-225-5295

9.e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

PART TIME

No. of Members allotted to your sites	45	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	34	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	34	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	15,935	
Total Members service hours to date	64,066	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: NONE

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter:

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>TARGET</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>
Trail Maintenance	200 miles	100 miles
Trail Bridges	2 bridges	none
Campground Rehabilitation	25 sites	20 sites
Campground Maintenance	15 campgrounds	15 campgrounds
Improve Wildlife Habitat	6 trick tanks	none
Wildlife Habitat Structures	7 miles fence	7 miles
Wildlife Habitat Protection/ Improvement	1000 acres	550 acres
Range Fence Construction	5 miles	10 miles
Range Fence Removal	15 miles	18 miles
Range Waterlot Rehab	3 waterlots	3 waterlots
Road Obliteration	2 miles	10 miles

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

The desired outcomes for the AmeriCorps personnel include developing collaborative working skills, a positive work ethic, enhanced communication and leadership skills, a conservation ethic, a positive attitude, independent thinker skills, self-directed learning, technical skills training, quality production and a sense of community service.

The work quality produced will be measured against current established standards. The Line Officer will identify the quality performance and/or product. The enrollee will provide evidence of the outcomes through a carefully planned and organized portfolio containing samples of work, a daily log, assessments, improvement plans, and reflections that will be reviewed at a post project interview.

The success indicators will be assessed in a conference/interview. The enrollee will provide evidence in the form of assessments, observations, logs, plans, etc. collected and organized in the form of a portfolio. The portfolio will be the tool for the enrollee to communicate performance in relation to the following outcomes: Collaborative Work, Quality Producer, Problem Solver, Effective Communication and Leadership, Self-directed Worker and Learner and a Conservation Ethic.

Each of these assessment tools are being employed on an on-going basis. The identified outcomes for the Members are being successfully accomplished. The Members are continuing to grow since the onset of the Program.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

The Members themselves will benefit by being involved in implementing ecosystem management projects, learning employment skills, developing a conservation ethic and providing a public service to their communities.

National Forest customers by the thousands, dozens of local communities and thousands of school children have received the benefit of the ecosystem management projects the Arizona AmeriCorps Members have completed. Over 11 million people will benefit from the Arizona AmeriCorps program as measured in Recreation Visitor Days. Improved habitat for wildlife have created greater opportunities for ecotourism.

The most significant accomplishment in achieving community building objectives this quarter occurred when the AmeriCorps Base Camp was located near the small rural community of Heber, Arizona. Several community service projects were completed.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Joel Berg had the opportunity to visit the Az AmeriCorps and work with them for the day on a trail project near Flagstaff, Arizona. It was a great opportunity to showcase one of the many successful projects being accomplished by Members. AmeriCorps Members also had a great opportunity to visit with Joel to gain national insight on the Program. A great time was had by all.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

During our Program, the Third Party Cooperator changed and the Camp Director, Gary Burden, suffered a heart attack and passed away at the the Base Camp. He was well-liked and greatly missed by the Members. Through it all, the Members have held up remarkably well and exemplify exactly what the Program is designed to accomplish. Each of the Members is learning and growing in ways they weren't aware they could accomplish.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Because the Arizona AmeriCorps Program is a mobile residential camp program there are always logistical challenges associated with establishing and dismantling camps. Each of these challenges have been addressed by the AmeriCorps Members in the spirit of "getting things done".

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

AmeriCorps Members were interviewed by the media in Flagstaff. Portions of the interviews were in the local news.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

None

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: Greater Jackson Youth Services Corps Bienville,
MS

	Name	Location
2.Operating Site ID # : 4047F210		

3.Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter _ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: Richard Heaslip

6. Position of person completing this report: Program Coordinator

7. Telephone number: 601-965-4391

8.Fax number: 601-965-5519

9.e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	13	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	13	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours to date	20,971	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 2

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 32

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

1. Complete a 3 acre Red Cockaded Woodpecker colony by doing midstory work.

Midstory: cleared any hardwood or underbrush that could block the path or flight of the Red Cockaded Woodpecker in order to stop the bird from moving its colony.

2. Install a new fence along the front of the wildlife station.

Removed old fence and replaced it with a new one approximately 175 yards long in front of wildlife station.

Also:

Painted six Forest Service signs at the starting point of each road.

In recreation management: cleaned a large area and leveled out the dirt in places where it was not suitable for walking.

Filled in mud holes with dirt and put in large drain pipes so that small creeks and ditches might run under a horse trail.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

1. One member has received his GED.

2. Thirteen Members have enrolled in a job program. Seventy percent of them have been placed in unsubsidized positions.

3. Members were given assistance in college entrance procedures. Two are currently attending college.

4. AmeriCorps Members participated in the AmeriCorps Learn and Serve Program hosted by the Mississippi Commission on National and Community Service.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

The Director of the Program and Interim Project Coordinator conferred with parents in the community about the importance of AmeriCorps in making improvements within the community.

Interim Project Coordinator consulted with local businesses for fund raising purposes.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

14. Unique successes or great stories:

1. One Member received his GED and has since gone on to college to pursue a career in electronics so that he can take over the family business.

2. Another Member who had previously experienced difficulties in her life, has benefited from AmeriCorps. She now has full custody of her child, is working full-time and has matured spiritually.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

One Member was experiencing spousal abuse. This was resolved through open discussion.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

1. AmeriCorps Members were involved in the AmeriCorps Learn and Serve Program hosted by the Mississippi Commission on National and Community Service.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

Richard Dolan resigned as Project Coordinator. Edward Warner replaced him as Interim Project Coordinator.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps, New Hampshire**

Name

Location

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047F230

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA Forest Service

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:

☐ First Quarter ☐ Second Quarter ☐ Third Quarter x ☐ Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Rebecca Oreskes, Will Twombly and Emily Nash

6. Position of person completing this report: WMNF AmeriCorps Program Director; New Hampshire Conservation Corps Operations Director; AmeriCorps Crew Leader

7. Telephone number: 603-447-5448

8. Fax number: 603-447-8405

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	32	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	29	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	29	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	16,955	
Total Members service hours to date	45,612	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 267

(b) Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 1026

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Enhance and/or monitor the ecosystems for threatened and endangered species, including 15 acres of habitat improvement, 200 acres of headwater streams stocked with Atlantic salmon, and 10 wildlife monitoring sites:

Having met the objective listed above during the previous quarter, we went on to monitor 55 acres for the endangered plant species, Small Whorled Pogonia, and cleared an additional 10.5 acres of old homesteads and clearcuts for wildlife habitat.

Complete recreation facility construction and maintenance as determined by project specialists:

Rebuilt 3 first aid cache foundations on Mt. Washington and prepared site for a fourth in high recreational use area, enabling rescue workers to more effectively serve the public.

Reconstructed stairs and retaining walls at 10 developed campsites in Covered Bridge Campground.

Enhance/maintain 50 miles of hiking trails to Forest standards and guidelines:

Completed trail reconstruction projects in excess of 6300 hours, well-exceeding our 50 mile target. (see "Field Projects" under "Other Accomplishments this Quarter").

In partnership with the Sandwich Range Conservation Association, completed an inventory of approximately 200 miles of National Forest trails using "ground truthing" and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Participate in 5 community service days:

Participated in the remaining 2 community service days by providing community service to Upper Connecticut River Valley residents during a statewide AmeriCorps training based at the Student Conservation Association in Charlestown, NH.

Enhance Wilderness management by providing wilderness education to 1000 visitors, maintain 25 miles of trail to Wilderness standards and guidelines and restore 10 dispersed user sites:

Enhanced Wilderness management by providing visitor information far in excess of the 1000 visitor objective (see "Visitor Interpretive Services" under "Member Development Objectives"), by reconstructing trails to wilderness standards (installed 26 bog bridges, 28 waterbars, 11 rock steps) and by restoring 16 dispersed user sites in designated wilderness areas, exceeding this objective by 4 campsites.

Provide 180 human-hours for New Hampshire Trails Day:

Thirteen AmeriCorps Members participated in New Hampshire Trails Day, completing 104 hours of service.

Provide 16 interpretive programs at Forest Service campgrounds and cooperator Visitor Information Centers:

AmeriCorps Members have completed 12 programs to date.

Provide at least 300 school children with "Forest As A Classroom" environmental education:

We exceeded this goal during the previous quarter and will continue to provide this service to approximately 150 more students.

Provide 6000 Forest visitors with information and education on low-impact camping, mountain safety, alpine zone protection and wilderness ethics and assist with search and rescue as needed.

We have met this goal more than twice and the numbers continue to climb! (See "Visitor Interpretive Services" under "Member Development Objectives")

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Training

We have met AmeriCorps Member training objectives this quarter by providing the following opportunities:

September 3-12: SOLO Wilderness First Responder

September 13: HIV/AIDS Awareness

Individual Service Projects

Many corps members continued work on individual service projects,

enabling them to pursue personal work interests and skills while also benefiting the Forest Service and local communities.

Environmental Education

Claire Darling created a "Leave No Trace" curriculum for area schools following guidelines established by the USFS and National Outdoor Leadership School partnership. She designed themes and games and a short field trip geared toward 1st and 2nd grade levels. Claire worked closely with one classroom at the Magical Youth School in Lancaster, NH, for 4 mornings, implementing her curriculum. She will share her curriculum with at least 5 teachers in 3 area schools so that future Leave No Trace education will continue.

Forest Health and Wildlife Monitoring

Marc Richardson worked at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest for 2 weeks in August. He studied forest regrowth in a 25 year old clear-cut plot, measured vegetation growth along 40 25-meter transects, and measured tree diameters. He also helped FS technicians in obtaining water samples from 100 lakes in the WMNF region. This enabled the continuation and expansion of a study done several years ago. Marc learned a substantial amount from the experience and the Forest Service was very grateful for his time and hard work.

Lewis Garrison assisted with Forest Plan wildlife monitoring small mammal studies. He baited and trapped for a total of 73.5 hours this quarter and was praised by the district for his reliability and contribution.

Community Service

Dale Danylin and Erik Hamilton continued work on their highway cleanup of NH Rt 16. In total, they covered 22 miles of the road and collected 140 bags of litter, several tires, and two rusted bed frames. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation was extremely grateful to AmeriCorps, and used this as an opportunity to highlight and generate interest in the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

Suzanne Weil assisted a crew of 8 disadvantaged teenagers with building a 1/4 mile long, wheelchair accessible boardwalk through a wetland area.

Visitor and Interpretive Services

8 AmeriCorps Members were trained and stationed at 5 different recreation areas, which have a long-standing partnership with the USFS, in order to educate the public on mountain safety and area

information. Members greeted visitors and provided friendly, accurate information about the Forest, the USFS, and AmeriCorps. Each partner assisted with training and supplies.

Mount Washington Auto Road: Jessa Eisenwinter-Lake would ride to the summit of Mt. Washington to greet visitors, as well as stop at car turn-offs as she traveled down the 8 miles. Jessa greeted 15-20 visitors a day and answered a variety of questions about the unique history and delicate Alpine ecosystem of the Presidential Range.

Great Gulf Wilderness: Kayden Will and Kurt Boland hiked through the wilderness area to answer visitor questions and to relay sufficient information for a safe and low-impact trip into the wilderness.

Wildcat Mountain: Jeff Fournier was stationed at the top of Wildcat, where visitors arrive after a gondola ride. Jeff answered a variety of questions about the area and informed the public about safety issues.

Appalachian Mountain Club Pinkham Notch Visitor Center: Alison Chase and Amanda Williams were responsible for leading scheduled hikes around and up to the summit of Mt. Washington. They also staffed the information booth at the visitor center, answering questions and providing accurate hiking and safety information to visitors of all experience levels and ages.

Great Glen Trails: Claire Darling and Dan Martel were stationed at the yurt at Great Angel Station, 1 mile from the Great Glen Visitor Center. They greeted 20-30 visitors a day and explained the use of Forest Service land in conjunction with Great Glen Trails. As a side project, Claire is creating a wooden sign to be posted in the meadow at Great Glen Trails identifying the mountains of the area and including both Great Glen and Forest Service insignia.

Leadership

We expanded corps member development by implementing the role of project coordinator/leaders. As project leaders corps members have been exposed to a variety of interpersonal, technical, and logistical learning opportunities. Project leaders have had to supervise their peers, some of whom are older and more experienced. This has provided a forum for leadership development. Overall, Members have taken more initiative in all program areas. With the leadership responsibilities rotating on a weekly basis, corps members have had a wonderful opportunity to learn from the examples of their peers.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

The White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps program has

participated in a variety of community building activities this quarter:

A crew of 9 AmeriCorps Members worked with the Volunteers For Peace, a non-profit organization designed to provide conservation and social work opportunities for members of international communities. The international crew was comprised of two people from Turkey, two from France, one from Germany, one from Spain, and one from Colorado. They combined with one of our crews for a week of rehabilitation and revegetation of impacted campgrounds in the White Mountain National Forest.

The White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps program collaborated closely with the Sandwich Range Conservation Association and the Wonalancet Outdoor Club. AmeriCorps work on SRCA and WODC trails helped these groups tremendously, and these groups in turn supported AmeriCorps by providing the heavy trail reconstruction work desired. AmeriCorps members attended and participated in the WODC annual meeting and panel discussion on the future of trails in New Hampshire. It has been a positive set of partnerships.

During the last week in September, the Oxford Hills Junior High School came to the Bog Brook Training Facility, where our AmeriCorps program is based, for an annual trip. Six AmeriCorps Members facilitated workshops, hikes and environmental education lessons for the visiting school students.

Worked with a local library cataloging books.

Worked with 60 children from the Milan, NH, school to build a fence at the school.

Assisted 15 North Stratford school students with digging new foundation holes after their school buildings had been flooded.

Installed signs for the Bethel Area Conservation Coalition on Mt. Will.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

This quarter has been the most rewarding and productive for the White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps program. The emphasis of our service work has been on heavy reconstruction on part of the 1200-mile trail network on the White Mountain National Forest. Trail Reconstruction is both an extremely physically demanding and a very creative process. These challenges made work much more rewarding for corps members.

Corps member responsibility continued to increase with the full implementation of the Project Coordinator Packet. This packet

allergy, and to bacterial infection. Our safety record is a reflection of well-defined emergency response plans, and the care which AmeriCorps Members put into their work.

The success of the Downes Brook Trail reconstruction project exemplifies the great potential within the corps for getting work done. This particular trail had essentially become a stream bed, causing erosion and resource damage and making passage for hikers difficult. To raise the hundreds of yards of tread that were under water, hundreds of 5-gallon buckets of fill were dug from borrow pits and carried to the trail. The Corps installed rock walls, waterbars and large staircases. The finished work was a great accomplishment for both the Project Leader and everyone on the crew.

The opportunity to work in designated Wilderness areas produced great satisfaction for some corps members. Access to these areas is rigorous and no power tools are permitted. Using only hand tools to fall trees, hew notches and install bridges in the backcountry was a new and gratifying experience for many.

A Wilderness First Responder course (researched and scheduled by a corps member to whom this training was extremely valuable) was taken by 2/3 of the corps members. This two-week emergency care course is an accepted standard in outdoor and education programs and enables its graduates to participate in local community emergency services for three years.

This group of 32 AmeriCorps Members has become a cohesive community. They have learned a great deal about living, working, and communicating, empathizing, supporting, efficiently working, travelling, singing, cooperating, leading, following, listening, and simply getting things done for the public good. The corps members have tested and increased their thresholds of discomfort and come up strong, time and time and time again.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Most of our challenges are the ones reported in previous quarterly reports. Communication; between Corps members, staff, the Forest Service and partners provides an ongoing challenge to all of us.

One of our greatest challenges has been meeting everyone's needs and expectations for a residential environment in a shared facility with the Maine Army National Guard. We have worked on ways to solve and avoid conflicts and continue to think of possible solutions, should we have a 1996 AmeriCorps program.

The issue of compatible technology/computer systems continued to be a problem for us and we would have been happy to receive some help from above on this one in terms of technical authority.

contains the guidelines for the role of project leader. This entire quarter, corps members have been leaders of trail reconstruction and various other projects. Each week three work crews leave the Bog Brook base to spend the week working in spike camps. This process includes moving all of the necessary tools, sleeping and eating gear, in addition to the strenuous labor of actual trail work. Over 75% of the corps members have tested their skills as leaders in this challenging process.

The summer work schedule developed in June has been completed, and a schedule for the remainder of the program was created.

Field Projects

Listed below are the field projects that have been accomplished this quarter. Each listing includes the total number of hours required to complete that project and the corresponding cost to the Forest Service of having non-AmeriCorps employees complete that project at the GS 5 rate of \$9.30/hr. (This hourly does not include any overhead expenses for supplies or administration).

Trail Reconstruction and Maintenance

Saco Ranger District Trails:

Carrigain Notch: Installed 5 two-stringer bog bridges, 1 three-stringer log bridge, 25 rock steps. (280 hrs = \$2604)

Blueberry Ledge: Installed 15 rock waterbars, 64 rock steps, 13 check dams. (446 hrs = \$4147.80)

Dicey's Mill: Installed 13 waterbars, 12 rock steps, 1 turnpike. (384 hrs = \$3571.20)

Bolles: Installed 20 rock waterbars, 15 rock retainer bars, 1 brook crossing/waterbar/rock wall/stepstone combination. (755h.5 hrs = \$7026.15)

Bog Brook: Installed 2 three-stringer bridges, 8 two-stringer bridges, 7 turnpikes, 4 rock cribs for bank support. (767 hrs = \$7133.10)

Downes Brook: Installed 600 yds raised tread w/ side ditch, 9 retainer walls, 23 rock waterbars, 10 log waterbars, 1-150' brook retainer wall, rock staircase/crib retainer wall/waterbar combination including 30 rocks. (1200 hrs = \$11,160.)

Westside Ranger District Trails:

Ammonoosuc Ravine: Rebuilt 2 rock retaining walls, 10' x 8' and 20' x 8'. (400 hrs = \$3720)

Shoal Pond: Installed 20 two-stringer bridges. (475 hrs = \$4416.50)

Edmonds Path: Installed 43 rock waterbars, 20 stepstones. (720 hrs = \$6696)

Androscoggin Ranger District Trails:

Crocker Pond Campsite: Installed 3 retaining walls and two

staircases, 24 steps total, from 6" x 6"p.t. lumber. (234
hrs = \$2176.20)
Wild River: Installed 110 stepstones, 15 one-stringer bridges,
1 two-stringer bridge, 7 log waterbars, 2 rock waterbars.
(841.5 hrs = \$7825.95)
Castle Ravine: In partnership with Randolph Mountain Club did
much-needed trail brushing and above-treeline cairn
building.

Dispersed Campsite Rehabilitation and Revegetation

Planted 325 trees at campgrounds, closed and rehabilitated 16
impacted campsites, closed 9 "bootleg" trails. (582 hrs =
\$5412.60)

Endangered Species Monitoring

Marked a 55 acre site into 100' grids and intensively surveyed
each grid for endangered plant species, recorded findings. (132
hrs = 1227.60)

Wildlife Habitat Improvement

Cleared 10.5 acres of old homesteads and clearcuts for wildlife
habitat. (355 hrs = \$3301.50)

Public Safety

Rebuilt three foundations and prepared site for one foundation
for First Aid Caches in high recreation use area on Mt.
Washington (231 hrs = \$1980.90)

Visitor Information Services

Provided visitor information at five highly frequented tourist
sites in the White Mountain National Forest. (768 hrs =
\$7142.40)

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Despite performing potentially dangerous work, AmeriCorps' safety
record has been excellent. Building with heavy rock, falling trees,
using mechanical advantage, working with sharp tools, power tools and
experiencing high amounts of outdoor exposure and exertion in all
seasons are high risk activities. There are also large amounts of
time spent driving to work sites. The only work-related incidents
resulting in a need for medical attention since the program began
have been non-emergency and related to strenuous activity, to

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

The White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps received HIV/AIDS awareness training.

On July 20-21, all AmeriCorps programs in New Hampshire met in Charlestown, NH at the national headquarters of the Student Conservation Association to participate in two days of community service projects. It was a camping out experience and some of the service projects involved trail work. This was exciting for our corps because urban and social AmeriCorps programs in the state experienced the type of service the White Mountain AmeriCorps Members have performed.

In July, a crew of White Mountain AmeriCorps Members cooperated in a week-long exchange with the Monadnock State Park AmeriCorps. Comparing differences in the programs led to a dynamic exchange of ideas and increased appreciation for the diversity that AmeriCorps represents.

During the first week of August, a crew of White Mountain AmeriCorps Members joined a crew of international Volunteers For Peace. They worked together at revegetation work at campgrounds in the White Mountains, spreading news of AmeriCorps around the world.

This quarter there were four articles written about the White Mountain National Forest AmeriCorps program in local and area newspapers.

July 10 - Berlin Daily Sun, July 13 - The Mountain Ear
July 19 - Conway Daily Sun, July 22 - The Valley News

Through a joint public information effort, 8 of our AmeriCorps Members provided local and safety information to thousands of visitors of the White Mountain National Forest, explaining to many of them who and what AmeriCorps is.

The program is now using magnetic van signs which identify vehicles as AmeriCorps program vehicles; we installed AmeriCorps signs at project worksites where feasible.

On October 27, we will have an AmeriCorps graduation celebration with all of our partners.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

There were no significant program changes this quarter.

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 0

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 0

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

1. GETTINGS THINGS DONE
2. COMMUNITY SERVICE
3. RESPONSIBILITY
4. OPPORTUNITY

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

1. To promote alternative energy sources which are environmentally safe, to select appropriate sites for installation of dry fire hydrants, to facilitate implementation and coordination of demonstration projects for five poultry litter spreaders.

2. To promote alternative wood products and value-added manufacturing technologies, resulting in local people obtaining job training and higher paying employment while maintaining the quality of the rural environment.

3. Rural Community Ecotourism Recreation Project is a project whereby opportunities and/or experience will be provided to insure that the residents of this area participate in implementing community recreation through direct involvement.

4. To help the Community of Holly Grove facilitate the FEMA buyout of homes in the 100-year flood plain.

Pellet stoves have been installed and data is being collected. Received and installed a furnace and coordinated the delivery of pellets for a poultry house for this heating season. The poultry industry has cooperated greatly. They are very interested in this project.

Have received a pellet trailer for use in local county and state fairs and other demonstration sites around the country. This should get out information to the community on the wood pellet technology and potential industry for Arkansas.

Member wrote and received funding thru grants from the Forest Service

and NRCS for a Biomass Energy Education project.

Woody Residue Assessment Project has been funded with a grant from the Forest Service. There are millions of tons of sawdust laying dormant. Hopefully, this project will give us an insight on where the residue is and give industry a source of materials for the wood pellets, helping to establish pellet mills in the local community.

A color brochure was developed and distributed for use at fairs, demonstration sites, traveling display, NRCS and RC&D Offices, and special events. This was done in cooperation with Winrock International, Inc.

Participated in preparing reports for the Governor's office on the Dry Hydrant Project; Worked with two volunteer fire departments and completed grant applications to obtain assistance which included equipment, training needs, and additional water source points in their district;

Completed appraisal work on all homes to be in the buyout. Final package being submitted to FEMA in August; Completed a community RC&D plan.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Same as those listed above.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Provided support to the Lake Grove community in developing a rural water system; Grant money awarded to the communities of Holly Grove, Marvell, and Lee County in Arkansas; Grant money awarded to Ozark Foothills RC&D for a Biomass energy project.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

**AmeriCorps RURAL DEVELOPMENT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS**

As a result of Forest Service AmeriCorps Member Kimberly Ray, tons of industrial wood waste is now being processed into energy in the form of wood pellets. Since the success of the energy savings and the high interest she generated, several retailers have started selling the pellet using stoves. The rural communities are now in the talking stages of getting a pellet making company and a stove manufacturing company to locate their factories in the area. Mrs. Ray, a Forestry Coordinator assigned to the Ozark Foothills Resource Conservation and Development Area office has helped rural communities turn piles of sawdust, slabs and other wood waste into fuel to heat poultry houses. She coordinated efforts with the local wood

producers, five major poultry producers, US Dept. of Energy, Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, Tennessee Valley Authority, Arkansas Forestry Commission and the Forest Service to use these pellets in specially designed stoves. Last winter the poultry houses that used this fuel saved 20% of their propane fuel cost. Mrs. Ray has been instrumental in acquiring funds and donations to build a demonstration trailer equipped with four operational stoves and one grill. This demo trailer will be featured at the Arkansas State Fair October 5, plus other fairs to promote the use of wood pellets. It is in the national interest to utilize the wood waste from the estimated 150 primary and secondary wood processing plants in the 12 county area, according to the Ozark Foothills RC&D Coordinator Doug Butts. He stated that Mrs. Ray has been a real asset to the rural community and thanks the Forest Service for providing her through the AmeriCorps program.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

Graduation ceremony held at Winrock. Meal was catered and a formal ceremony with presentation of plaques to each member for a job well done! Members and families, supervisors, and sponsors were in attendance.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

After completing the 12 months of service, a Member continued working on the AmeriCorps projects and is being paid by a non-profit group until federal funding issues are resolved.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site: Chattahoochee NF	Gainesville, GA
Name	Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047E25F

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: James Brad Braddy

6. Position of person completing this report: HRP/Safety Program Assistant

7. Telephone number: 770-536-0541

8. Fax number: 770-534-4411

9.e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	1	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours to date	1521	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter:0

(b)Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 0

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives: No progress this qtr.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:
No progress.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:
No progress this qtr.

14. Unique successes or great stories:
NA

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:
NA

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:
NA

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:
NA

AmeriCorps Summary from September 1994 to May 1995

Each item in the Members' program of work was aggressively pursued by the

AmeriCorps Member and each item was accomplished. The program of work included: creation of Recreation Opportunity Guides for the Forests, assist in developing the series of videos entitled "America's Great Outdoors", working with the Environmental Education Coordinator to present environmental education programs and fire prevention programs, worked with the Wilderness Ranger on the Brasstown Ranger District doing trail maintenance and doing presentations to local groups on wilderness management.

The Member reached over 1000 men, women and children through environmental education programs. The Member completed over 50 miles of trail maintenance. The "America's Great Outdoors" video series, which the Member worked on, will be viewed by thousands nation wide. The Recreation Opportunity Guides that the Member produced will also be of value to the thousands of Forest visitors expected to visit the Forest during the 1996 Olympics.

Other significant accomplishments include: Our Member rendered first aid to a local school teacher who fainted during one of his environmental education presentations at a local school; our Member attended the National Conference on Rural Development where he spoke with Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman about the valuable work AmeriCorps Members are doing in service to communities and to the nation.

The Member also provided seventy hours service to local communities as a Wildland Firefighter.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site:	Forest Service	Kentucky
	Name	Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047E25B

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: Bill Brumm

6. Position of person completing this report: Project Manager

7. Telephone number: (606) 376-5323

8. Fax number: (606) 376-3734

9.e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	2	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	612.5	
Total Members service hours to date	3691	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 0

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed

by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 0
12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Justin Schul - I worked the past 12 months with the McCreary County Fiscal Court, primarily with the County Road Supervisor.

My initial objectives were two-fold:

1. Take initial steps for a (911) System
2. Start a road inventory and management system

Working from the Road Department's garage, I've been very successful in both objectives. Cooperation and acceptance by the Road Supervisor has increased my ability to perform the necessary tasks to complete each objective.

In Objective 1, signs are being constructed and posted in the proper locations. The county has had a problem tending to the information needed to keep sign production aligned and productive. I have organized all the information for the signing and implemented a strategic plan for the future to safeguard against such problems as: What signs are up? Is the road name the same as the sign? If the road name has changed, has the sign? How many times has the sign been replaced? When was it posted?

Objective 2, three/fourths of the quads have been surveyed. All collected data has been entered in a computer generated road inventory and management system. Surveyed items include signs, minor structures, culverts, flexible pavement roads, and gravel roads.

The road inventory and management system has been altered and adapted to meet the desired needs of the Road Department and the Fiscal Court. The system is functioning as intended and has since been utilized to help in various tasks.

Melissa Vanover - I served for ten months as the Assistant Director of the McCreary County Economic Development Council and as the Executive Director for the McCreary County Chamber of Commerce.

Some of my accomplishments this quarter have been:

I assisted the Chamber of Commerce in the preparation of a "Newcomers Packet" for the Chamber of Commerce, which will be sent to anyone interested in relocating to the county. I then had them printed and began dissemination.

The \$16 million dollar Historic Building Renovation Project entered the reconstruction phase this quarter.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

same as (a)

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

same as (a)

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter: None

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Justin Schul - The University of Kentucky Transportation Center Staff visited the county garage to do a report of the road management system for their newsletter. I've been working with some of their employees trying to gather information. The head of the department heard of our activities and thought it would make a perfect story for the newsletter. McCreary County is the first county in the state to have a computer road management system. This article was published this quarter in the LINK newsletter.

Received approval for an additional grant of \$5,000 for the road signing project.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

Melissa Vanover found and accepted a full time job where she can utilize her Biology Degree skills. She will be missed. She completed over 90 percent of her 1700 hours and would have completed those but for a detached retina operation during the winter that laid her up for a month.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site: Mississippi Delta	LA
Name	Location

2.Operating Site ID #: 4047E27C

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:

☐ First Quarter	☐ Second Quarter	☐ Third Quarter	☒ Fourth Quarter
(10/1-12/31)	(1/1-3/31)	(4/1-6/30)	(7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: Alan W. Dorian

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps Coordinator

7.Telephone number: 318-473-7177

8. Fax number: 318-473-7117

9.e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	4	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	4	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	4	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	1640	0
Total Members service hours to date	7813**	0

**NOTE: Includes 634 hrs for member who resigned 1/12/95.

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 8

(b)Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 400

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Identify demonstration sites and demonstrate modern timber bridge technology.

Provide assistance to communities in implementing forestry related projects to improve living conditions.

Accomplishments:

A. Mahfuz, Timber Bridge Specialist, assisted grant development for Doorway to Louisiana, Inc, resulting in successful application to use timber bridge technology and materials for recreation tourism project in Lake Providence LA. He continues to assist Humpheys County, MS, in their timber bridge construction efforts.

Judy Ned and Susan Mullins in Winnsboro assisted grant development for ACT tutoring in East Carrol, Madison, and Tensas Parishes; Elder Care Assurance Contact Service in Richland Parish; Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) for at-risk youth in Madison Parish. The SEP was implemented in Quarter III, and concluded for this academic year in early September. Roughly 60 youth participated in the program between May-September.

Alicia Trissler, Winnfield, assisted grant development for a tourism brochure in Winn Parish, and is working with printers on final cost estimates and color reproduction quality. In Quarter IV, she gained final costs and, with a Chamber of Commerce representative, selected a local printer. This insured the most cost-effective price and means that grant funds will stay within the community.

Tree planting for the Small Business Tree Planting program in Mangham, LA, is complete, and late summer maintenance indicates almost 100% survival.

Members Ned and Mullins assisted in the first stage of the Shiitake Mushroom forestry-related project. In Quarter IV, the project moved into a second phase, with invited speakers and market analysts working with local mushroom producers to reach broader market areas and establish dependable product availability.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Members continued weekly cluster meetings.

One member, Judith Ned, was selected by the Corporation for the AmeriCorp Leader Program, and began service in Enid, OK, with Rural Health Projects, Inc., in mid-September.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Seek sustainable economic development to diversify local economies.

Facilitate creation of tourism opportunities.

Establish community planning programs to produce feasible plans for improved living conditions.

With the exception of the Winnfield community (see Obstacles), our Members continue to bring together community factions that have not worked together effectively before.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Eldercare program has been organized and will assist 200 elderly persons next month.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Mr. Mahfuz's application of "traditional" timber bridge technology and materials in a recreational setting, as seen by the Byerly Park/Lake Providence grant project, is an example of creative technology transfer. In his final weeks of service, he provided additional on-site assistance in Lake Providence to insure the project was underway prior to his end of service. Letters to the Forest and local media emphasized the value of AmeriCorps to NE Louisiana.

Ms. Ned was one of 2 USDA AmeriCorps Members selected to serve as an AmeriCorps Leader, and she was recognized as such in Graduation ceremonies in early August.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

The community of Winnfield continues to suffer internal political situations which impact accomplishments. It appears the Chamber of Commerce, our primary partner in many proposed projects or those ready for implementation, may be dissolved as an entity. As a result, the Forest has recommended to the Regional Office that should a FY96 Program materialize, the Winnfield position should be allocated to Winnsboro.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

FS AmeriCorps Members participated during a National Service Day in Winnsboro, LA, and acted as teaching aids for their Headstart

Program.

Members Ned and Mahfuz worked with NRCS and RECD members at a NRCS facility in extreme southern LA, helping plant erosion-control vegetation.

Alicia Trissler participated as part of a week-long environmental education camp for disadvantaged youth in Winnfield, and AmeriCorp was credited and highlighted as a contributor.

Members wear uniforms, pins, and buckles in public venues.

Team USDA-Louisiana hosted an AmeriCorps graduation ceremony on August 4 for all USDA AmeriCorps Members in the state. Planning and implementation was handled, as usual, by full participation of all three USDA agencies. All members, except FS Member Susan Mullins (who'd just given birth to Louisiana's only "AmeriTot"), attended the ceremony at the Alexander State Forest. The R8 Regional Office was also represented. Lt. Governor Melinda Schwegmann, an active supporter of AmeriCorps, gave the keynote speech and offered challenges for the future to the graduates. Ceremonies received full coverage by broadcast and printed media.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **USFS Rural Development, Southern Region Mississippi Delta**

Name

Location

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047E27A

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:

☐ First Quarter ☐ Second Quarter ☐ Third Quarter ☒ Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Clarence Finley

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps Project Director

7. Telephone number: 601-686-3163

8. Fax number: 601-686-3198

9. e-mail address (if available): none

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME 10	PART TIME 0
No. of Members allotted to your sites	10	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	6	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	3,120	0
Total Members service hours to date	10,532	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 75

(b) Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 4,500

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Dorthy Reaves

AmeriCorps Community Recycling

Objective: Develop recycling program in Leflore County.

(1) Published and aired several Public Service Announcements about newspaper recycling to inform the community about the recycling project.

(2) Organized Americorp Community Recycling Program Committee and worked with clubs, etc., to help get the community involved in the project.

(3) Secured trailer to store recycled materials.

Cassandra McClure

Outdoor Classroom

Objectives: Construct Outdoor Classroom

(1) Implemented a plan to improve science test scores by 25 percent.

(2) Began coordinating lesson plans about nature to help the students understand science better.

(3) Began planning and organizing the outdoor classroom.
- Local power company has buried overhead powerlines.
- School has begun improving drainage in the outdoor classroom.

Arnell Patterson

Recreational and Educational Park Program

Objective: Establish Community Recreation and Education Program

(1) Began selecting Program Director for recreational and education program by working directly with committee and Board of Aldermen to form a committee to pick candidate.

(2) Assisted with helping to set up committee meeting.

b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

This quarter AmeriCorps Members participated in Safety Awareness Training at the Southern Hardwoods Laboratory.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Cassandra McClure

(1) To construct an outdoor classroom that will teach approximately 650 students each year the importance of forest related resources. On Sept. 6th, hauled the first load of soil to the outdoor classroom.

Arnell Patterson

(2) To develop a community wide recreational and educational program for youths and adults in the county to obtain valuable job training skills.

On Sept. 6th the recreation and education committee completed the job description for the Program Director.

Dorthy Reaves

(3) To give people an incentive to start recycling newspaper as well as other recyclable materials. On Sept. 12 held the official ceremony starting the Americorp Recycling program in Leflore County.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Cassandra McClure

Outdoor Classroom
Progress Report

(1) Three trees have been removed, dirt has been brought to site, and chemicals have been sprayed to kill grass.

(2) Twin County Electric engineer came to look at site to see where the wooden deck would be placed and they (Twin County Electric) have committed to burying two powerlines.

(3) We wrote a letter to Wal-Mart requesting a donation to help with the project. They agreed to donate \$500.

(4) I met with the planning committee for the Indianola Recreational Park Project and we have developed job description for Program Director for the Indianola Recreational Park Project. A committee has been formed to select the person for Program Director.

Dorthy Reaves

AmeriCorps Community Recycling Project

- (1) Contracted with the Project 2000 Director to participate in an Education Workshop on recycling.
- (2) Met with Ernesto Perez, project engineer with EPA in Atlanta, to discuss the AmeriCorps Community Recycling Program for Leflore County.
- (3) Contacted the Smurfit Recycling, Inc., to get an agreement on the truck/trailer.
- (4) Contacted CSC Recycling, Inc., of Jackson, MS, to compare the ONP against Smurfit Recycling.
- (5) Prepared Public Service Announcements for newspaper recycling. These ads are being placed on cable TV, radio stations and are being placed in the Greenwood Commonwealth newspaper.
- (6) Met with the president of the Leflore County Board of Supervisors to find out if they were still interested in providing a site at the county barn.
- (7) Met with the chairman of the AmeriCorps Recycling committee to discuss the proposal. The project is set to start September 11, 1995.
- (8) Talked with the Mayor of Belzoni, Tom Turner, about the AmeriCorps Project that is located in Belzoni.
- (9) Truck/trailer has been brought to Leflore County for storage of newspapers along with an 18-wheeler to start recycling project.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Cassandra McClure

Outdoor Classroom

Recurring obstacles to Rural Development program continue to be a lack of follow-thru by agencies and persons who express an interest in participating in the classroom project.

We have had limited media coverage. There have been newspaper articles but they vaguely expressed my service with the project. There is a possibility of another article in the newspaper very soon.

At times a group or entity will offer assistance or volunteer service and then have to be tracked down or are never heard from again.

Cassandra McClure and Committee members aggressively pursue these partners - meeting with them and encouraging them to continue with their plans or ideas.

Dorthy Reaves

AmeriCorps Community Recycling

I met with the CSC Recycling, Inc. on August 30, 1995 along with the recycling committee. September 11, 1995 is the date that we hope to start the newspaper recycling project in Leflore County. News articles and pictures will be taken of the site and the "Project of AmeriCorps" sign. Flyers and brochures have been sent throughout the community.

I plan on visiting the mayor of Belzoni next week.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

Personnel Meeting, Reorganization of NRCS, August 22, 1995, Cassandra McClure and Dorthy Reaves

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

Four members have completed their service for the first year. There are only two members left. Cassandra McClure has been moved to the Greenville, MS, NRCS field office due to a lack of office space at Stoneville.

There are no other changes.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site:	AmeriCorps (USFS)	Asheville, NC
	Name	Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047E25E

3. Corporation Grantee Name: Department of Agriculture

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: J.C. Smith

6. Position of person completing this report: Manpower Development Spec.

7. Telephone number: 704/257-4210

8. Fax number: 704/257-4804

9.e-mail address (if available): N/A

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	2	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	1,166	0
Total Members service hours to date	3,946	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this

quarter: None.

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: None.

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Robert Hawk

Objective #1 - Development of a 5-year Master Plan for the development of a Parks and Recreation Department on the Reservation.

During the fourth quarter, Robert has been re-evaluating and adjusting the Master Plan for a Parks and Recreation Department on the Cherokee Reservation. In conjunction with this, he has conducted a follow-up survey, Community Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment.

Throughout the year, Robert has been writing and editing the 5-year Master Plan for the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Department on the Cherokee Reservation. During the first quarter, he designed and distributed several hundred Community Needs Assessment surveys. These were distributed throughout the various Reservation communities to determine the needs and wants of the people in regards to recreational sites and facilities. Robert received 344 responses to the survey and compiled this information into a data base for the purpose of analyzing the recreational lifestyle on the Reservation. During the final quarter of the year, Robert again did a follow-up survey to ensure the accuracy of his data.

Robert has inventoried all existing recreation areas and recreational opportunities on the Cherokee Indian Reservation. He has developed a photo album of all recreation areas. He has visited and studied other recreational sites in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee to evaluate other Parks and Recreation programs that would be similar in format to the Reservation's. He has prepared a budget for each proposed project in the Master Plan for evaluation and cost estimate purposes.

Robert has developed a walking brochure for the Health Education unit on the Reservation. This brochure will be used by Reservation residents and tourists alike. It depicts walking trails around the Reservation. He also coordinated and implemented a Spring Walking Program for Reservation residents.

Robert secured a grant with the Adopt-A-Trail program for the

restoration of a popular trail on the Reservation. He organized and coordinated the logistics for this project. Robert has coordinated several clean-up projects in the recreational areas of the Reservation. He assisted with the coordination of the annual Reservation Litter Clean-up Day in March. He also assisted in planning special Arbor Day celebrations.

Robert has prepared and implemented Resolution #67 for Tribal Council approval and endorsement, which designates a Mountain Bike Trail on the Qualla Boundary, that will be for public use and special biking events.

Robert has also assisted with 2 fundraising events in conjunction with the Oconaluftee River Island Park project. He has served as Project Director for the River Island project. Additionally, he has organized a Qualla Boundary Greenways public meeting in conjunction with the National Park Service's Trails and Conservation Assistance Branch.

Robert looks forward to his second year, during which he will obtain approval of his Master Plan by the Tribal Council and will begin its implementation.

Diane Ducharme

Objective #1 - Assist in the identification and renovation of parks and other recreational facilities which do not comply with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements.

During the fourth quarter, Diane continued to assist the City of Asheville with research on playground equipment which would be accessible. She also continued the ADA training seminars for various departments within the City of Asheville.

Throughout the year, Diane has assisted the City with the surveying of seven playgrounds showing existing equipment and topography. She has also researched various playground equipment and made recommendations as to the equipment that should be used to make the playgrounds accessible. She has started a data base on the Americans with Disabilities Act with local agencies and established a City of Asheville ADA communications network.

Diane has developed a new program for the Parks and Recreation Department called "Adopt-A-Playground", which is the City's effort to form a public-private partnership in providing accessible facilities. She has organized local agencies to form a playground advisory committee. Diane has also conducted ADA Awareness Training for various departments within the City of Asheville.

Diane compiled a volunteer form and worked on a survey of the recreation sites and the needs of the sites and the community.

Robert Hawk

Objective #2 - Identification of locations to be developed.

During the fourth quarter, Robert has participated in local community meetings where Parks and Recreation projects were discussed and support solicited. He has prepared, developed, and implemented Resolution #67 for the Tribal Council's approval and endorsement. This resolution was for the designation of a Mountain Bike Trail on the Qualla Boundary. This Mountain Bike Trail will be for public use, as well as special biking events. He has also served as the Project Director for the Oconaluftee Island Park Project, a new recreational site, and an area for Reservation craftspeople to sell their products to tourists.

In addition to the above, Robert organized and implemented an annual Arbor Day event at the Qualla Civic Center. He organized, coordinated, implemented, and supervised the Mingo Falls restoration project with local businesses and the Oconaluftee Job Corps Center. He organized, coordinated, and implemented a work group for recreational projects on the Qualla Boundary. This work group has constructed playground equipment and painted the facilities at the Ceremonial Grounds.

He has prepared an Urban Forestry Grant for tree planting within local neighborhood parks for beautification.

b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Provide Robert and Diane with formal and informal training to assist them with achieving AmeriCorps objectives, an awareness of social behavior within their community, and development of leadership skills.

This quarter, Robert and Diane have been placed in charge of making presentations to various groups. This has not only strengthened their communication skills but has provided them with leadership skills. Robert attended Hazardous Materials training during this quarter. Robert has supervised the group of volunteers that worked to complete the restoration of the Mingo Falls project.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Robert Hawk

-Prepare a 5-year Master Plan for the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Department on the Reservation.

Robert has re-evaluated and edited his 5-year Master Plan. In the near future, it will be ready to present to the Tribal Council for approval and funding.

-Identify locations to be developed for recreational purposes.

Robert has obtained approval and endorsement of a Mountain Bike Trail on the Qualla Boundary. He continues to work as Project Director on the Oconaluftee River Island Park project.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter: None

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Robert Hawk

Establishment of a Mountain Bike Trail on the Qualla Boundary for public use and special biking events.

Walking Trail brochure for downtown Cherokee and adjacent hiking trails.

Organized and supervised a work group to construct playground equipment and to paint facilities at the Ceremonial Grounds.

Organized and implemented an Arbor Day event at the Qualla Civic Center and the Annual Reservation Litter Clean-up Day in March.

Robert supervised the restoration of Mingo Falls, which is a favorite hiking trail of Reservation residents.

Diane Ducharme

Diane established a playground advisory committee.

Diane developed an "Adopt-A-Playground" program to form a public-private partnership in providing accessible facilities.

Diane has conducted ADA Training Seminars for various departments in the City of Asheville.

Diane established a data base and communications network with local agencies on the Americans with Disabilities Act.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter: None

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

A graduation ceremony was held in the National Forests in North Carolina Supervisor's Office. Robert and Diane were both recognized and presented with a plaque for their service. Communication networks established by both Members have brought greater attention to the AmeriCorps Members and their work. Both Robert and Diane attended HIV/AIDS awareness training during the year. Robert also attended Hazardous Materials training.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

Diane Ducharme completed her 1812 hours and the City of Asheville did not wish to renew this project.

Robert Hawk completed his 1812 hours and was extended until his anniversary date. He looks forward to his second year.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **AmeriCorps (USFS) Kingstree, SC**
Name Location

2. Operating Site ID # : **4047E26B**

3. Corporation Grantee Name: **USDA National Direct**

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter _ Second Quarter Third Quarter **X** Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: **Willie M. Humphrey**

6. Position of person completing this report: **Supervisor/Project Coordinator**

7. Telephone number: **803-887-3257**

8. Fax number: **803-887-3848**

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	6	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	4	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	4	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	1168	0
Total Members service hours to date	8510	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were

involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 10

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 50

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

To seek sustainable economic development opportunities to diversify local economies, resulting in local people obtaining job training and higher paying employment while maintaining the quality of the rural environment.

In order to realize this AmeriCorps goal:

A. Continued to work on the Dry Fire Hydrant Project. Two Members completed pond assessment in Florence County. This project is designed to improve rural fire protection, lower fire insurance rates, reduce losses from fire, and stimulate rural development.

B. Completed and submitted the project proposal for the Nature Trail at DP Cooper Elementary School. AmeriCorps completed the initial clearing of the nature trail and had the trail surveyed.

C. Completed and submitted the project proposal to Williamsburg County Department of Recreation for the improvements proposed for the St. Lawrence Community Center in Salters, S.C.

D. Composed and submitted a proposal to the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) in Charleston, S.C., to assist Kingstree in reducing the flooding potential to a portion of the town by clearing a drainage canal.

E. Provided technical assistance to Kingstree officials on the renovations occurring at Kellahan Park.

To conduct or arrange 150 environmental education presentations, resulting in increased citizen knowledge as measured by pre- and post-program interviews, with program quality judged by teachers; increase participation in environmental programs in local schools.

AmeriCorps members are striving to obtain this goal by continuing to present Project Learning Tree curriculum to students in Williamsburg County (ages 4-15).

To conduct 3 leadership development programs, the success of which would be measured by 50% of the workshop participants

beginning or increasing community activities.

AmeriCorps worked in conjunction with the Teen Life Center Summer Camp to present one program.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Provide AmeriCorps Members with formal and informal training to assist them with achieving AmeriCorps objectives, an awareness of social behavior within their community, and development of leadership skills.

This quarter AmeriCorps Members:

Participated in a grief workshop sponsored by the Hospice House of McLeod Medical Center in Florence, SC, as part of our Cluster Meeting.

Honed their public speaking abilities by presenting their views on the AmeriCorps program and their accomplishments at a graduation ceremony at Santee State Park.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

1. To seek sustainable economic development opportunities to diversify local economies, resulting in local people obtaining job training and higher paying employment while maintaining the quality of the rural environment.

2. To conduct or arrange 150 environmental education presentations, resulting in increased knowledge by citizens as measured by pre- and post-program interview, with program quality judged by teachers and increased participation in environmental programs in local schools.

3. To conduct 3 leadership development programs, the success of which would be measured by 50% of the workshop participants beginning or increasing community activities.

This quarter, Kingstree AmeriCorps:

Completed pond assessment for potential Dry Fire Hydrant sites in Florence County.

Assisted four (4) local and regional government agencies with the implementation of projects funded through grants.

Completed and submitted the improvement plan for the St. Lawrence Community Center.

Performed three (3) Project Learning Tree presentations for the

Teen Life Summer Camp.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

The Santee-Wateree Resource Conservation and Development Council and the Natural Resource Conservation Service have completed the Dry Fire Hydrant Survey in Florence County and has completed 30% of the surveys for Williamsburg County.

14. Unique successes or great stories: None

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

The recurring obstacle the Kingstree AmeriCorps program faced with media coverage decreased; a lack of follow-thru by persons having expressed an interest in participating in a project remained.

In July, a reporter from the local paper spent almost 8 hours with the AmeriCorps Members in Kingstree. I arranged the interview to coincide with a Cluster Meeting. Three additional AmeriCorps Members from USDA (not US Forest Service) were present and interviewed. We received front page coverage. This paper is circulated throughout the county and into surrounding counties.

The support pledged by a local civic group for one of our main projects remained unfulfilled.

However, as the Kingstree AmeriCorps program drew to a close, we noticed a trend begin to develop. More and more groups, agencies, and citizens became interested in what AmeriCorps was doing in their community. They were asking for assistance to do projects later in this calendar year and in 1996. Unfortunately, we had to decline a number of opportunities.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **Clinch-Powell RC&D** **Rutledge, TN**
Name Location

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047E25A

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter _ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Liz Upchurch/Sarah Buchanan

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps members (FS)

7. Telephone number: (615)828-5927

8. Fax number: (615)828-5212

9. e-mail address (if available): N/A

10. Members and Service Hours

No. of Members allotted to your sites	FULL TIME 2	PART TIME 1
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	429.25	0
Total Members service hours to date	3666.75	N/A

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 95

(b) Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed

by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 760

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

SOLID WASTE SPECIALIST: Provide technical assistance in solid waste management and recycling to communities in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins, and Union Counties resulting in a 10% increased recycling rate and improved solid waste management. Assistance provided through the implementation of 3 grant proposals and 2 recycling program start-ups as outlined in the Ten Year Regional Solid Waste Management Plans approved by the State of Tennessee.

1. Developed a project and submitted a proposal for funding for natural resource protection education through proper tree maintenance demonstration and beautification at the Hawkins recycling center. This allows for public education on the necessity of paper recycling.
2. Completed and submitted final report to E. TN Foundation for Fires Ever Grainger County Earth Day Festival. Funding was secured from E TN Foundation Arts Fund. This festival focused on solid waste issues and education and reached 300 citizens in the county.
3. Provided solid waste technical assistance to 5 counties; assisted the Hancock County Solid Waste Board in applying for funding from the State to finish and update their Convenience Center, which is the only solid waste collection site in the county, and discussed the need for a required tire storage center.
4. Completed the development and reproduction of an educational solid waste brochure to be distributed to citizens in all 5 counties. This brochure explains new rules and changes in solid waste handling and will be printed on recycled paper.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: Conduct or arrange 150 environmental education presentations resulting in increased knowledge of citizens, as measured by pre- and post-program quizzes and interviews, with program quality judged by teachers; increased participation in 15% of the environmental education programs in 5 counties.

1. Enviro 2000 Teacher Environmental Education Workshop:
 - registered teachers for workshop sessions
 - prepared site for workshops
 - designed and printed certificates
 - edited and prepared new catalogue for Education Resource Center for distribution to attendees.
2. Enviro 2000 Workshop:
 - 80 teachers from 5 counties participated with 12 volunteer presenters
 - helped presenters set up and gave welcome
 - gave 2 presentations on education program
3. Enviro 2000 Wrap Up:

compiled list of teachers from each county to be sent to supervisors for in-service verification
send RC&D Director and Partners for Clean Communities numerical breakdown of attendance

4. RC&D Education Program

organized file and did preliminary preparation work for next years program such as letters, organization and lists of contact persons.

wrote urban forestry grant to FS to fund environmental education field day events.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT: Objective stated in section (a)

Attended First TN Development District's Annual Regional Recycling Conference to share information on recycling efforts ongoing in the area.

Attended USDA AmeriCorps Training session in Houston, TX, to glean information to share with supervisors and cluster members who were unable to attend.

Attended Source Reduction Training in Ashboro, NC, which covered both commercial and residential waste handling. This technique, when combined with recycling and reuse, is an effective way to reduce overall waste going into landfills.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: Objective stated in section (a)

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT: Objective stated in section (a)

Riverbank stabilization community service project in Houston, TX.

Served as advisor for 3 high school Learn and Serve students.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: Objective stated in section (a)

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

SOLID WASTE MANAGMENT:

1 - Program design, planning and leveraging of resources for 2 important educational and technical assistance projects

* Consumer Source Reduction, "Buy recycled", campaign in 5 counties.

* Waste reduction and recycling workshops and seminars for county and city government workers, school system employees, business, and industry workers.

2 - Technical assistance to solid waste boards and county officials in 3 counties to develop and draft specifications for recycling programs and solid waste collection systems.

3 - Organization of Household Hazardous Waste Collection Roundups in 5 counties.

4 - Organization of an Earth Day Festival showcasing recycled art created by 200 local students.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION:

- 1 - Development and presentation of solid waste programming entitled "Garbage Busters" for 933 2nd grade students in 5 counties.
- 2 - Organization and implementation of environmental education programs for 2,250 students in grades 3, 6, and 9-12.
- 3 - Organized and conducted teacher in-service training for 80 teachers in 5 counties on environmental topics.
- 4 - Located and negotiated for property to be leased for an environmental education site.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

See TV video footage.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Unable to keep Members enrolled due to uncertain FS funding issues.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

AmeriCorps*USA

Operating Site Quarterly Report

National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site: Appalachian NE TN RC&D

Johnson City, TN
Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047E25A

3.Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:

First Quarter Second Quarter

_ Third Quarter

X Fourth Quarter

(10/1-12/31)

$$(1/1 - 3/31)$$
$$(4/1 - 6/30)$$

(7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Amy Crumley

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps Member (FS)

7. Telephone number: (615)854-9621

8. Fax number: (615) 282-6451

9.e-mail address (if available): N/A

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	2	1
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	565	0
Total Members service hours to date	3624	N/A

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total number of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 1

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed

by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 8

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

To plan and develop strategies for sustainable community development based on information gathered from area needs assessments. Emphasis will be placed on sustainable economic development, sustainable education, alternative agriculture, and ecotourism. Success will be evaluated by implementation of at least 2 technology transfer opportunities.

To promote conservation education in the region and its school systems by organizing appropriate activities, and to promote conservation education to the public through awareness such as events, presentations and workshops.

Assisted Shady Valley Ruritan Club (non-profit) in organizing native cranberry restoration Action plan. The purpose of the cranberry restoration project is to stimulate economic development through tourism and educate the public about the uniqueness of the native cranberry and the Shady Valley community.

Household Hazardous Waste collections held in 6 counties in July with participation increasing by 23%. New releases sent out during the month to advertise these collections.

A 1-day teacher in-service workshop was held in August with 75 educators attending. Topics included conservation, recycling, and other environmental issues which will be used in teaching.

Developed a flyer, kept time records, and informed all school superintendents, principals, teachers and presenters about Conservation Camp '96 which is organized by AmeriCorps. This is funded through a grant from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Several cluster meetings were held during the quarter and a service project was conducted. Topics of interest to the Members were discussed such as the educational award and national service benefits.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Trash and other debris was cleaned up at Elrod Falls recreation area in Hancock county, trees were planted along an eroded stream bank in Hamblen county, and a cook-out was held at David Crockett State Park for all the AmeriCorps Members.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

14. Unique successes or great stories:

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Sullivan county's Household Hazardous Waste collection site had to be changed the week of the collection. Many news releases were re-sent to inform the public of the change of site. The new location was just down the street from the original location.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

Amy Crumley was interviewed on 7/12/95 by a local radio station to promote the Household Hazardous Waste collection. Over 500 brochures were passed out during this quarter to promote this regional event. The brochure was developed by AmeriCorps Member Billie Barlow and the assistance provided by the AmeriCorps program was listed on each brochure.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

AmeriCorps Member Billie Barlow completed service.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site: New River Highlands RC&D	Wytheville, VA
Name	Location

2.Operating Site ID # : 4047E25C

3.Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: Charlie Becker

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps Supervisor

7. Telephone number: (703) 228-2879

8. Fax number: (703) 228-4367

9.e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	3	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	0	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	3	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	1390.5	0
Total Members service hours to date	5467.5	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 13

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed

by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 275

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

DELTON ALDERMAN: Forest Engineer

1. Researched and wrote a Tree Identification Teachers manual and completed tree identification plaques for the Marion Riverwalk.

- Identified all trees and marked each species with tree paint.

- Purchased materials needed for plaques and installation of posts.

- Dug holes, supervised volunteers and personally installed tree identification posts and plaques.

2. Completed timber bridge design for 2 species of lumber, 3 lumber grades for each species, and 6 different bridge spans for each species and lumber grade.

- Bridge designs were reviewed and approved by the USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory and by a Forest Service Bridge Engineer.

3. Developed a grant proposal for an EPZ timber bridge grant (\$18,500). If awarded, this will be used to promote future timber bridges in the New River Highlands RC&D area and southwest Virginia.

4. Developed and received funding for designing and constructing 2 nail-laminated pedestrian timber bridges in the towns of Tazewell and Marion.

- The Tazewell bridge was compled on September 1, 1995.

- Marion bridge will be completed in November, 1995.

5. Designed, fabricated, assembled, stressed, promoted, and demonstrated a portable stress-laminated hardwood timber bridge. Bridge was completed in June and is currently being used on a logging site in southwest Virginia.

6. Assisted with design, fabrication, and assembly of a permanent hardwood timber bridge in Sugar Grove, VA.

- Estimated to have saved between \$15,000 to \$20,000 by using timber bridge as compared to conventional concrete/steel structure.

- Bridge featured in Smyth county media.

6. Designed, fabricated, assembled and stressed a permanent residential farm-use bridge in Hillsville, VA.

- Bridge constructed of white oak and will be studied for material longevity

- Bridge not treated with conventional preservatives.

- Bridge featured in media.

7. Contacted over 100 volunteers and municipal fire departments pertaining to interest in installing dry fire hydrants. Assisted 3 fire departments in developing grant proposals. They were awarded 5 hydrants.

ADRIENNE PERKINS: Forest Economic Specialist

"Getting Things Done, Community Service, Responsibility, and Opportunity. These are the goals of AmeriCorps. We are all working hard to achieve each one."

1. Getting Things Done.

Printed and presented 40 tree identification plaques, 265 Riverwalk Tree Identification Guide Books, and 1,200 Riverwalk brochures. Painted, routed, cut and installed 40 posts for the identification plaques. Held Riverwalk Tree Identification Field Day which was attended by 50 people. Held 2 teacher training sessions attended by 30 teachers. My duties were to help mark trees, create and print plaques, coordinate editing of the work book and brochure with our AmeriCorps cluster group, arrange teacher training dates, and assist with planning of the field day. I also handled donations from local businesses who wanted to contribute.

I created, wrote, edited, proofread, and distributed 3 issues of "The Forest Resource Circle", a forestry newsletter. Designed the newsletter logo. Newsletter sent to 460 wood industries in 4 states.

Collected 10 hours of video footage for AmeriCorps projects.

Constructed informational displays and delivered 10 presentations.

Assisted with planning of Appalachian Hardwood Expo, a hardwood industry trade show. Wrote press releases, contacted media, designed and installed directional signs and attended all planning meetings. Also exhibited AmeriCorps and Forestry Committee activities with 2 displays I constructed.

2. Community Service

Provided school system and community with outdoor educational laboratory and exercise trail, as well as a new tourist attraction. The newsletter spreads the word about AmeriCorps, forest fire safety, logger education, lower business operating costs, new federal regulations, and much more. The timber bridge assembly video shows farm owners and loggers the way to build bridges so they can reduce erosion and sedimentation due to stream crossing. Presentations to economic development boards and industrial development authorities will remind people to consider forestry in their planning.

3. Responsibility

Upkeep and expansion of the Riverwalk is now the responsibility of the community of Marion. The Forestry committee now assumes the responsibility for the continuation of the newsletter. Southwest VA now has a new tool, timber bridges, to help meet the responsibility of clean water while using a renewable natural resource.

4. Opportunity

The Riverwalk can be expanded. Lighting could be added, the trail made accessible for persons with disabilities, and the trail could be extended to join the existing Hungry Mother State Park trail. The newsletter can be continued. A timber bridge industry could be developed in southeast VA that would provide a market for under-utilized native hardwoods.

JAMES PRATT, Forest Products Marketing Specialist
Completed Specialty Forest Project Directory.

- Assembled 98 entries and placed in book format using computer
- Currently directory is being printed and will be distributed to Welcome Centers and Chambers of Commerce.

"In the course of this project, I have literally contacted hundreds of individuals and businesses by letter, phone, and face to face interviews with mixed results. It is safe to say that less than 1/2 of the total number of people contacted responded or otherwise showed any interest in being included in the directory. Still, enough contacts were made to represent a fair cross-section of the various forest products available, resources, and services. In addition to listing craftpeople and other finished product services, wood-suppliers, such as sawmillers, were also listed to encompass both ends of the forest products industry."

- All directory information is stored in a database so that it can be updated in the future.

Completed "Heart of the Woodlands" brochure aimed at tourists who are in search of specialized forest products. Includes information sources such as Chambers of Commerce, publications, lists of annual festivals and events, and general information of SW Virginia's forest resources.

Wrote magazine article for Virginia's Forests, a general interest publication dedicated to Virginia's woodlands. The winter issue focus is on the forest products industry.

Assisted in implementation of Riverwalk Tree Identification project with AmeriCorps cluster group. The mayor of Marion attended the official opening of the trail.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

DELTON ALDERMAN:

"My position has allowed me to become proficient in the design, fabrication, assembly, and stressing of stress-laminated timber bridges. The knowledge I have gained cannot be described and is invaluable."

Attended grant writing workshop in Rutledge, TN. "The training and information was invaluable. I have a better understanding of the

grant writing process and have written 2 grants since the workshop."

Attended lumber grading workshop at Virginia Tech. "The information learned is very valuable in bridge design, since design specifications are a direct result of the lumber grade used."

Attended marketing seminar conducted by TVA and developed marketing plans for wood products.

Attended computer instruction seminar on UNIX systems attended effective presentation workshop. "This was probably the most useful training I personally received, the course addressed areas in which I was deficient."

ADRIENNE PERKINS

One goal of the AmeriCorps program was that we spend 20% of our time in training. I attended several training sessions, including photography, community development, grant writing, lumber grading, videography, communication, computer use, and effective presentations. Much of the experience I gained through my service will prepare me for future career opportunities.

JAMES PRATT

Training opportunities included 2-day grant writing workshop, defensive driving, marketing steps, computers (5 hours), and a day long session on lumber grading. This helped me to understand the needs of wood users and basic terminology of the lumber industry. My participation in the organizing of the Appalachian Hardwood Expo and the Riverwalk Field Day trained me in skills such as writing press releases, photography, and videography.

I also gained grant writing experience with 2 grants, one through EPA which studies the types of and potential uses for wood waste in SW VA, and the other seeks to establish a feasibility study of a timber bridge industry in SW VA.

Attended forest products marketing workshop sponsored by VA Tech's Center for Forest Products Marketing. Topics included overview of forest products industry and future trends as well as the art of salesmanship. At the end of the seminar, participants were divided into groups and asked to create their own corporations. We then made a presentation outlining the corporation's strengths, weaknesses, and reasons behind the choices of products produced, transportation methods, etc..

Participated in 3-day workshop on "How to Develop an Effective Presentation" in Richmond, VA. The workshop detailed a systematic

method to create several types of speeches and culminated in a required presentation of the subject of the speaker's choice.

Attended AmeriCorps conference (FS) in Atlanta, GA, and gave a presentation on my "Special Forest Products Directory" and saw what other FS AmeriCorps Members were doing. This training included a mini-session on ways to use the press to your advantage.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

DELTON ALDERMAN

The results of the Riverwalk will allow teachers easy access to identified tree species and a teaching manual. Students will be able to learn and indentify tree species.

Timber bridges demonstrate relatively new technolgy to the public, engineers, and logging concerns. It was designed to promote renewable resources, show a more economic means to traverse waterways, and low tech construction methods which results in reduced erosion. All bridges were promoted as AmeriCorps projects through local media.

ADRIENNE PERKINS;

We have encouraged community involvement in the Riverwalk and worked directly with community volunteers including members of the Grassroots Conservance and the Marion Intermediate School Science Club.

Through presentations, I encouraged economic and industrial development boards to take an active role in seeing that the forest resources are properly managed for future generations.

JAMES PRATT:

The wood product directory will benefit the community by providing a comprehensive inventory of what items and services are available from local suppliers in the region, and will provide a means of putting local wood users in contact with local wood suppliers. Too often local wood has to be shipped out of state. Wood that doesn't have a local market is left because wood users are unaware of the resource.

The Riveralk benefits the community and environment. The major purpose is educational (tree identification skills). It also promotes environmental awareness, acting as an exercise in sharpening the senses and enhancing nature appreciation. It promotes understanding of the importance of the forest and the many ways it relates to the environment. Smyth county teachers now have a resource for an outdoor classroom. It is also a tourist attraction and a scenic recreational spot to be enjoyed by all. Public awareness of its existence was generated by the opening ceremonies.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

JAMES PRATT:

Over the past year I have written and submitted 2 grants designed to benefit the community and environment. The first \$18,000 grant submitted to EPA involves a study of the types of and potential uses for wood waste in SW VA. The second FS grant seeks to establish a feasibility study for a timber bridge industry in SW VA.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Our AmeriCorps cluster group was nominated for the President's Choice National Service Award by the Marion Town Council and by Mr. Ken Heath, Marion Downtown Revitalization Association Chair, due to our work at the Riverwalk.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

ADRIENNE PERKINS:

Riverwalk vandalism has destroyed many of the tree identification plaques. Two pieces of plexiglass and the plaques were ripped off the posts and left in pieces on the ground. They have been replaced with lesser quality copies. The town of Marion has offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. Local police will increase patrols.

Training budget information has not been passed to me although I have requested it numerous times.

Several projects were delayed due to the amount of time required for proofreading and approval.

JAMES PRATT:

Policies were inconsistent which added to frustrations in the work environment. I feel I was not made aware of training opportunities in a timely fashion, nor was I kept abreast of training budgets. I was not always made aware of AmeriCorps related responsibilities in a timely fashion (EX: quarterly reports) and thus often had to turn in "rush jobs".

A few months after the Riverwalk was completed, roughly 1/2 the posts were damaged by vandals. This was disheartening.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

DELTON ALDERMAN:

Attended the Marion Town Council meeting as the AmeriCorps cluster group and described our efforts on the Riverwalk.

Attended the New River Highlands RC&D Forestry Committee meeting and presented the bridge designs to the group.

Distributed Forest Service educational materials to the school

system.

Participated in the Riverwalk Field Day which was attended by the public and media.

Promoted timber bridge work to local media as AmeriCorps projects.

ADRIENNE PERKINS:

Place AmeriCorps signs at Riverwalk location and at timber bridges in Tazewill and Sugar Grove. Placed articles in newsletters detailing AmeriCorps work. Gave President's Choice Service Award to the Marion Town Council. Participated in Memphis, TN, training "Helping Small Towns Survive". Painted interior and exterior of homeless shelter in Atlanta and was on the local TV news. I was nominated for the AmeriCorps Leader program next year. AmeriCorps was visible at Hardwood Expo and several people asked about AmeriCorps projects at the display I constructed. The show was attended by people from Canada and the US.

JAMES PRATT:

I have done mini-presentations outlining AmeriCorps individual projects and cluster projects to the New River Highlands RC&D Forestry Committee and the town of Marion Council. I have informed people about AmeriCorps through interviews for the directory. At the Riverwalk Field Day opening ceremony a large crowd, including press and representatives from local government, saw us in uniform. The Appalachian Hardwood Expo display showed our cluster group "Getting Things Done" and I participated in the painting of a homeless shelter in Atlanta with all the FS AmeriCorps Members and supervisors. This served to beautify a neighborhood landmark, publicize AmeriCorps contributions to the community, and was covered by local TV.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

ADRIENNE PERKINS:

Paul Paradzinski took charge of responsibilities formerly assigned to David Olson. I completed a year of service on Sept. 8, and Delton Alderman finished Sept. 12.

were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 25 WV, 26 MN

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: WV=400, MN=500

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Minnesota

Completed major analysis of the current situation in the development of hybrid poplar as an alternative crop. Hybrid poplar can potentially be grown on lands currently in the USDA Conservation Reserve Program that are slated to be "sunsetting" out of the program. Fiber from these crops can be used for the production of electrical energy or fiber for papermaking. Approximately 80 individuals/organizations were contacted for this analysis of the current situation. The report will be distributed to interested parties throughout the state and nation.

Completed an analysis of the current situation regarding community/ economic development organizations understanding of sustainable development principles. Organizations throughout the forested regions of northern Minnesota participated. Results showed that very few of the organizations had a clear understanding of what sustainable development is. After a brief description of some of its principles, most organizations expressed a need to learn more and to begin applying such principles in their work.

Completed analysis and documentation of a survey conducted of bankers. The purpose of the survey was to determine reasons for resistance in the financial community to provide capital for value-added expansions of the forest products industry. Results showed that bankers need better prepared financial statements, changes in how manufacturers operate their companies, and other pro-active steps on the part of industry in order to increase the financial communities "comfort level" in dealing with the forest products industry. Bankers indicated an interest in learning more about the forest products industry and some stated that they believed that if they understood more, they would be inclined to view value-added forest products as a potential niche market.

Completed analysis and documentation of a survey of primary and secondary forest products manufacturers to determine barriers they face in engaging in more value-added production (instead of

just producing commodities, which put fewer dollars into local communities). Results show a number of pro-active steps that can be taken at the community level to encourage producers to engage in more value-added production. Completed analysis of where forest products commodities are currently being shipped. This information will be used to develop a clearer understanding of what opportunities exist for increasing value-added production locally.

Completed analysis and documentation of efforts that can be undertaken locally to support Minnesota state initiatives aimed at preserving environmental quality in the harvesting of forest resources.

Completed an analysis of the regulatory situation faced by forest products producers in Minnesota. Most of the information for this analysis was provided by regulatory agencies throughout Minnesota. Regulators indicated a willingness to try new approaches that would result in the environment and human health being protected but would not be as burdensome to producers to implement. Organized and conducted conference in Fairbault, Minnesota. Conference purpose was to support state of Minnesota effort called the Big Woods Project. Conference participants heard from speakers on the unique environmental and physical features of Minnesotas' forests, how land use patterns near urban centers are changing, and the potential impacts to communities of unplanned growth. Conference participants were then engaged in a process of exploring possible mitigating strategies for dealing with change. A small but dedicated group of approximately 25 people attended the conference.

West Virginia

Hatfield-McCoy Trail System - The US Bureau of Land Management, US Park Service, Army Corps of Engineers, regional economic development groups, WV Office of Tourism, community groups and others have been active in the planning of the Hatfield-McCoy Trail System. The proposed 600 mile trail system, stretching across 7 counties, includes Mingo and Logan counties, the home of the infamous Hatfields and McCoys. AmeriCorps Members have been active in the identification of trail heads, as well as conducting inventories of service providers such as gas stations, motels, and restaurants. This will help determine what towns are suitable for trail users and where trail heads should be placed. The trail concept calls for the trail to cross corporate lands such as coal and timber companies. Trails will be managed so they will not conflict with the primary use of the landowner. The trail will be designed for both motorized and non-motorized users.

Completed 18 business retention interviews in Barbour county. These interviews are intended to uncover problems faced by businesses in order to assist them in finding technical and financial resources. Business retention activities are premised on the idea that it is more desirable to keep existing business in the local area rather than expending resources on attracting new businesses.

Resort Planning - Working with local community and economic development groups, planning is well underway in McDowell County for a publicly held recreation and resort area, which is expected to bring much needed tourism dollars to impoverished southern West Virginia. AmeriCorps Member Michelle Muncy has been assigned as a Committee Member by local officials to continue efforts on this project.

Wood Supply Study - AmeriCorps Members completed field work and analysis of current amounts of residues left in the forests after logging has been completed. This survey, covering the central counties of West Virginia, has been used as a template for other areas of West Virginia and surrounding states.

Technical Assistance - Provided approximately 1500 pieces of information to communities on topics relating to natural resource based economic development.

Automated Information Transfer - Completed a computer based system intended to facilitate transfer of technical information to communities. This system should enable a larger number of people to be served and increase the speed within which information is provided.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

See attached for Objectives

Training: Minnesota

All Members attended an intensive week long training session on grant writing and resource development in Brainerd, Minnesota. Offered by Community Systems of Bozeman, Montana, the training provided Members with the information necessary for them to teach local organizations the "hows and wheres" of locating on-going funding resources.

Four of the Members attended a one day meeting of the Nature Conservancy in Duluth, Minnesota.

Four of the Members attended a 3-day meeting of the Minnesota Association of Resource Conservation and Development Districts in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **San Juan National Forest**

Four Corners USDA Rural Development Team, Forest Service Durango, CO

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047E31B

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter x Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Mac Neely

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps member

7. Telephone number: 970-533-7716

8. Fax number: 970-533-7869

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	4	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	4	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	4	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	2,244.8	
Total Members service hours to date	6157.8	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a)Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 0

(b)Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 0

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

All of the objectives of the 4-Corners Rural Development team have been initiated. Many projects have been completed, but some are on-going, and will be continued as long as possible.

Completed projects:

- ** Completed draft of San Juan Skyway Corridor Management Plan.
- ** Completed conceptual master plan for Petting Zoo.
- ** Completed conceptual plan for Mancos Watchable Wildlife Wetland Park.
- ** Completed draft of San Juan Skyway Action Plan
- ** Developed GIS base map of political boundaries and wildlife corridors on the San Juan Skyway.
- ** Developed a vision statement of social and cultural values for Colorado, which was selected by Governor Romer's state-wide Smart Growth Initiative Steering Committee as the vision statement they will use at the interregional task force summit meeting in November. The AmeriCorps Member who wrote it is helping prepare the presentation.
- ** Brochure for "Growing Sustainable Enterprises", Forest Products Conference, Oct 11-12, 1995.
- ** Major article in Inner Voice (14,000 readers) re. innovative Ponderosa Pine Forest Partnership, coordinated by AmeriCorps Member.
- ** Wrote nomination for USFS Chief's Ecosystem Management Award, nominating the Ponderosa Pine Forest partnership, coordinated by AmeriCorps Member.
- ** Initiated Ponderosa Pine Partnership, timber contract bought and delivered to Montezuma County (first time in history this has occurred).
- ** Published educational brochure on PPP project.
- ** Conducted 5 tours of the partnership project sites with Joel Berg, USFS reps from Regional and Washington office, CSU faculty, environmental groups and local FS staff.
- ** Completed Mancos Riverwalk, which received Governor Romer's Smart Growth and Development Award for 1995. Attended the luncheon and sat at Governor's table. Discussed AmeriCorps with Governor, Mrs. Romer and other officials at table.
- ** Initiated and worked with Mancos Visitor Center and the Mancos Valley Association to develop 3 public interest programs as fund raisers for the Visitor Center. Raised \$1500 for the 3 programs.

** Organized and held the first annual Mancos Colorfest Volkswalk.

** Worked with community members from New Mexico and Colorado in the planning and organization of a Volkspport Club for the 4-Corners to increase tourism, improve personal health and stimulate a community year round sport, including cross country skiing, biking and walking.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

All AmeriCorps Members took part in a variety of training and development activities during the last year. Rural community development, leadership development, grant writing (generic and specific), computer skills, meeting facilitation, Watchable Wildlife conference, and other individual education experiences.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

"Provide assistance in community capacity building, leadership development, Action Team planning and Action Plan implementation":

** Members have met with community groups, historical societies, Colorado Development Council, San Juan Skyway Friends Group, Mancos Town Council, on a variety of subjects: Action plans and their implementation, development of a wetlands area, AmeriCorps involvement with the San Juan Skyway, interpretive wayside exhibits and possible partnerships, vision work as a tool to develop an action plan, objectives of SJ Skyway Corridor management plan, the bat program, and other subjects.

** A high school leadership team was organized to handle the opening ceremony of the Riverwalk. These students gained in their leadership abilities and have been recognized by their school in an appropriate manner.

** All the projects have had a positive effect on the communities, whose members have volunteered their help, their knowledge, and their friendship to all of the AmeriCorps Members. AmeriCorps is well known here as able to "Get Things Done".

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Projects still in progress at this time:

** Began co-development, as a team member, of a social impact assessment in conjunction with an Environmental Impact Statement associated with range permit reissuance on the San Juan NF.

** Co-development of public participation plan for SH,RGNF and GMUGNF Forest Plan revisions

** 2 Members wrote grants to GO-CO and Watchable Wildlife to obtain a wetland area outside of Mancos, to be watchable wildlife site for the San Juan Skyway, as well as a park and environmental education area for the town. Obtained 8 partners.

- ** Developed construction drawings for a wayside exhibit using auto-CAD .
- ** Attended Molas Pass ribbon cutting
- ** Conducted survey of Region 9 livestock growers, crunched data, began drafting report, conducting focus groups with segments of livestock community to gather data for writing social assessment for part of the San Juan Environmental Analysis report for permit renewals.
- ** Began an education video on the Ponderosa Pine Partnership program.
- ** With others, planning for Sustainable Forest products conference in October.
- ** Planning started for technology transfer workshop to be held for resource managers from 4-corners.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

- ** The initiation of the Ponderosa Pine Partnership, purchase of the timber contract and it's delivery to the Montezuma County is the first time in history that this has occurred. The AmeriCorps Member has helped begin the process of repairing and improving relationships between the USFS, timber industry, environmental groups and others in this region. Opportunities created through the partnership and the economic design research have raised consciousness about issues and how local people can effect change. The changes in perception and increased optimism is invaluable in the rural communities.
- ** The Mancos Valley Riverwalk involved 11 partners plus 5 high school students, 63 elementary school children, 45 church volunteers (who cleared the area of 5 truckloads of brush and helped construct the walk), a Boy Scout troop, three Girl Scout troops and 7 local merchants. Because of the public and private partners, the Riverwalk received the Governor's award for Smart Growth and Development for 1995. It was selected from 40 others in that category. One of the high school students and the AmeriCorps Member attended the awards luncheon, sat at the Governor's table. It was an exciting moment for both.
- ** When one AmeriCorps Member was preparing a vision statement for the social, economic and cultural analysis of 19 communities in SW Colorado and Northern New Mexico, the steering committee of the Governor's state-wide Smart Growth Initiative heard about it. They then selected his vision statement to be included in the final state-wide interregional task force summit in Denver, November 4. The AmeriCorps Member is helping prepare the presentation. The statement is part of the public participation for the San Juan NF Plan revision.
- ** Participation in state-wide resident survey of values between old-timers and newcomers - to compare these values toward public

lands, (NF, BLM, NPS). Was instrumental in getting the survey expanded from the I-70 corridor to include almost the entire western slope of Colorado. The survey is still in progress, almost ready for mailing. Three thousand surveys will be mailed with an expected return of less than 600 completed responses. The survey has implication for all of the United States.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

- ** The major challenge this quarter is not knowing if the program will be continued. The communities appreciate and value our work. How can we not complete what we have started? Who will, if not us?

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

- ** The major national identity activity this quarter was hosting Joel Berg in the 4-Corners for 5 days. In SW Colorado he met with community leaders in Durango and in Mancos. Local newspapers attended both meetings and AmeriCorps received good publicity. All 4 Members took part in the graduation exercises at Mesa Verde. 3 Members worked on the service project at the Mesa Verde National Park.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

- **No changes.

AmeriCorps*USA
 Operating Site Quarterly Report
 National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **Manti-LaSalle NF at Castleland RC&D**
USDA Four Corners Rural Development Team, Utah

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047E31C

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter_ Third Quarter x Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Kresha Eastman

6. Position of person completing this report: Project director

7. Telephone number: 801-637-1081

8. Fax number: 801-637-1081

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	3	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	2	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	2	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	1348	
Total Members service hours to date	5015	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 30

(b)Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 125

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

Nearly all service objectives identified at the outset of the program were completed. Due to the sudden transfer of 1 Member joining AmeriCorps NCCC, final details of one project in San Juan County were given to a local individual to complete.

Completed Projects:

**Site inventory of 23 sites for inclusion in the Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway. Next step will be development of a corridor management plan.

**Organized and held first annual Mountain Biking Tour and Race through San Juan County.

**Completed signing project for Scenic Byways project in San Juan County (project was handed to a local individual for completion).

**Completed two proposals seeking funding for the Blue Mountain Multi-Seasonal Resort.

**Completed research on hosting annual OHV Jamboree in San Juan County, Determined not to host event in 1995 or 1996.

**Completed research and data gathering for Southeastern Utah Overall Economic Development Plan. Plan published in July 1995.

**Completed Urban Forestry project in Moab and in Huntington.

**Completed work with College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum on sorting and cataloging artifacts collected in 1987.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

All AmeriCorps Members were offered the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of training and development activities throughout the year. Members participated in training in grant writing, community leadership development, meeting facilitation, computer skill development, rural community development, community tree projects, centennial projects and a host of individual training experiences. Comments from Members were very positive concerning both their overall experiences in AmeriCorps and their experiences in training received during AmeriCorps.

As Project Director, I fully believe that each AmeriCorps Member from Utah will look back on 1995 as one of the most challenging, interesting and rewarding years of their lives.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

AmeriCorps Members spoke to civic groups and other organizations about the program in 8 communities this quarter.

A community enhancement activity was held near Helper, Utah, where offensive graffiti was removed from a prominent old rock building along the highway. AmeriCorps Members served dessert to Utah State Legislator and discussed benefits of their work in local communities.

Overall, each AmeriCorps project and activity helped strengthen the communities which were affected. Community volunteers have joined together to help implement many projects (food bank, scenic byways inventory, tree plantings, etc.) which resulted in increased community pride and commitment to continue progress.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

The San Juan County Food Bank opened for business on August 28 in Blanding, Utah. The bank is staffed with a Title V worker and stocked with surplus foods. AmeriCorps, in cooperation with the Southeastern Utah Association of Governments and volunteers from San Jaun County, accomplished this much needed task.

Final sites were selected for placement of signs on the Scenic Backways project in San Juan County. Signs were ordered and should be in place by October 1, 1995. The Backways is listed in the Utah Travel Council guide as a scenic area to visit. The signs will prevent visitors from becoming lost, which will provide for a more positive experience and reduce county resources spent on search and rescue efforts.

Completed Urban Forestry Project in Moab. All public trees (400) were inventoried and entered into a computer data base. The local Shade Tree Commission was involved in developing a tree management/maintenance program based on information generated by AmeriCorps.

Completed second proposal to EPA for funds for improvements to Ken's Lake Area. Presented proposal request to Grand County Water Conservancy District. Secured campground host for Ken's Lake.

Assisted College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum in sorting and cataloging artifacts from a dig conducted in 1987.

Assisted in completing grant proposal for Association for Governments for funds to secure low income housing in southeastern Utah.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

In bringing 1995 AmeriCorps activities to a close, reaction from communities as to the benefits of AmeriCorps have been overwhelming. Community leaders and members have spoken with great emotion about their positive experiences with AmeriCorps Members and projects. Members were presented with farewell gifts, photographs and Utah memorabilia.

Director of National Service, Joel Berg, visited Utah AmeriCorps project sites following the regional USDA AmeriCorps graduation. Members organized Joel's visit and arranged for him to meet with key project partners. Congressman Bill Orton sent his long-time aid, John Smith, to join Joel and the Members during site visits.

One AmeriCorps Member was selected to serve as a team leader with AmeriCorps NCCC. The Member moved from Utah to Denver where he will serve his second term with AmeriCorps.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

Members who were interested in continuing for a second term of service were very frustrated by the lack of commitment (in terms of funding) for the program. At this time we are still unable to offer positions to those who want to continue. Many gray hairs have been acquired over the uncertainty surrounding the future of AmeriCorps.

In Utah, we encountered a specific challenge associated with the resignation of one Member. We had not lost any Members until the 4th quarter, and it was an adjustment for the team.

Personality differences between Members seemed to come to a head during the 4th quarter. In one case, a change of office location was made in order to preserve sanity of all Members affected. All Members made it through their tour of duty on speaking terms.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

Members participated in the regional graduation ceremony at Mesa Verde. Several Members, including 3 Utah Members, conducted a service project at Mesa Verde NP. Near Helper, Utah, Members joined with other local volunteers to remove graffiti from a prominent structure in the area. Members served fresh, locally grown melons to Utah State Legislators and discussed AmeriCorps activities and accomplishments with them.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

1 Member resigned

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **Santa Fe and Carson National Forest**

USDA Four Corners Rural Development Team US Forest Service

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047E31A

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter_ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Barbara Cooney

6. Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps Member

7. Telephone number: 505-638-5526

8. Fax number: 505-638-5351

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	1	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	452	
Total Members service hours to date	2,032	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who

were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 3

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 60

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

The direct Service objective for this year was to meet with 5 northern New Mexico communities and determine their needs and concerns. Once these needs had been identified, the AmeriCorps Member's objective was to help these communities do whatever was required to reach their goals. The key point to this objective is "empowering communities" by letting them determine their goals, not enforcing a directive put forth from an outside person or government agency who may not have a clear understanding of the people and the area.

The following is a list of projects worked on throughout the year and the current status of those projects.

1. COSTILLA, MEW MEXICO

Sangre De Cristo Wood Workers: Working with the non-profit Costilla Arts and Crafts Guild to find work for people who were unemployed because of the closure of a lumber mill, AmeriCorps provided technical assistance to develop a plan for the second year of operation for the Sangre De Cristo Wood Workers. Included in the plan is a list of goals, technical assistance needed and operating expenses. Once this was determined, AmeriCorps wrote a grant proposal to the Carson National Forest Rural Development Fund to help meet the operational expenses. That proposal was successfully funded at \$20,000. Twelve people are currently being employed as a result of the successful award of this Rural Development Grant. This project has helped local craftspeople and their families.

The non-profit Costilla Arts and Crafts Guild has plans to develop an incubator facility that will house five small businesses, including the Sanger De Cristo Wood Workers. AmeriCorps assisted in writing a grant proposal to the the USDA Rural Economic and Community Development Service to construct a facility that will house the incubator. The total proposed building cost is \$280,000. Congressman Bill Richardson has expressed his support for this project and it is expected to receive the funding requested. Because of this effort, craftspeople in Costilla will have the opportunity to support themselves in an area where there are very few, if any, job opportunities.

2. VALLECITOS, NEW MEXICO

Vallecitos Fresh Water Delivery System: Working with Carson National Forest Engineer, Lisa Goodman, AmeriCorps helped the people of this

village figure out how to improve their situation of a contaminated and insufficient water supply. The people of the village lack the skills and knowledge to address this situation. In order to be of assistance, the AmeriCorps Member provided information about resources to help them. The Member wrote a grant proposal to the Carson National Forest Rural Development Fund, that was awarded at \$18,640. This grant has provided the funds necessary to hire an engineer to design a new fresh water delivery system and to locate a new water source. The current water source from the Vallecitos River has bio-contaminants that the existing pump and filter system cannot control. As of August 24, 1995, a new well has been drilled and the design for the new delivery system has been completed. Funding is being sought from private foundations, state, and other federal organizations to complete the construction of the delivery system. This project will result in safe drinking water for 98 people.

FmHA Home Improvements: The Member assisted a family and trained a community member to fill out home improvement applications to FmHA.

La Madera Cooperative: AmeriCorps is working with the non-profit organization Ganados Del Valle and La Madera Cooperative to develop a long range plan for economic development in the village of Vallecitos, using forest products and locally produced arts and crafts. The people of this village experience a nearly 90% unemployment rate in the winter, according to local estimates, because of seasonal closing of the Duke City Lumber Mill. The people of the village hope to find a way to support themselves rather than be dependent on unemployment. AmeriCorps has provided information on income opportunities using Forest Products to help educate the community members on options other than welfare programs.

3. EL RITO, NEW MEXICO

El Rito Waste Water Treatment Plant: Throughout part of the year, the village of El Rito and surrounding communities suffer from contaminated water because the water table is at the same level as septic tanks. There is nobody in the village with the expertise to address this issue. AmeriCorps has been working all year with the people to aid them in locating information and resources to help correct the threat to health and safety presented by this situation. AmeriCorps co-wrote an engineering contract for the El Rito Betterment Association to hire an engineering firm to develop a master plan for a waste water treatment system for El Rito and the surrounding villages. AmeriCorps wrote a grant proposal to the Carson National Forest Rural Development Fund to carry out an environmental study for the development of the waste water treatment plant. That proposal was funded at \$10,000. The engineering master plan has been completed. This is a very long term project; it will take an estimated 5 years to reach completion of construction of the treatment plant. Because of the efforts of AmeriCorps, El Rito is one year closer to having safe water. This project serves approximately 2,000 people.

Las Clinicas Del Norte: The current facility that houses the health clinic is an old adobe school house with cracks in the walls that day-light can be seen through. A new building is needed to insure the safety of the staff and patients who use the clinic. AmeriCorps has provided assistance in relocating the clinic. AmeriCorps aided the health clinic in locating funding to construct a new medical facility. A grant proposal to the Carson National Forest Rural Development Fund was awarded for \$3,500 to aid in the development of the new facility that serves people in northern New Mexico. The area of service by the clinic covers over 2,000 square miles.

4. COYOTE, NEW MEXICO

Coyote Senior Citizens Center: The Coyote Ranger District and AmeriCorps worked together to provide the center with safety supplies, office equipment, and building improvements through a grant from the Santa Fe Rural Development Fund. The grant was for \$1,000 and impacted the 30-50 seniors that use the center.

Coyote Community Center: AmeriCorps successfully brought together five distinctive groups in the village of Coyote to work on developing a community center for the area. The groups involved are Home Health and Educational Program (HELP), Rio Arriba County, Saint Thomas Catholic Church, Coyote Volunteer Fire Department and The Coyote Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest. The Coyote Ranger District has buildings at an old facility that can be converted to community use. The groups are working together to develop a plan to submit to the Forest Service.

Volunteer Fire Department: AmeriCorps is assisting the Volunteer Fire Department in locating a building to house the fire engine and to serve as a fire house. Funding is being sought with Rio Arriba County. This project will benefit approximately 800 people in Coyote and the surrounding villages.

5. TAOS, NEW MEXICO

Trees in Taos County: AmeriCorps is assisting the development of a group who will provide a long range plan for tree planting in Taos County. The groups interested in this type of development are the Town of Taos Parks and Recreation Department, Trees New Mexico, the Villages of Questa and Costilla, State, Urban, and Community Forestry, and the Carson National Forest. The AmeriCorps Member was responsible for bringing these groups together from all across the state of New Mexico. According to Gary Schiff of the Carson National Forest, in 20 years Taos will be a greener, more beautiful and comfortable place and it all started with the efforts of the AmeriCorps Member and the meetings she organized. Activities planned by this group include turning Taos into a "Tree City USA", and "Light Up New Mexico". In December, the Governor of New Mexico will be in Taos to light the Christmas Tree, a 30-foot living spruce tree to be donated to the village by the Carson National Forest. When the Governor turns on the lights of the Taos living tree, by radio and

television coordination all the other town, village, and city Christmas trees in New Mexico will be lit simultaneously.

Carson National Forest Rural Development Program: AmeriCorps has worked very closely with this program to help communities with the administration of the projects they are involved with. The Member has helped groups understand and complete the paper work required for this program.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

The development objective for this Member was to continue to take part in the information and support network established between the 4-Corners Rural Development Team.

Several times per week, the Coyote Member was in contact with other Members and the USDA agencies associated with the 4-Corners Team, exchanging information about projects, partners, contributors, and potential sources for community development support.

Two Cluster meetings were attended in Durango, Colorado. This Member also took part in the graduation ceremonies at Mesa Verde, Colorado.

The Member received a half day training from FmHA about the available home improvement loans available to people with low incomes.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Most of the communities in northern New Mexico are unincorporated and have limited organizational bodies to help meet community needs. There are usually great distances separating communities from each other. The areas' economy has traditionally been agriculturally based with few jobs. Those are usually seasonal and dependant on the timber industry. A high level of illiteracy exists here. Often people here have a basic survival standard of living. Many people are very suspicious and distrustful of outsiders. There is a strong traditional and cultural base in this area that extends back several hundred years. When a person like an AmeriCorps Member comes into the villages of northern New Mexico, it's critical to have some appreciation for the background of the people's Spanish tradition. This understanding has shaped how the AmeriCorps program has been developed here.

In order to strengthen and build the community network, the community members need to have a large part in the development process of the projects undertaken. This increases the individual investment in the success of a project and increases the degree of community pride. The goal of this AmeriCorps Member is to help the communities at whatever level of organization and skill they have, to locate the resources, develop the plans and carry out the projects they have set forth for themselves.

This approach has been profoundly successful in the implementation of community improvements such as the development of a community center, the designing of a waste water treatment facility, improvements to a senior citizens center, finding a clean and safe drinking water source, creating an urban tree planting program and creating jobs for unemployed people.

An approach like this requires the involvement of many activities that have recently come under fire by the the Washington Office of the Corporation for National Service. These activities are imperative to the successful implementation of the kinds of projects carried out by the northern New Mexico Forest Service AmeriCorps Member. The impact of these projects will affect the lives of many people for generations to come. The activities required of the AmeriCorps Member include; holding public meetings, developing cooperative groups, locating funding sources, grant writing, finding skills-training programs, providing education about federal, state and local resources, assisting in filling out paperwork for people who cannot read, and developing strategic planning for all varieties of community groups including non-profit, municipal and private organizations.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

14. Unique successes or great stories:

The AmeriCorps Member has received many thanks and appreciation from all the community groups she has worked with. All the communities and groups described above have expressed their hope for the continuation of the AmeriCorps Program.

Joel Berg visited the Senior Citizens Center in Coyote, New Mexico, August 29th of this year. Over 60 senior citizens and members from northern New Mexico villages as far as 3 hours away, came to meet him and express their appreciation for the work AmeriCorps has done for their communities.

Some of the comments from community members were that AmeriCorps provided direction, support and friendship when they need it most. Barbara Cooney says, " When I first went to the village of Vallecitos, I was very nervous because it had a reputation of being extreemly hostile to out-siders. Well, that reputation is well earned. It is a tiny Hispanic village isolated in the Sangre De Cristo Mountains. Most of the people living there have family lines that go back three hundred years. They don't want that to change. A family who initially greeted me with open hostility because I 'worked for the government' has, over time, become my closest friends there. They have welcomed me into their home many times. Working with this family and the Carson National Forest, we have been able to hire an engineer and a driller to develop a clean water source for all the people of the village. This is the result of the cooperation of the

Carson National Forest, State of New Mexico, AmeriCorps and the people of Vallecitos. But it's not just federal and state agencies who made this work, it's the people who make up these agencies that make these projects happen. I feel grateful to be associated with so many fine folks."

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

The primary difficulties encountered by this AmeriCorps Member were not a result of struggles in communities, but with the AmeriCorps program and its fluctuation mission. When the program commenced, it was understood that the communities would be the best source of information about what projects were needed. AmeriCorps appeared to hold a philosophy that empowerment of communities was a primary objective. That has changed, however, as throughout the year, more and more emphasis has been placed on projects that seem to meet a media agenda of "photographability". Some of the most valuable accomplishments are being criticized because the return on the efforts invested by the Members are not readily visible. These projects, however, will have a very long lasting and powerful impact in many peoples' lives. The mission of providing community service is a noble one. A program ceases to be a community service program and becomes another bureaucratic bully when, in serving the people, it takes away a communities self-determining goals and forces on them an agenda developed thousands of miles away.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

The main activity that promoted national identity was the visit of the Director of National Service USDA, Joel Berg, to Coyote. The AmeriCorps Member developed a press release about the visit and the program. A very positive story was carried in the Rio Grande Sun, a newspaper out of Espanola, NM, about Berg's visit and contained an interview with AmeriCorps Member, Barbara Cooney.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

none

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **Little Colorado River Plateau** **Arizona**

USDA Four Corners Rural Development Team **Holbrook, Arizona**

2. Operating Site ID # :4047E31A

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter_ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Merlin Berg

6. Position of person completing this report: Coordinator

7. Telephone number: 520-524-6063

8. Fax number: 520-524-6609

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	3	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	2	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	3	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	1	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	755	
Total Members service hours to date	3650	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who

were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 5

(b)Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 40

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

ECONOMIC DATA BASE

Members assisted distressed Arizona communities to retain or expand businesses. AmeriCorps Members implemented the Econ dB, an economic data base profile, in 8 communities. This is the highest priority project in this area. Along with the communities involved, the Arizona Department of Commerce agrees this fills a need in all 8 communities. This project is a collaborative effort between the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Forest Service AmeriCorps members in Holbrook, AZ.

****Econ dB State Wide Impact:** In Arizona 42 communities are using or have implemented the Econ dB. AmeriCorps Members have been in-depth users of Econ dB, having extensive knowledge of the system. As a result of recommendations made by Members, the Arizona Dept. of Commerce has made three modifications to Econ dB, improving it's performance and service to rural communities.

****Econ dB International Impact:** This database will eventually be available world-wide on Internet.

****Area Developers as well as the Arizona Department of Commerce's National Marketing Team will use the Econ dB.** Public and private enterprises alike consider the Econ dB beneficial in attracting, developing and retaining businesses. This is vital to the improvement of the depressed economy of north-central Arizona.

****Progress Towards Meeting Econ dB Objectives This Quarter:**

*Collecting and entering data for organizations in eight communities has been completed.

*All data has been collected and entered pertaining to events, proximity geography, climate, points of interest, history, descriptions, taxes economic growth, misc. fees, education, census data, population projections, natural resources and health care.

*Reported glitches, additional observations and recommendations to the appropriate state officials.

*Provided additional training and insights to the primary users of the dB and other AmeriCorps Members participating in the project.

RECREATIONAL TRAIL RESOURCE INVENTORY

The work to be done is to conduct a trail resource inventory for proposed Holbrook-Cholla Lake Multit-Use Recreational Trail. The

desired results: the inventory will be nominated into the State Trail System. The measure of quality: it meets the standards of the Arizona State Parks for inclusion into the State Trail System. The goal is that 100% of the inventory will be accepted for inclusion. The beneficiaries will be local community members (Holbrook and Joseph City) and the tourists that use the trails.

**** Progress Towards Meeting Objectives:**

- *Consultation with Navajo County recreation director
- *Working on construction of base map
- *Drew up outline of work plan
- *Soil type map

REGIONAL TOURISM

*Assisted multi-community action teams to have the Four Corners Heritage Council adopt the "Trail of Many Tracks" into the Four Corners Heritage Trail System. The Trail of Many Tracks is a heritage auto-touring route covering approximately 260 miles located in north central Arizona. The touring route passes through all communities adjacent to the Apache Sitgraves National Forest. The Trail of Many Tracks will help to stimulate tourism in timber dependent communities.

*Part of the team has worked to write two grants, to interpret heritage resources in south-central Arizona from the Arizona Humanities Council. AmeriCorps Members were directed by a professional historian to record oral histories and research the history of north central Arizona.

*Assisted the communities of Springerville and Eagar to prepare maps for two brochures that highlight heritage tourism.

*Assisted the efforts of action teams to have the "Trail of Many Tracks" adopted by Arizona Department of Transportation as an Historic Byway.

*The IRS application for the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association (AAITA) has been completed. The AAIAT has taken complete responsibility for representing Arizona Native Cultures in the 1996 Super Bowl Festival to be held in Phoenix, AZ.

*The community of Cameron, with the help of AmeriCorps Member Usha Little, has made steady progress on formation of a local tourism development organization.

*The Cameron Dine Association members are being helped by a Member working closely with local officials and other government entities to address necessary infrastructure and environmental health programs.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

ORIENTATION: Members went to a 4-Corners AmeriCorps welcome aboard at Mancos, CO, in November 1994. This two day event introduced different AmeriCorps Members and supervisors to each other and provided team building exercises, conflict resolution, rural development training, and first aid including CPR.

ON THE JOB TRAINING: Most training was provided on the job to improve technical skills related to work assignments.

MEETING FACILITATION: Members shared the responsibility of running cluster meetings.

CULTURAL AWARENESS: Native American (Navajo) awareness training delivered by members of the Navajo tribe was provided for Members.

ECON dB TRAINING: Members received training on how to operate a massive, complicated, interconnected database.

PROPOSAL WRITING: One Member attended a three day proposal writing workshop.

AmeriCorps GRADUATION: Four Members attended the AmeriCorps Graduation at Mesa Verde, Colorado.

HERITAGE FUND WORKSHOP: The focus was for this specific type of grant was presented in a workshop by the Arizona State Parks.

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON TOURISM: The focus of this conference was to provide updated information on tourism developments in Arizona.

COMMUNITY VISION CONFERENCE: Two Members learned how to involve citizens in community actions.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

**** Connected with the Navajo Nation to exchange ideas.**

**** Provided training to the Navajo Nation AmeriCorps on gardening and value added process.**

**** Career Day presentation at St. Johns High School with the topic "Environmental Careers", a slide show from a multi-agency focus; consulted with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), US Forest Service, and AZ Game and Fish personnel. Also presented information regarding natural resource related projects in AmeriCorps.**

**** Promoted Navajo Nations Range Days: a range awareness project, wrote media release.**

**** Assisted Boy Scout Troop as merit badge counselor and assistant scout master.**

**** Presentations to communities about AmeriCorps.**

** Planted flowers in community park.

** AmeriCorps entered a float in the Holbrook Christmas Parade.

** Assisted in sales at Farmers Market Stand. This is part of an initiative to start a farmers cooperative in Holbrook under the leadership of Small Scale Agriculture Development AmeriCorps Members.

** Organization of a Recreational Tourism Workshop Focus: recreational tourism opportunity development (bed & breakfast) in Apache & Navajo counties. Guest Speaker: Mr. Gary Jan, Recreational Specialist, NRCS- Washington, D.C. Those attending included Chamber of Commerce representatives and other local community representatives.

**The Flagstaff Member is working to strengthen community organizations, integrate community's goals and objectives into action plans, to build confidence among residents for business ventures.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

14. Unique successes or great stories:

Sharon Warnaca - "In-house training on computers has helped me tremendously in the use of different programs. Since I have been involved in writing grants and have received two, I've gained a lot of knowledge on developing and writing grants. Many new friends and contacts have been developed while I have been in AmeriCorps."

Julie Marcellis - "Rural communities will benefit by having community assets and resource data easily available to them. This will benefit individuals and businesses searching for a relocation site. Also, community economic development professionals can use this report to identify strong or weak clusters and strategically plan accordingly."

Usha Little - "The Cameron community consists mostly of traditional Navajo families. Many traditional families of Cameron were hesitant to AmeriCorps assistance in the beginning. There were many objections of my presence because they have seen many outsiders coming to the community to fulfill their own motivations and objectives. The same family who objected to my involvement in the community in February 1995, hosted Mr. Joel Berg and Mr. Lloyd Wilhelm with great respect in August 1995. I am very proud of working with the community as an AmeriCorps Member and to be able to strengthen the relationship between government organizations such as the US Forest Service, NRCS, AmeriCorps and the communities."

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

These comments refer to the entire cluster in Holbrook, Arizona. The primary challenge is the expectation of what AmeriCorps can accomplish for the members, communities, agencies and the USDA.

Member expectations have sometimes been unrealistic. Some Members expected to have unlimited training. Some expected to attend workshops and conferences only because they wanted to attend or the brochure sounded like it was something they might want to attend. Many Members did not value on the job training provided by other team Members or the supervisor. Not all Members were able to make the sacrifice to really buy into the team concept, give something of themselves for the benefit of the team. Generation differences were apparent: Generation X vs. Baby Boomers. Some Members did not recognize the values of the communities they served. Some Members would not follow agency policy, such as ignoring the regulation against the use of government vehicles for personal use.

Some Community groups failed to meet their obligations to participate in projects. This lack of commitment is problematic to the region. Likewise, other community groups met their obligations. They appreciated the assistance of the AmeriCorps Members.

Some agency staff failed to understand what AmeriCorps objectives were. At times there was the expectation that AmeriCorps Members were to supplement existing staff in traditional agency work. The flow of communication from all levels in the agency has been a problem. For example: the overpayment of AmeriCorps Members and the expectation for them to pay the money back; the termination of Members before their contracts had expired; the fast track Program Managers were expected to hire Members on last year created some problems. In retrospect, we did not hire the best qualified people to make a good fit between the projects and the communities.

SOLUTION:

Members need to understand that training is limited. Training is part of AmeriCorps Member Orientation. The orientation received should be at three levels. First, AmeriCorps Members should have an orientation with other Four Corner Members to gain the basics of the AmeriCorps program. Second, Members need to have an orientation with the agencies to explain their policies and procedures. This should be the same orientation that any new agency personnel receives. Third, there should be an orientation between the AmeriCorps Members and the communities they will serve. This would be a benefit to the community groups as well as the Members. Most of the problems with members could be reduced if the best qualified people fill the positions available.

The entire concept of AmeriCorps needs to be understood by all agency personnel. This is an opportunity for USDA to take the lead in addressing rural issues. Program Managers and AmeriCorps Members need to market the benefits of AmeriCorps to the agencies.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter:

Most Members have completed their tour of service.

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **Oregon Forest Service RDT Eugene, Oregon**
Name Location

2. Operating Site ID # :4047E320

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter _ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: David Povey

6. Position of person completing this report: Program Director

7. Telephone number: 503-346-3812

8. Fax number:

9. e-mail address (if available): dpovey@oregon.uoregon.edu

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	5	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	5	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	5	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	0	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	1,275.5	
Total Members service hours to date	7,093.5	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 0

(b)Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 0

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

The University of Oregon's Learn and Serve AmeriCorps Members are working and living in fourteen rural communities, five of which are USDA Forest Service supported. These participants are providing assistance in the areas of: 1) Economic Development; 2) Environmental Preservation, Restoration and Education; 3) Community Empowerment and Development. Not all communities needed or requested assistance in all three areas. Communities reported successful economic development progress in 60% of the cases, compared to 100% for environmental projects. One hundred percent (100%) of the communities reported significant improvements in community development and empowerment.

<u>Community</u>	<u>Eco-Devo</u>	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>Empowerment</u>	<u>Grants</u>
Blue River	Yes	Yes	Yes	\$500
Hermiston	No	Yes	Yes	\$26,000
Oakridge	Yes	Yes	Yes	\$85,000
Powers	No	Yes	Yes	\$1,000
Sweet Home	Yes	Yes	Yes	\$77,000
<u>Totals</u>	<u>3/5</u>	<u>5/5</u>	<u>5/5</u>	<u>\$189,000</u>

A particularly important measure of "getting things done" was activities that would not have otherwise been accomplished without AmeriCorps assistance. All five Members developed proposals and received funding for community projects totaling \$189,000. Major accomplishments included:

- * Watershed enhancement and stream restoration in Blue River;
- * Irrigation District water conservation program in Hermiston;
- * Establishing a Community Development Corporation in Oakridge;
- * Rewriting the Community Comprehensive Plan in Powers; and
- * Implementing a Downtown Revitalization grant in Sweet Home.

These are but a few of the projects completed by Members in these rural assignments. Bench marks of success were: 1) Income from grants to pay for the implementation of projects; 2) Completion of projects; and 3) Involving residents in the planning and implementation process in ways that encourage them to continue to work on these projects after completion of the AmeriCorps Members term of service.

The major challenges are finding rural communities that are "ready" to have assistance and host community supervisors with sufficient time and acceptance/understanding of new approaches to problem

solving (i.e. citizen empowerment) to guide the day to day activities of the Members.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Members rated their contribution to community service at two points in time (October 1994 and June 1995). Low skill level was rated as 1 and high skill level was rated as 3. In a number of instances significant improvement were realized. The most significant areas of improvement were 1) writing proposals for project funding; 2) establishing project schedules and timelines; 3) creating project budgets; 4) developing solutions to problems; and 5) transferring information to agencies.

Three impact objectives are used to measure progress of Members: 1) members learn to structure and answer questions to facilitate community problem solving and to learn to manage the implementation of rural community projects; 2) members develop new leadership skills as a result of on the-job-training (mentoring and short courses) and gain confidence in their ability to develop and guide community planning processes; and 3) Members develop career strategies to guide decisions about education and employment after completing their AmeriCorps assignments.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

The University of Oregon program has had a number of positive impacts on the University. Rural Oregon communities are seeing direct benefits of university educated students helping their communities improve economic and environmental conditions. Students and faculty from other university programs are becoming involved in community service. World wide announcement of the program through the Peace Corps has increased applications to the Community and Regional Planning Program and attracted an increasing number of highly qualified students to the University.

Several new courses were introduced as a direct result of AmeriCorps. These courses include: 1) GIS for Rural Communities (a direct application of Geographic Information Systems to the future development needs of a county likely to experience rapid growth in the years ahead); 2) Sustainable Rural Communities (a seminar of graduate students who collected case study information of community efforts to become more economically self-sufficient and economically sustainable). Expansion of both of these courses are projected for the 1995-96 school year.

The University considers the AmeriCorps program one of the most important, high-priority items for expansion and continuation. Meetings with staff of the senior US Senator are continuing to identify appropriate funding for continuation and expansion.

As we begin year two, we have received over 75 completed applications from individuals from across the country, who wish to participate in

the AmeriCorps program. From this group we have selected 18 Members, five of which are supported by the Forest Service funding. In the State of Oregon we have received applications from 26 rural communities with \$12,000 in matching funds.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

Blue River: The Member has provided public information about the McKenzie Watershed to residents and school children in the watershed. Particular emphasis was placed on implementing a watershed education program in the McKenzie Elementary School. The Member involved school children in drawings for development of a calendar, promoting activities in the watershed. This Member also coordinated the activities of 80 volunteers restoring native vegetation to privately owned land along a stream in the Mohawk Valley. She also assumed a major role in the development of the Community Development Corporation Blue River and the formulation of a strategic plan for the watershed.

Hermiston: Working with a coalition of irrigation districts, the Member is active in Umatilla watershed activities, water conservation for the irrigation district and grant development to test new concepts in water table restoration during the winter rainy season. A \$25,000 pilot study is to be conducted this winter.

Oakridge: The Member in Oakridge created the Organizational Plan for the Community Development Corporation; completed a Transportation Growth Management grant for the hiring of a transportation planning consultant; assisted the CDC in developing a strategic plan; established strong connections with the Forest Service Community Development Team; created a community Internet Task Force to explore establishment of a server in Oakridge; facilitated the development of a Home Page for Oakridge; and brought \$85,000 in grant support to the community.

Powers: The member in Powers, our most remote community, conducted the periodic review and update of the Comprehensive Plan, coordinated the City's 20th Annual White Cedars Celebration, and established a Christmas recycle decoration program. She is noted for bringing a "smile" to City Hall. She became an important link between groups in the community that had not previously worked well together.

Sweet Home: The member was the Project Manager for Downtown Revitalization Grant and a Flexible Manufacturing Facility; designed and coordinated five special event programs with the Chamber of Commerce; facilitated the review of the Strategic Plan for the Sweet Home Economic Development Group; and helped create an action plan to implement priority items for Sweet Home's strategic plan.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

1. After eight years of successfully guiding his community through mill closure after mill closure, the temptation of managing a larger

city with a more diversified economy was too attractive and the city manager left. Residents of the community were in shock. Their city manager had seen them through tough times but now he was leaving. Who could they ever find to take his place and guide the community in new, more prosperous directions? The unanimous decision was for an interim city manager - the AmeriCorps volunteer. He says he has to finish his masters thesis before he considers such a challenging "opportunity" - but will he say "yes"? STAY TUNED.

2. In Blue River, Oregon, the AmeriCorps Member is known throughout the 40-mile river corridor as the "RARE worker" who is helping make connections between groups and individuals who had not previously worked well together. Cheery, friendly and knowledgeable about watershed issues, this young woman has become a positive force for change. Her advice and opinions are often sought because residents know she has no "vested" interest in the alternative outcomes. She has helped get things done and has agreed to stay on for a second year of service to this community.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter

1. Funding to support the increasing requests from rural communities for Resource Assistants is a continuing problem.

2. Our Learn & Serve/AmeriCorps program received applications from over 60 highly qualified applicants. We are having to turn away two well-qualified applicants for every one we take.

3. Uncertainties regarding future funding at the National level continue to be the single most difficult deterrent to maintaining a smoothly running operation.

4. Trying to operate a program that delivers service of the highest professional quality on a budget we are asked to reduce, as the program become increasingly popular, is placing increasing demands on our training program, support staff, and the Members in the field.

5. The first year has required a great deal of energy developing work assignments, maintaining close support with distant field placements, developing and implementing an evaluation system and making regular improvements as we move along. Working as hard as we all have, it is sometimes hard to maintain morale when we hear members of Congress criticizing elements of a national program that, from our perspective, is working better than any other federal program.

6. We are beginning to spend significant portions of our management time seeking funding to continue a program that appears likely to be cut by Congress in the ensuing months. As we finish the final arrangements for our second year, we are about to place 18 members with combined federal assistance of \$20,588 per placement per year.

At the national level we are still hearing that AmeriCorps costs too much. Our placements are individuals with college-level preprofessional skills and work experiences who are anxious to help and want the learning experience. The challenge is to find time and funding to continue the program in year three while maintaining a highly successful program of rural service in year two.

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter: None

USDA/AmeriCorps Anti-Hunger Project Summaries
(Year 2 -- FY 1995-96)

Note: The number of Members shown in parentheses indicates the number of Members that are being requested for Year 3.

Vermont (40 Members)

The only statewide anti-hunger project, and the only one to involve an agency of State government as the subgrantee for this USDA AmeriCorps project, the Vermont Anti-Hunger Corps does an outstanding job of coordinating its activities among five almost-separate regional structures. Although the VAHC was not technically "up and running" until January 1995, the group wasted no time whatsoever in becoming actively integrated into the Vermont communities served by AmeriCorps. Community affirmation of the AmeriCorps philosophy has been strong throughout the program, and most of the projects undertaken by the VAHC are sustainable, in that they have been set up to continue even if AmeriCorps Members are not there to coordinate them. The VAHC works closely with other State agencies, primarily WIC and the Farm to Family program, to promote and enhance the services offered through these State-administered, Federally funded food assistance programs. Significant work is also done in the area of sustainable agriculture. Finally, in addition to initiating and implementing an effective food salvage program with the cooperation of local grocery chains in the Burlington area, the VAHC has expanded one of the most unique cooperative food donation projects of any of the anti-hunger programs: inmates at the maximum security state prison raise and harvest thousands of pounds of fresh produce that is picked up by the truckload by volunteers from a Community Action Agency and then donated to low-income families (mainly senior citizens) in the county. The AmeriCorps team not only helps with this particular project, but has established a positive, receptive environment to extend the concept to other locations throughout the State. Although not technically a gleaning/food rescue operation, this initiative represents the best of such concepts, as previously unused land and (perhaps most important) wasted human resources are converted into productive efforts that benefit everyone involved: the producers, the agency that needs food to distribute to low-income households, and the recipients themselves.

District of Columbia (10 Members)

In spite of the many management problems that eventually overwhelmed the DC Service Corps during the first year of program operation, the USDA anti-hunger team was able to have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of DC residents. For example, nearly 3000 senior citizens were provided with nutrition education as well as nutritional screening and the opportunity to apply for food stamps; nutrition education was also provided to more than 600 elementary school children; and nearly 7,000 school age children received meals through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), largely because of the outreach and promotions done

by the USDA/AmeriCorps anti-hunger team. Members also began an active gleaning program through which the anti-hunger team helped collect over 500 bushels of produce that was then delivered to area soup kitchens to be used in the meals prepared and served there. Many of these meals were also prepared and served by USDA AmeriCorps Members. Under a new partnership with the Congressional Hunger Center for the second year, most of the activities have been improved, enhanced, and/or expanded. The team has also initiated community garden projects; established several new Self-Help and Resource Exchange (SHARE) sites in the City; implemented a new-mother nutrition education program in conjunction with Reading is Fundamental, that focuses primarily on women with low literacy or English-speaking skill levels (with a direct impact on the infant mortality rate improvement efforts among Hispanic families); forged partnerships with area high schools to channel student community service hours toward fighting hunger in the District; and researched the overall food security of Ward 2 using the 14-point Hunger Free Community Report outline.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin (38 Members)

Run in partnership with the Milwaukee Community Service Corps, this USDA AmeriCorps anti-hunger project also experienced some unexpected delays in becoming fully operational at the beginning of the program year. Once these difficulties were resolved and a fulltime project director was on board and accountable, events proceeded much more smoothly. The major focus of the Milwaukee anti-hunger team was the network of donated foods provided to low-income area residents. They continue to work hard to improve not only the quality of foods provided through this network, but also facilitate the actual distribution process as well, by repairing and refurbishing many of the food pantries and working to improve the infrastructure of the physical facilities in some 15 food outlets. MCSC has also started several community gardens which benefit area residents in a number of ways besides improving their basic access to nutritious, affordable food, such as reclaiming a previously vacant corner lot that had become a dangerous dumping ground/drug-dealing location. Last spring/summer, the Milwaukee anti-hunger team was instrumental in the successful start-up of Wisconsin's Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, by assisting the State and local WIC offices with outreach about the program and food demonstrations at the markets.

Mississippi Delta (20 Members)

Administered in partnership with the Greater Jackson Youth Service Corps during the first year, this project could be considered the most basic of USDA's five AmeriCorps anti-hunger projects. Members worked not in Jackson, but in two of the Delta's neediest areas, Humphreys and Sunflower Counties. Hundreds of flyers promoting USDA's food assistance programs (Food Stamps, School Breakfast/Lunch, Summer Food Service Program, etc) were developed, printed, and distributed by the team Members; some of the Members even made local television and radio appearances to inform area residents about these programs, as well as about the importance of nutrition education and food safety. Several presentations on nutrition education were given, particularly in the local schools, and Members established a

personalized senior citizens' garden as a pilot project for future efforts. Mississippi Action for Community Education (MACE) has now assumed responsibility for the Delta anti-hunger project, and is actively expanding the work that was begun last year. Because of the extremely high levels of poverty in the service area (over 41 percent of the children come from households with incomes well below the poverty line and live in substandard housing conditions more generally associated with third-world countries), the anti-hunger work underway still focuses primarily on food stamp outreach and access issues. Food banks will also be established in each of the targeted counties this summer, in cooperation with the Secretary's gleaning/food rescue program.

Los Angeles (40 Members)

Never afraid or hesitant to try anything new, the Los Angeles Anti-Hunger, Nutrition, and Empowerment Team set out with the most ambitious agenda, and successfully completes every one of its stated objectives. Administered through the Southern California Interfaith Hunger Coalition, this group is well placed to implement several spectacular efforts designed to promote nutrition education and the School Breakfast Program, such as the breakfast promotion involving Stevie Wonder and more than 300 elementary students. As the recipient of the largest amount of FCS funds provided to USDA AmeriCorps efforts, five Members are assigned exclusively to improving and enhancing the Summer Food Service Program. Neighborhoods are being reclaimed and revitalized through the Burlington and Esperanza Community Garden projects and the Van Nuys Farmers' Market; literally thousands of homeless -- and hopeless -- individuals are sheltered, and opportunities for job training or employment provided to them; nearly 6,000 children across the city receive lunches during the summer months; and over 1,000 high school students from every conceivable background join together to attend the annual Youth Anti-Hunger Conferences sponsored by the AmeriCorps team. Special recognition was given to the team's school gardening project by Ellen Haas, Undersecretary of Agriculture for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services in 1995.

Quotes

"I was lonely and they talked to me. They made me feel special."

...from a homeless woman living on the LA streets, helped to find shelter by a Team Member

"You have to realize that there are a lot of things that need to be taken care of...It's not in Bosnia, it's outside your front door."

...from a Los Angeles Team Member

"These AmeriCorps Members are dedicated, hard-working people providing us an invaluable service. They bring a special sense of commitment since they are of this city and plan to remain a part of it. They are true role models and deserve great praise . . . for what they are accomplishing for themselves, their communities, and the country."

...from a host-site project coordinator in LA

"The members in the AmeriCorps are great role models for our local youth (and adults)."

...from a local resident participating in a new garden project established by the LA Anti-Hunger Team

"Today I have a job with the help of AmeriCorps Members."

...from a homeless person assisted by an LA Team Member

"The AmeriCorps Members assist local communities to fight hunger and to become self-supporting with the new programs they begin. . . The Members of the Vermont Anti-Hunger Corps work in every county in Vermont. They listen to local communities, join with them in solving hunger issues, and then go on to help other Vermont Communities. They are an asset and a great partner...."

...from Linda Rooker, Exec. Director, Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council, Inc.

". . . I appreciate the model you have created for a multi-faceted community effort to teach people about agriculture, promote good nutrition, and foster a sense of community pride and empowerment. The fact that so many community members and agencies have come together to make the project a success is a powerful example to us all."

...from Vern Grubinger, PhD, Director, University of Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture

"I just wanted to write and let you know that I think the Anti-Hunger Corps and AmeriCorps are wonderful programs. . . I've been given an application to join the Vermont Anti-Hunger Corps and am seriously thinking about filling it out and turning it in."

...from a community garden participant, Springfield, VT

"I don't know how the job would have gotten done without your help. This gives us the motivation to go on and face some other tough issues."

**...from the President of the Board, Greater Randolph (VT)
Senior Center**

AmeriCorps/USDA is "Getting Things Done"
in the Fight Against Hunger

The following is a summary of the fourth quarter accomplishments of the USDA Anti-Hunger, Nutrition, and Empowerment Team projects managed by USDA's Food and Consumer Service through local partnerships with anti-hunger groups and youth service corps. Cumulative data for the entire program year is also included. USDA/AmeriCorps Members:

- * Cooked and served **5,569 meals** this quarter, bringing the cumulative total for the program year to **40,155 meals**.
- * Provided information about the Summer Food Service Program to **22,910 citizens** this quarter, bringing the cumulative total for the program year to **165,910 citizens**.
- * Created and helped to manage **29 new sites for the Summer Food Service Program**, bringing the cumulative total for the year to **51 new sites created**.
- * Helped provide meals to some **40,912 children** through the SFSP.
- * Repaired and/or expanded **2 emergency food pantries** this quarter, bringing the cumulative total for this program year to **16 pantries**.
- * Collected, sorted, and delivered **154,653 pounds (over 77 tons)** of food this quarter, for a total of **658,405 pounds (nearly 330 tons)** of food this year.
- * Served **391,542 individuals** through the use of food pantries, food shelves, and other food donation-related activities such as gleaning and food rescue operations; over **250,000** of those served were **children**.
- * Made nutrition education and food safety presentations to **4,216 students** this quarter, bringing the cumulative total for the program year to **12,216 students**.
- * Conducted nutrition education and food safety education workshops for **449 low-income families and senior citizens**, bringing the cumulative total for this program year to **13,041 citizens** who benefited from workshops.
- * Distributed **32,510 posters and brochures**, directly reached **45,317 people**, and referred **17,487 eligible persons** for various types of food assistance -- bringing the cumulative total for the program year to **74,000 posters/brochures distributed, 80,664 people reached, and 23,485 eligible persons referred** for assistance.
- * Started, planted, and/or maintained **125 community and school gardens** this quarter, for an cumulative annual total of **152 gardens**.

- * Involved and served over **12,130 people** from these community and school gardens.
- * Promoted **50 Farmers' Markets** and community gardens this quarter, bringing the cumulative total for the year to **66 markets**.
- * Through the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) and other farmers' market activities, served over to **19,500 persons**, nearly 75% of whom were **pregnant women, new mothers, and young children**.
- * Worked (cleared, weeded, tilled, planted, watered, and harvested) **459,265 square feet** of land for school and community gardens this quarter, bringing the year's total to **665,479 square feet**.

Taking into account that some of these numbers may be duplicative, because low-income individuals and families traditionally participate in multiple assistance programs, we can still extrapolate to a reasonably accurate level that the 140 Members of USDA AmeriCorps' Anti-Hunger, Nutrition, and Empowerment Team collectively served nearly **800,000 individuals** during this first program year. Approximately \$3.31 million in Federal funds were invested in this project, resulting in a cost of only \$4.13 per person. It should also be pointed out that over 500,000 (half a million!) of those served were children.

4th Quarter Data Summary

Number of Fulltime Members Allotted to USDA Anti-Hunger Teams: 148
(as of the beginning of the program year)

Number of Fulltime Members Enrolled at End of 4th Quarter: 77*
(* Does not include the 8 Members from DC or 12 Members from Mississippi whose projects were concluded in early July 1995)

Number of Service Hours (including Training/Member Development) Performed by Members during 4th Quarter: 41,993

Total Number of Service Hours (including Training/Member Development) Performed by Members for the Year: 200,072 (roughly \$4.26 per hour, on the average, for service valued at no less than \$12.39 per hour, were it to be performed by a low-grade (GS 7, Step 2) Federal employee at \$25,858 a year)

Number of Volunteers Recruited during 4th Quarter: 589

Hours of Service Performed by Volunteers during 4th Quarter: 13,420

Total Number of Volunteers Recruited for the Year: 4003

Total Hours of Service Performed by Volunteers for the Year: 63,868

AmeriCorps*USA
Operating Site Quarterly Report
National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1. Operating site: **Youth Corps - National Service Academy** VT
Name Location

2. Operating Site ID # : 4047F220

3. Corporation Grantee Name: USDA-Forest Service

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:
 _ First Quarter_ Second Quarter _ Third Quarter X Fourth Quarter
 (10/1-12/31) (1/1-3/31) (4/1-6/30) (7/1-9/30)

5. Name of person completing this report: Joan M. McCloud

6. Position of person completing this report: Program Director

7. Telephone number: 802-362-2307

8. Fax number: 802-362-1251

9. e-mail address (if available):

10. Members and Service Hours

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	20	
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 4th Qtr.	15	
No. of Members who served entire 4th Qtr.	15	
No. of Members who left sites during the 4th Qtr.	02	
No. of Members who joined sites during 4th Qtr.	0	
Total Members service hours during the 4th Qtr.	7,500	
Total Members service hours to date	28,106	

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who

were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 89

(b) Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 637

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

(a) Direct Service Objectives:

The quality completion of our projects have been measured against established and approved standards within the Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plans, handbooks, operation, maintenance and construction guidelines, and project workplans.

Primary Accomplishments this Quarter:

All Cost Figures For All Projects are Estimates Only

Recreation Facility backlog work:

Hazard tree removal at high use sites - 100% complete.

Cost if contracted = \$1,250 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$676

Cost of Force Account = \$1,386

Areas worked are Texas Falls, Silver Lake, Falls of Lana, Bingo Road, Chittenden Brook and Brandon Brook. Hazard trees are cut down and cut up for fire wood. Along with this project, the crew cleared approximately 1/2 acre of brush and saplings, which helped to open up to daylight certain sites. The purpose of this project is to increase safety for our Forest visitors and enhance the visual quality of our recreation sites.

Wright House cleanup - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,200 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$776

Cost of Force Account = \$1,035

The project at the Wright house included cutting of hazard trees, clearing brush around the perimeter, rebuilding a retaining wall four feet high by sixteen feet long, clearing brush and debris from the driveway and picking up scattered old fencing. The purpose of this project are is maintain and rehab an existing Forest Service site.

Hancock bridge removal - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,125 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$978

Cost of Force Account = \$1,367

The Hancock bridge project is the cutting and removal of three wooden bridges, and distributing the materials into the woods. The purpose of this project is to remove unsafe bridges.

Stratton cabin and Skyline Lodge materials transport - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$898 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$618

Cost of Force Account = \$631

These two areas have ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation. There is a need to transport building materials and tools to each site for construction projects. The purpose of these projects is to maintain health and safety standards at highly used recreation sites.

Somerset Schoolhouse rehab - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,652 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$878

Cost of Force Account = \$1,174

This project consisted of putting two coats of paint on the exterior of an old schoolhouse. The Somerset Schoolhouse is on the National Historic Register. The purpose of this project is to enhance and protect our heritage for future generations.

Recreation Operation and Maintenance:

Developed campground and day use area mowing and maintenance of 9 sites - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$2,040 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$2,497

Cost of Force Account = \$3,200

Developed recreation area site maintenance includes painting or staining facilities, raking sites, clearing hazard trees or trimming sites that have been overgrown. The purpose of these projects is to continue on-going recreation site maintenance and to provide a healthy and safe area for visitors to recreate. The sites maintained are Pine Valley, Grout Pond, Landing Strip, Meadow Brook, FR 10 (various sites), Little Michigan, Lake Trail, Wallingford Pond and Route 9 AT/LT Trailhead.

Recreation visitor contact and information - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = N/A Cost of AmeriCorps = \$1,755

Cost of Force Account = \$2,125

Developed recreation area monitoring and visitor information is a service provided to our customers both at campgrounds and hiking trailheads. The purpose of our contacts is to inform people of the best recreational opportunities for their individual needs and area travel plans. Being visible on holidays and weekends helps to deter vandalism to visitors' vehicles parked at trailheads and allows more time for us to make correction when any health and safety problems occur. The monitoring is to get estimates on visitor use for year-end reporting and help in calculating our yearly budgeting needs for operations and maintenance supplies.

Recreation opportunity guides for 2 trails - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = 1,095 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$566

Cost of Force Account = \$825

The crew hiked the Lake Trail and Griffith Lake Trail measuring, photographing signs and sites of interest. Upon returning to the

office they developed a handout that included points of interest, maps of the trails, distances, elevation and time needed to complete the hike. These handouts help the public plan their daily hiking and assists them in choosing the trail appropriate to the level of their physical needs. Some of this information is to be used in our planning for maintenance of the trails. This also helps the Forest staff provide quality information when they may not have been on the trail themselves. Recreation opportunity guides can be found at local District offices.

Release of 1/2 acre blueberry bushes in the Finger Lakes N.F. - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$405 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$356

Cost of Force Account = \$504

The job is to cut hardwood trees that are over-topping the blueberry bushes. If this work is not done, it would not take long before the bushes could not produce fruit, due to lack of sunlight. The purpose of this work is to continue giving the public an opportunity to pick wild blueberries and to supply wildlife with more forage.

Trail Backlog:

Trail maintenance of 1/4 mile of water bars and cross drains - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,350 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$1,136

Cost of Force Account = \$1,617

The purpose of this project is to enhance visitors' enjoyment of the Long Trail in our trail system and to protect the trail from erosion.

Vista openings maintained - 3 acres - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$675 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$581

Cost of Force Account = \$804

Reclaiming existing openings along the Appalachian Trail just south of West Hartford. This work required cutting small saplings and small trees that have started to fill in the openings. These openings provide hikers with exceptional views that would not normally be available to them.

Snowmobile trail brushing N 1/2 - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$825 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$687

Cost of Force Account = \$1,020

The Rochester District snowmobile trail clearing involves cutting brush and trees to reroute an unsafe trail situation. The purpose for this work is to maintain the safety of an existing trail and to provide snowmobilers with a safe road crossing.

Snowmobile trail clearing - 3/4 of a mile of new trail - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$3,400 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$4,110

Cost of Force Account = \$5,775

The Manchester District snowmobile trail clearing involves cutting

dense brush and trees to reroute an unsafe trail situation. The purpose for this work is to reroute the snowmobile trail around Grout Pond parking lot to avoid potential accidents with motor vehicles and snowmobiles.

Trail hardening - 1/2 mile in Finger Lakes N.F. - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$4,372 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$2,937

Cost of Force Account = \$4,121

This trail hardening project is extensive work. It includes the placement of black filament on the trail with gravel placed on top and the placement of a culvert, needed to drain water off of a section of trail. The purpose of this work is to rehab sections of trail that have serious erosion problems.

Ravine Trail stabilization in Finger Lakes N.F. - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$898 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$804

Cost of Force Account = \$1,100

A steep section of the Ravine Trail required a railing, steps and bank stabilization. Members built a twelve foot railing backed by a stone wall. Stone steps were also built and the bank is stabilized with additional rock wall and tree trunks. This work makes the trail a safe place to recreate.

Brushing of 10 miles of trail in Finger Lakes N.F. - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,005 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$356

Cost of Force Account = \$504

This project consisted of clearing brush out of 10 miles of trail corridor. The work included cutting and dispersing brush and tree limbs that were hanging in the trails. Work like this helps to maintain the existing trail so people stay on the corridor system and provides a safer recreating experience.

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement:

Prescribed fire, openings maintenance of 10 acres - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$525 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$593

Cost of Force Account = \$675

Prescribed fire is intentional burning of existing openings that would otherwise be overgrown. Burning reduces heavy vegetation on sites. The purpose of this project is to maintain open areas for certain species of wildlife that require these areas for their food and survival.

Fuel stick weight box installed - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$225 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$105

Cost of Force Account = \$150

This project consisted of painting the box, setting the post into the ground and mounting the box. The box will hold fuel moisture sticks, which are used to monitor the amount of moisture retained by vegetation. This information is crucial to determining the best time

to conduct a prescribed fire and determining wildland fire severity.

Inventory entire Green Mountain Forest fire caches - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,050 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$603

Cost of Force Account = \$788

All GMNF Forest fire caches were inventoried. All the fire equipment, caches and storage facilities were cleaned and organized. Personal protective equipment was inspected and prepared for distribution as needed. The purpose of this project is to update a backlogged inventory list and to replace old or outdated fire equipment.

Threatened and Endangered Species Guides - 13 - 90% complete

Cost if contracted = \$2,068 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$2,236

Cost of Force Account = \$2,680

The project includes research to develop a working guide that Forest Service personnel can use in the field. This guide would be an important aid to identifying plants in areas that may be of concern when developing project proposals. The goal is to complete as many guides on threatened and endangered plant species as possible.

Soil and Water Inventory:

Watershed Improvement Needs surveys of 30 sites on the Finger Lakes National Forest - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$4,005 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$2,022

Cost of Force Account = \$2,799

Watershed Improvement Needs surveys involve walking trails and roads to inventory erosion and sedimentation problems. The crew inspected culverts to determine if they are functioning correctly. They located the sites on maps and described the problems and possible solutions. The purpose of the project is to identify areas that are in need of soil and water erosion control work.

Timber Related Projects:

Mount Tabor site preparation - 4 acres - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$530 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$1,155

Cost of Force Account = \$1,599

The timber work in this area was done to increase the health and vigor of oak and hemlock trees. Competing hardwood vegetation was cut to release oak and hemlock so that those trees will produce more food for wildlife.

Stonefarm softwood release - 2 acres - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$941 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$1,653

Cost of Force Account = \$2,393

The Stonefarm softwood release project includes cutting all hardwood trees 1/2 inch and larger that are within six feet of any softwood tree. The purpose of this project is to release softwoods from hardwood vegetation to create future deer winter areas.

Red Oak tree release - 22 acres on the Finger Lakes N.F. - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$1,854 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$1,410

Cost of Force Account = \$1,692

This project required the use of chainsaws, axes and pole saws. The purpose is to girdle standing Red Pine trees, which will open the canopy and allow sun light to reach the immature Red Oak. Red Oak are important nut-bearing trees for wildlife.

Hemlock scarification - 183 acres - 100% complete

Cost if contracted = \$2,183 Cost of AmeriCorps = \$1,743

Cost of Force Account = \$2,520

Hemlock scarification is scratching the duff (the forest floor), with rakes down to mineral soil. This was done in patches from the drip line of existing hemlock trees on ten foot by ten foot centers out to the height of the hemlock. The purpose of this work is to provide a mineral soil seed bed for hemlock seeds, when seeds drop from the trees.

Environment Education:

Environmental education was not the primary focus of the fourth quarter. The crew concentrated their work efforts on the National Forest projects, often working weekends to meet project goals.

However, the AmeriCorps team did bring closure to the projects we had been working on throughout the program year in Poultney, Vermont. The crew completed the curriculum design and building of the Nature Trail at Poultney Elementary School. The trail was completed and the elementary teachers were provided with environmental lessons and curriculum ideas by AmeriCorps Members. The town of Poultney got involved with the completion of the project and donated the needed materials to complete the job. The trail was marked with a USDA

AmeriCorps project placard.

In addition, six AmeriCorps Members stayed after the program year ended to participate in the 1995 annual Youth Corps Serv-A-Thon. AmeriCorps Members and staff worked together as a team with five individuals from the University of Vermont to construct a boardwalk in a boggy area on a nature trail in Burlington, Vermont. The trail we worked on should prove very beneficial in saving the area from erosion problems, and is one of the most natural and frequently used trails in the Burlington area.

Additional projects:

Landline location - 4 miles of National Forest property boundary lines - 100% complete

Cost if contracted \$1,475 Cost of AmeriCorps \$2,455

Cost of Force Account \$3,454

Landline maintenance involves cutting brush to re-establish existing Forest Service land boundaries. The lines are marked and painted in red, each class A boundary corner is written down, and corner trees measured and tagged if needed. The purpose of this work is to update backlog of land lines needing paint and to delineate property boundaries between USFS and private land owners. This in turn reduces trespass cases on the forest.

Archaeology mapping of two homestead sites - 100% complete

Cost if contracted \$3,776 Cost of AmeriCorps \$2,720

Cost of Force Account \$3,756

These two projects consisted of creating grid areas and mapping of artifacts found at the site. Mapping, excavating, inventorying, photographing, and bagging artifacts are very important activities in saving and gathering information for future generations.

Archaeology rehabilitation and mapping of two sites - 100% complete

Cost if contracted \$3,092 Cost of AmeriCorps \$1,657

Cost of Force Account \$2,286

One project required reconstruction of a ten foot section of stone wall damaged during a timber sale. Along with this project the crew dug test pits in search of artifacts. The second project consisted of digging six test pits and searching for artifacts related to Native American habitation. These projects were designed to enhance existing information about historic sites on the Forest.

Archaeology lab work, assignment - 100% complete

Cost if contracted \$4,629 Cost of AmeriCorps \$2,452

Cost of Force Account \$2,970

Lab work is the cleaning and cataloging of artifacts that have been recovered during previous digs. Items are stored after they are marked and tagged; this allows the Archaeologist an opportunity to

refer back to certain items and time periods. The purpose of this work is to preserve information from sites for future generations and to build a knowledgeable history base as to how our ancestors used sites, either working with the land or just passing through.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives:

Our objective is to provide members with an education and experience in working as a team to accomplish conservation projects and build life skills.

The main objective of National Service is "getting things done". Upon conclusion of the program year, we look back and are very proud of our many accomplishments on the Green Mountain National Forest and in the community of Poultney, Vermont.

Throughout the program year the AmeriCorps team has learned many aspects of professional forestry and the related fields in the Green Mountain National Forest. In addition, AmeriCorps Members participated in and learned first hand what it is like to work for a governmental agency.

Our AmeriCorps team has successfully completed the experience of a residential program - learning what it's like to live, eat, breath, and coexist with a group of people for nine months. This experience resulted in positive growth for each member individually and professionally.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives:

Our objective is to integrate crew diversity in terms of socio-economic status, gender, physical ability, learning ability, education, and geographic distribution.

This closing quarter provided a realization of how strong our residential community has become during the year. AmeriCorps Members left the program on a positive note about what they accomplished and the values of National Service.

In addition to the closure activities the program gave for Poultney community members, we also had a gift-giving ceremony and dinner for AmeriCorps Members and staff. Certificates of completion and sweatshirts (with the AmeriCorps logo) were given to each member. This has been a positive ending to a very challenging and rewarding year.

13. Other Accomplishments this Quarter:

:::AmeriCorps assistance requested on a Search and Rescue mission:::

A search party for an elderly man who had driven six miles up an old

logging road, proved to be quite a demanding job. The Vermont State Police called asking for personnel assistance in setting up a grid search of dense Forest Service land in Woodford, Vermont. Our AmeriCorps team is ready to go at a moments notice! We teamed up with Forest Service, State Police, Fish and Wildlife, and American Red Cross personnel and several volunteers, searching 75 feet deep into the woods along fifteen linear miles of road and trails. The weather was rainy and the dense vegetation along with rough terrain made the search very slow. For two days we searched; we were unable to find the elderly man or any articles belonging to him. Due to the fact that this person had many health problems and had been missing for several days, we could not hold much hope. The AmeriCorps team members wanted very much to continue the search. Our State Police Incident Commander decided we had done everything we could do to help, and sent us home. The State Police continued searching outside of the area we originally thought that he would be and did find his body: he had been missing for seven days. Though this is a tragic ending, the State Police and family members were impressed with the caring professionalism of the crew during those long hours.

14. Unique successes or great stories:

The completion of the elementary Nature Trail project is a unique success story because it involved AmeriCorps Members and community members - particularly the school children and teachers of Poultney, Vermont.

Also, the fourth quarter produced a great project milestone for the Green Mountain AmeriCorps Team. Throughout the program year the AmeriCorps team, under the leadership of AmeriCorps Member James Carver, worked hard to create a working organic garden. The results of this project were phenomenal. Aside from a great learning experience of moving rocks, pulling weeds, tilling soil, planting seeds, and harvesting, the garden produced bountiful returns. The returns provided our program with plenty of fresh vegetables for the last month of the fourth quarter.

Most importantly, the community of Poultney benefited from the rich harvest. Upon completion of the program year, the community members who worked closely with the program were invited over for dinner to celebrate our accomplishments and dine on a meal prepared mostly with ingredients from the AmeriCorps garden. In addition, the remaining fresh vegetables were picked and dispersed to those families in the community who needed them the most.

We are proud to announce that five AmeriCorps Members are planning to utilize the educational award they earned during this program year for continuing education within the next six months.

15. Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter:

During our close-out with Members, Forest Service staff and our partner, Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, critiqued many issues and areas that we can improve on to provide an even higher quality experience and program in 1996. We had many open and honest comments. Due to the quick start of this program and operations clarifications needed, we at times were unable to follow up on some very basic questions. This caused frustration and at times created credibility problems for staff. Now that we have a year behind us we are looking forward, with great anticipation, to a new year of National Service and new challenges!

16. National Identity Activities this Quarter:

The local and regional involvement of AmeriCorps Members through community service design and participation is our most active form of national exposure. Our involvement in visible Community Service projects on the Green Mountain National Forest, the Green Mountain College Campus and in the town of Poultney, Vermont produces a strong, positive exposure of National Service - AmeriCorps.

To gain a thorough perspective of these events please refer to the Community Service projects listed in the Primary Accomplishments and Unique Successes or great stories sections of this report.

The following is a list of events that strengthens our National Identity:

- * All AmeriCorps members wear "Team USDA" t-shirts and AmeriCorps hats
- * Six AmeriCorps Members and three AmeriCorps staff participated as an AmeriCorps team in the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps annual Serv-A-Thon in Burlington, Vermont
- * The Vermont Youth Conservation Corps had a graduation ceremony at the Serv-A-Thon that provided each attending AmeriCorps Member with individual recognition and a certificate of successful completion of a year of National Service.
- * The AmeriCorps Members who attended the Serv-A-Thon had a group picture made with Congressman Bernie Sanders of Vermont.
- * The AmeriCorps team had a press visit during the Serv-A-Thon work project
- * An AmeriCorps placard was erected at the head of the AmeriCorps constructed Nature Trail in Poultney, Vermont
- * The program was represented at an Atlantic cluster AmeriCorps conference in Philadelphia, Pa. The Program Director was a workshop provider.
- * The program was also represented at the National AmeriCorps Conference in Houston, TX.

* AmeriCorps Members had the great opportunity of working and helping the

Finger Lakes National Forest in Hector, NY for ten days.

* Letters of appreciation and a \$200 donation were made to the AmeriCorps

Program for the caring, professional conduct of the Members as they participated in an extensive search and rescue mission in Woodford, VT.

17. Significant Program Changes this Quarter: None