

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Americorps

Series/Staff Member: General Files

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 24229

FolderID:

Folder Title:

USDA/Americorps Progress Reports 1995-1996 [1]

Stack:
S

Row:
66

Section:
1

Shelf:
5

Position:
2

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	re: non-selection (1 page)	09/02/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
AmeriCrops
General Files
OA/Box Number: 24229

FOLDER TITLE:

USDA [Department of Agriculture]/AmeriCorps Progress Reports, 1995-1996 [1]

2013-0661-F
rc3052

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

February 3, 1997

MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO: USDA Program Managers for Projects Utilizing AmeriCorps Members

SUBJECT: The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Role in AmeriCorps

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Glickman", written over the "TO:" line of the memorandum.

I regret to inform you that we have been unable to reach an agreement with Congress that will allow us to continue directly running service projects that utilize AmeriCorps members. Therefore, we have no choice but to cancel those projects planned for this year.

I want to thank you for your tremendous effort and patience in implementing previous projects utilizing AmeriCorps members--and in working towards a possible implementation of similar projects this year. You have exemplified the best of public service through your efforts to reinvent government by creating service projects that achieved concrete, measurable results fighting hunger, protecting the environment, and boosting rural communities. In just 2 years of operation, these projects directly aided over 1 million citizens and improved over 400,000 acres of land. Last summer alone, a handful of AmeriCorps members aided by USDA recovered over 1,000 tons of excess food--enough to provide over 1.3 million meals. You should be forever proud of these achievements.

It is important to note that, while projects sponsored directly by USDA will not continue this year, growing bipartisan support for the overall AmeriCorps program has allowed the program as a whole to thrive. This year, the overall program will enable 25,000 citizens to earn money for post-secondary education by serving their nation. Your past efforts in pioneering high-quality projects throughout the nation played a significant role in building public support for the overall program. I believe history will show that USDA's early involvement in AmeriCorps played a major role in making national service a permanent fixture in American life.

In the months and years ahead, USDA and the Corporation for National Service will work closely together to find alternative ways to continue the important work you and your projects have started. We will work hard to guarantee that rural America is fully served by AmeriCorps, and that community service projects focused on fighting hunger, boosting community development, protecting the environment, and preserving public lands will continue.

Although I must again state my regret that we are forced to cancel our projects, I am confident that your energy and expertise will, in the future, continue to be focused on positive ways to engage citizens in improving our nation.

AMERICORPS

CHRISTOPHER AULD

SPONSORED BY:

USDA - NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
EAST & WEST LAKE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
883 LAKEPORT BLVD.
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

(707) 263-4180

FAX: 263-0912

THE UPPER PUTAH STEWARDSHIP

The Upper Putah Stewardship (UPS) is a new organization that is dedicated to the preservation and education on the Upper Putah Creek Watershed. It is a group of concerned citizens, a county supervisor and technical agencies that have taken a watershed approach to improve the conditions of the geographical area within southeastern Lake County.

Since its first meeting on January 18, 1996, the stewardship has already organized a restoration project that initiated one mile of debris clean-up, the planting of 11 willow baffles, and one 100 ft. Willow mattress along St. Helena Creek. The willows planted are hoped to protect Middletown resident Andy Pedro's house from slipping into the creek. Currently his house is only 10ft. away from the vertical bank!

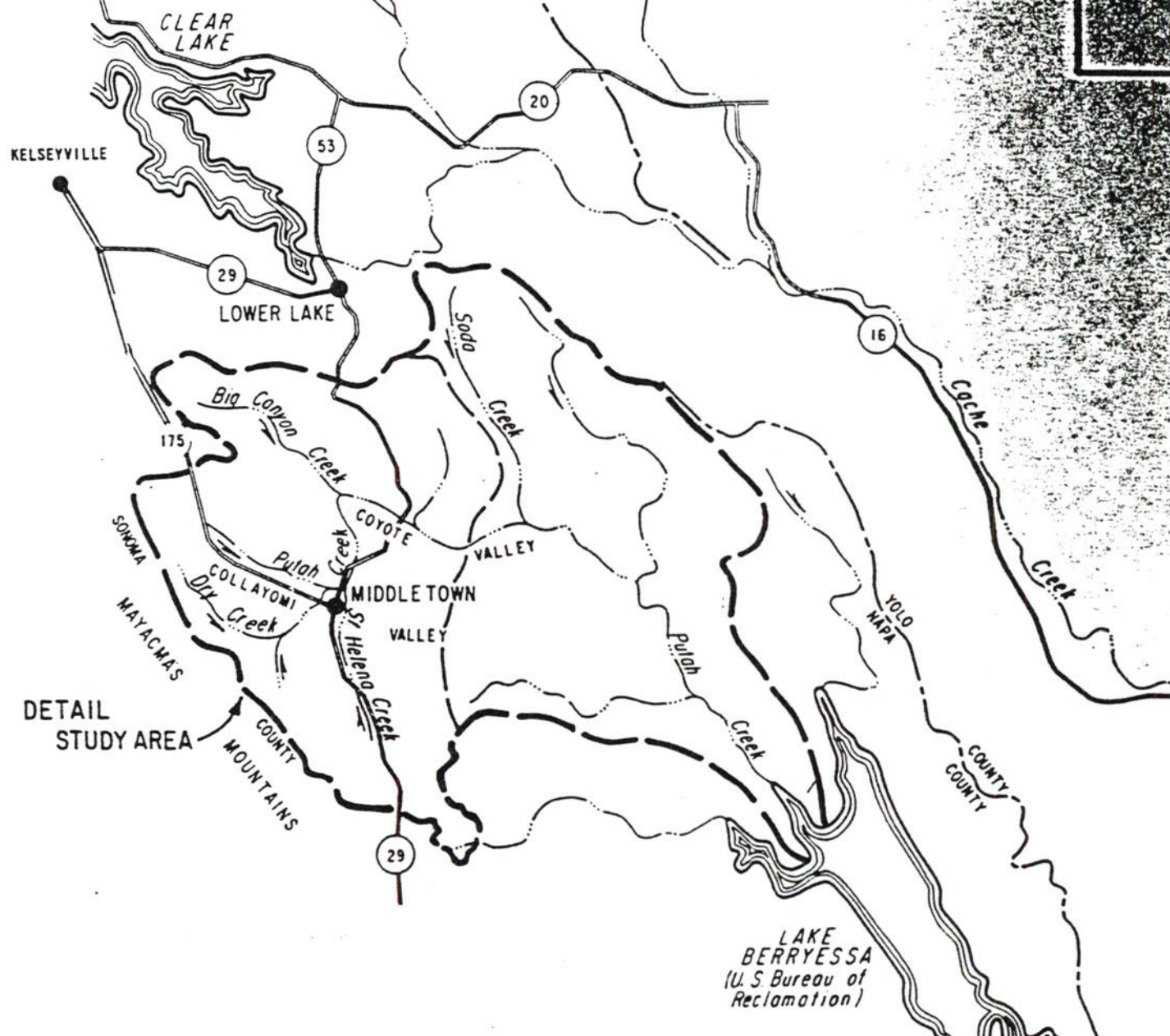
Currently the UPS is working on an education workshop that will take place in cooperation with the Middletown Clean Up Day. The workshop will include soil erosion, wildlife and plant identification, watershed management, habitat improvement, flood prevention techniques, and other issues that anyone would like to present relating to the watershed. The event will take place Friday, May 31 for student and teachers. On Saturday, June 1 there will be a table top informational display.

Technical agencies are currently surveying the creek to help the UPS design a restoration plan that can improve the condition of the creek in Middletown. Once the design is completed, it will then be up to the volunteers of the UPS to obtain funds, resources, and manpower to put the design into action.

UPS is also interested in addressing issues in Hidden Valley, Dry Creek, Dry Creek Dam, further work on St. Helena Creek, upper watershed importance, education, water quality, erosion, flooding, and other issues relating to the watershed.

The UPS is growing in support and in power, but to complete its objectives and continue its improvement in the watershed, the UPS needs volunteers. Volunteering can consist of as little as attending meetings or donations of used equipment to the local schools. It can also consist of active participation or donation of large equipment used in stream bank protection. Every little bit counts, so if you would like to volunteer or would like to obtain more information, just sign your name, address, phone number, and interest to the attached sheet. Thank you so much for your time.

**THE NEXT MEETING FOR THE UPS IS ON JUNE 3, 6PM, AT THE
MIDDLETOWN FIREHOUSE.**







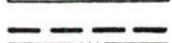


DETAIL STUDY AREA

LAKE BERRYESSA
(U.S. Bureau of Reclamation)

UPPER PUTAH CREEK BASIN

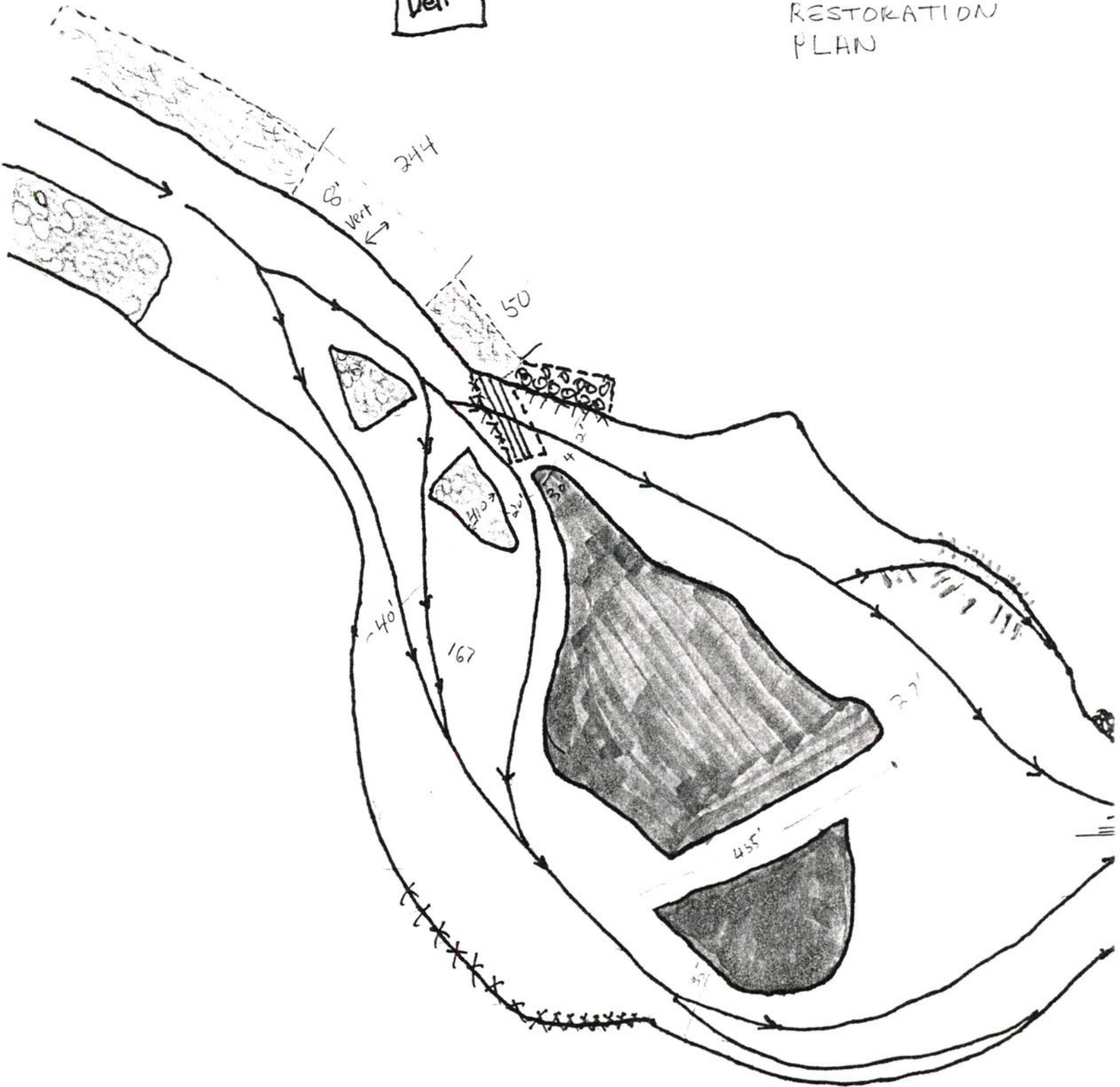
LEGEND

-  Drainage basin boundary
-  Drainage sub-basin boundary
-  County boundary
-  State highway
-  Stream gage
-  Area of detailed studies
-  Limit of best structural plan



St. Helena Creek
RESTORATION
PLAN


Deli



Future Restoration


Levee 
Rock Riprap 
Willow Planting 

Restoration Completed
by Perry's Oeri

Sandbars 

Stream Flow Path 

Islands 

Willow Planted
by Project 



Watershed volunteers look to long-term plan

By Greg Kubelek

Only two certainties face volunteers and public agencies seeking to restore creeks within Putah Creek watershed.

The first certainty is the restoration will need to be done on a grassroots, volunteer basis; the second is there are bound to be clashes about what makes good stream environment.

"Unfortunately the government agencies don't have the time for money to take care of it," said Chris Auld, an Americorps volunteer.

Those interested in the future of Putah and St. Helena creeks gathered for the third time in Middletown on Monday to review progress of an ongoing project to stabilize a stretch of St. Helena Creek and future proposals to develop an entire watershed plan.

"I want the energy to come from the people, not the agencies," said county Supervisor Helen Whitney, who worked to assemble the divergent groups into a watershed coalition.

"We're are going to have to do this ourselves. It's got to be a citizen's effort.

"It's a lot easier to get grants, if we can say we already have the com-

munity behind us," Auld added.

Auld will be in Lake County as an Americorps volunteer only until September.

At the Monday meeting he described the organization of the Upper Putah Creek Stewardship, under which other creek restoration projects could be organized by landowners and others on the various creeks.

Agencies involved in the mutual effort include the county's Flood Control District, the state Department of Fish and Game, the Lake County Career Center, the federal Natural Resources Conservation District, and the East Lake Recourse Conservation District.

Many landowners along St. Helena Creek have also expressed interest, and attended the planning sessions.

The East Lake Conservation District will act as the lead agency if the coalition applies for grants.

The good news about the project is that the St. Helena Creek restoration has been a success so far.

Auld lauded the Department of Fish and Game for its cooperation. He and others had feared bureau-

see Watershed page 2

Watershed

from page 1

cratic entanglements when workers sought to remove approximately 30 trees from the creek.

Thus far, between rainstorms, paid workers from the Career Center have used donated equipment to remove trees and then plant willow trees along the bank to stem erosion from flooding.

Whitney said the planned stewardship could involve water issues not related to erosion or wildlife habitat.

"I'm getting concerned about the bulk permits. I'm concerned about the cumulative effect of this. It's important to remember we are in the bigger watershed," Whitney said.

Bulk water permits allow export of spring water for packaging as bottled drinking water.

A recent request for a Cobb Mountain facility was temporarily withdrawn but county officials say a number of permit applications are pending.

Rick Macedo a state Fish and Game biologist told others at the meeting that his agency would try to cooperate with the restoration projects.

He said certain types of restoration efforts would aid both fish and wildlife habitat.

"Pools are good for fish," Macedo said. "In a worst case scenario, if a

project can be shown to benefit fish and wildlife habitat, I could see about a reduced fee on the permit," he said.

Macedo also suggested good fish habitat would be good for landowners. "A well established riparian corridor will allow the creeks to run longer in summer. It acts like a sponge," he said.

He also said grant money from the department to foster fish habitat is unlikely.

"All our grant money is tied up in salmon and steelhead. I wouldn't even recommend applying until the coho (salmon) situation has been resolved," Macedo said. His reference was to projects on the Trinity and Eel rivers to restore spawning habitat.

"I have 3 million acres. I'm not in a position to take a leadership position," Macedo told the gathering.

A possible clash with the habitat issue is Whitney's current work to find funding for the long delayed Dry Creek Dam.

Whitney is hoping to find funding to complete a study to find if a dam is viable. The dam would impound water allocated to the Putah Creek Watershed awarded through the Putah Creek adjudication settlement with Solano County.

Auld will work in the coming months to coordinate a sort of 'open house' for the St. Helena Creek restoration.

That exhibition is set for the Memorial Day weekend at the end of May, which is also the time of the annual Community Cleanup Day.

Putah watershed effort gains steam

By Greg Kubelek

The effort to improve the drainage of St. Helena Creek after last year's flooding, has expanded into a watershed management program and has gained interest from unusual quarters.

One of those quarters is the California National Guard, which is preparing to occupy a new armory in Lakeport.

"I'm hoping there is a role for us in this project," said Christopher Godley, a captain and the commander of the incoming National Guard unit. During weekdays Godley is the Assistant Emergency Services Coordinator for the Sonoma County Department of Emergency Services.

He said the guard unit can and will use its complement of heavy equipment to assist with flood control and debris-removal projects.

"We're kind of a super-aggressive Caltrans," Godley told those gathered at the meeting of the Upper

Putah Creek Stewardship, last Friday.

The watershed effort has also drawn notice from a member of the Upper Putah Creek Conservancy, who is employed by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation at Lake Berryessa.

Cleve Dufer, who lives in Clearlake and commutes to Lake Berryessa, said the conservancy is similar in nature to that envisioned by the stewardship, which is to identify and recommend realistic remedies to potential or real environmental problems. The conservancy encompasses 58 separate creeks above the point where Putah Creek drains into Lake Berryessa.

In the meantime, the Middletown-based watershed effort has provided a focal point for a gathering of information from separate agencies. Among them are the California Department of Fish and Game.

Fish and Game Biologist Rick

Macedo, who spoke about the history of fisheries in the local basin, said the role of Fish and Game in the region has changed because of land-use changes.

"The department has jurisdictional authority at the low water mark for just about any major stream," Macedo said. We used to do a lot of stocking of streams. In 1970, for all practical purposes, we stopped stocking."

The reason, he said, was because landowners began restricting access to the public. "By law, we are only supposed to plant fish only where the public has access," he said.

About 8 years ago, Macedo studied local fish populations. "In 1988, I did some surveys. Big Canyon and Putah Creeks were the only ones completed," he said.

He said the fisheries here were far more complex than commonly per-

see Putah page 2

Putah

from page 1

ceived, and Putah Creek still holds the legacy of saltwater steelhead that once spawned here.

"Before Berryessa was put in, we had steelhead. These fish came up from the ocean to Lake County," Macedo said. "A steelhead is nothing more than a rainbow trout that makes a trip from the ocean and back. To this day, though they are really depleted, we have what we call landlocked steelhead." Macedo said of fish caught in the system by the dam building project.

The process of developing the stewardship effort, has been principally organized by Americorps volunteer Chris Auld. The work on St. Helena Creek will be showcased on June 1, in combination with Middletown Cleanup Days. A walk through the creek is among the events scheduled for the showcase.

Creek restoration seen as a watershed project

By Greg Kubelek

Decades of re-engineering have changed the nature of St. Helena Creek.

Now it's the creek's turn as it threatens to re-engineer Middletown.

That is the conclusion of a loose collection of officials, workers and volunteers who are pondering the future of the waterway and disappearance of real estate along its banks.

Workers hope a small forest of willow trees will both help abate the Middletown 'blowout' and one day restore the land lost to erosion.

"The creek's got a lot more power than we do," said Tom Smythe, a water resources engineer with the county's flood control department. "We can enhance what the creek wants to do."

The various public officials, including county Supervisor Helen Whitney, see St. Helena as a long-term pilot project, work on the creek may end soon.

"Once we've got the team together, we can replicate it other areas," Whitney said.

Money to pay a crew of workers clearing debris here, is set to end on Friday.

Volunteers may need to continue the work. Whitney hopes other funding can be found. Up to now, work has been financed by a combination of federal disaster assistance and job training funds.

Wednesday was the big push to clear the remaining debris from the creek in preparation of planting the willow trees, both along the existing bank and across the streambed in an effort to form a baffle that will slow down the waters.

Even if the pay for workers is extended, organizers are seeking other volunteer help and equipment.

The creek restoration is headed by Chris Auld, who will be in Lake County for 10 months as a volunteer for Americorps. Americorps is similar

to the Peace Corps, except volunteers work on domestic projects.

The group is immediately seeking chainsaws, a chipper, and trucks with winches. All are aimed at reducing the estimated 30 trees taken from the creek bed. Some were toppled there; others washed down from upstream and forced water against both banks of the creek.

"There is such a large amount of debris, we don't have room to stack it," said Earl Brown, who manages the temporary job crew through the Lake County Career Center. "We can shred it; we can burn it," Brown said. "The most ecological is to shred it; the most expedient is to burn it," he said, hoping someone would volunteer a large chipper to reduce the debris. Whitney said the single chipper owned a county agency is broken.

Auld and Smythe said they believe the blowout was created by upstream gravel extraction and relocation of the creek bed more than 30 years ago for construction of Highway 29.

"I know it had problems in the 1940s. I think it had problems in the '30s," Smythe said.

Those who have studied the history of the creek, believe many of the upstream meanders have been straightened artificially through the years. The straightening allows water to run faster until it gathers behind Middletown.

The pending woodland of willows is expected to help reclaim the former bank by trapping sediment where the willows are rooted in the baffle.

"I believe it is entirely possible to reclaim all of that land over time," Brown said.

Among the volunteers attempting to solve the problem is Paul Carneggie, owner of Perry's Deli at the south edge of the community. He

see Creek page 4

Volunteers, experts hope to save creekside homes

By ROGER PHELPS of the R-B staff

MIDDLETOWN — Volunteers and environmental experts took emergency measures Wednesday to protect property along St. Helena Creek.

The group pitched in to curb erosion damage near the residence of Andy Pedro at Washington and Jefferson streets.

At a meeting Monday of the St. Helena Creek Streambank Protection Project, local residents and officials from various county and federal agencies hatched a plan to defend properties threatened by swollen creek waters.

"A vertical creek bank is shearing," said Ken Kashuba, "cheese,"

conservationist with the federal department of agriculture. "All you need is several high-intensity storms for damage to the creek and the creek bank."

Damage to St. Helena Creek along an 800-foot stretch near Middletown is being caused by root-balls, tree trunks, and gravel carried by storm runoff, the group said. The disrupted creek bed is sending turbulent water crashing into sensitive banks near residences.

"Andy Pedro's house is now about 10 feet from the creek," said Lake County District 1 Supervisor Helen Whitney. Volunteers such as Paul Carneggie, owner of Perry's Delicatessen, have already completed or begun projects to

protect streambanks and property along St. Helena Creek.

"Is it possible to plant too many willows?" Carneggie asked. "I've stuck in about 100 myself."

At least 25 large downed tree trunks, root-balls, and logs were removed from the creek during a two-week span following Jan. 26, said Earl Brown, ecosystem technician trainer for Lake County Career Center.

Combining forces, activists want to go beyond bits-and-pieces protection projects to a full-scale restoration of the entire streambed near Middletown, complete with reinforcements and enough willow trees to prevent future erosion.

Whitney said she envisions enough community involvement, including classroom laboratories in streambed areas, to eventually restore damaged areas along several other creeks in the Upper Putah Creek basin.

Lake County Office of Education's Olga Clymire is helping gear up the educational side of the project. "I have 14 core teachers instructing now on 'What is a watershed?'" Clymire said. "Kids could have a regular Saturday work day."

According to charts drawn by Brown, St. Helena Creek splits around shifting gravel islands into two narrow, rapid, fairly straight high-flow areas, one along each stream bank.

Creek

from page 1

said he has invested \$53,000 so far to install rip rap to stabilize the bank adjacent to his property.

Whitney suggested creekside property owners may wish to consider forming a special assessment district to finance long-term restoration efforts.

Middletown Times Star
January 25, 1996

...nce the federal...
 "This is the first generation where people don't think the same opportunities they had

...brenner, he also talked with members of the Lake County
See GOP, back page

...still under investigation. Photo of the two-engine Piper Seneca III airplane was Richard VanNatter.

...lowered, then it was towed from the runway for repairs.

...rough landing as Brian Ogram, president of the Lake County Elephants, looks on.

New round of jury selection begins in Klaas slaying suspect trial

Judge in Davis case setting a rapid pace

SAN JOSE (AP) — The judge in the trial of the man accused of killing Polly Klaas set a brisk pace as jury selection began Wednesday.

Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Thomas Hastings indicated early he was ready to get down to business, disposing swiftly of a defense complaint over buttons the Klaas family wore memorializing the dead girl.

"Let's not make it an issue," Hastings said, telling the family the buttons were not appropriate in the courthouse. "Let's get on and try the case."

About 80 prospective jurors were then shepherded into the small courtroom as the process of winnowing out hardship cases began.

Davis, wearing a crisp striped shirt and a pair of tortoise shell frame glasses that lent him a learned air, mainly kept his gaze straight forward, away from prospective jurors.

The trial is expected to begin in

mid-April and run four or five months.

Those who were able to convince the judge that serving as jurors for that long would cost them severely for financial, medical or other reasons were dismissed in rapid succession.

But more than 50 survived to enter the second phase of the process, filling out questionnaires designed to give attorneys an idea of whether they could sit in impartial judgment on defendant Richard Allen Davis.

Hastings spoke to the juror prospects Wednesday afternoon,

warning them not to talk about the case and to stay away from news accounts about it.

He read them the charges against Davis and told them they would have to keep an open mind until they had heard all the evidence.

He assured jurors they would not be sequestered.

Wednesday's procedures were expected to be repeated for several days. Lawyers were to begin questioning prospective jurors individually on March 4.

The first attempt to pick a jury stalled last year in Santa Rosa after judge ruled it would be impossible to select an impartial jury in Sonoma County, where the crime took place.

The trial was then moved to San Jose, about 100 miles south.

In Santa Rosa, problems were evident from day one as many jurors demonstrated they were not only intimately familiar with the high-profile case, but had already made up their minds that Davis was guilty and should be executed.

Board candidates to state cases at forum

By CRAIG JOHNSON of the R-B staff

LAKEPORT — Residents can learn more about candidates running for the Lake County Board of Supervisors districts 1, 4 and 5, at a forum to be held tonight.

The forum starts at 7 p.m. in the council chambers at Lakeport City Hall, 225 Park

St. Residents will hear from the candidates and will be allowed to ask questions.

"We're hoping all candidates will be there," said Melissa Fulton, director of the Greater Lakeport Chamber of Commerce.

Each candidate will be allowed a two-minute opening statement and a two-minute

closing statement, Fulton said.

The forum is co-sponsored by the Lake County Resort and Restaurant Association, the Lake County Record-Bee and the Greater Lakeport Chamber of Commerce.

Moderating the event will be Thomas Monigan, managing editor of the Lake County

Record-Bee.

Candidates running for the supervisor position representing District 1 include Chris Dawson, John Paskaly and Ed Robey Jr. In the District 4 race, candidates are Buzz Bruns and incumbent Karan Mackey.

District 5 candidates are Mike Linnell and incumbent D.W. "Bill" Merriman.

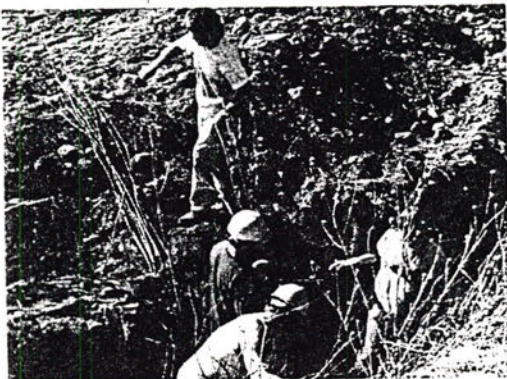
>INDEX

Anne and Nan	A2
Obituaries.....	A2
Opinion.....	A4
County news	A5
Sports.....	A6-7
Classified	A8
Comics	A9
Crossword.....	A9

FORECAST —



Yesterday's High: 67 Low: 4
 Weather, see page A2



—R-B photo by Dan Ryan

St. Helena Streambank Protection Project director Ed Brown, top, provides willow branches to line the creek bed which will prevent further erosion. The erosion was closing in on a nearby home. In the "trenches" are Albert Pinch, Richard Cheek and Chris Auld.

Volunteers, experts hope to save creekside homes

By ROGER PHELPS of the R-B staff

MIDDLETOWN — Volunteers and environmental experts took emergency measures Wednesday to protect property along St. Helena Creek.

The group pitched in to curb erosion damage near the residence of Andy Pedro at Washington and Jefferson streets.

At a meeting Monday of the St. Helena Creek Streambank Protection Project, local residents and officials from various county and federal agencies hatched a plan to defend properties threatened by swollen creek waters.

"A vertical creek bank is shearing off like slices of cheese," said Len Kashuba,

conservationist with the federal department of agriculture. "All you need is several high-intensity storms for damage to the creek and the creek bank."

Damage to St. Helena Creek along an 800-foot stretch near Middletown is being caused by root-balls, tree trunks, and gravel carried by storm runoff, the group said. The disrupted creek bed is sending turbulent water crashing into sensitive banks near residences.

"Andy Pedro's house is now about 10 feet from the creek," said Lake County District 1 Supervisor Helen Whitney. Volunteers such as Paul Carnegie, owner of Perry's Delicatessen, have already completed or begun projects to

protect streambanks and property along St. Helena Creek.

"Is it possible to plant too many willows?" Carnegie asked. "I've stuck in about 100 myself."

At least 25 large downed tree trunks, root-balls, and logs were removed from the creek during a two-week span following Jan. 26, said Earl Brown, ecosystem technician trainer for Lake County Career Center.

Combining forces, activists want to go beyond bits-and-pieces protection projects to a full-scale restoration of the entire streambed near Middletown, complete with reinforcements and enough willow trees to prevent future erosion.

Whitney said she envisioned enough community involvement, including classroom laboratories in streambed areas to eventually restore damaged areas along several other creeks in the Upper Putah Creek basin.

Lake County Office of Education's Olga Clymire is helping gear up the educational side of the project.

"I have 14 core teacher instructing now on 'What is watershed?'" Clymire said. "Kids could have a regular Saturday work day."

According to charts drawn by Brown, St. Helena Creek splits around shifting gravel islands into two narrow, rapidly flowing high-flow areas along each stream bank.

mile hitch.
fishermen are also reminded

years ago there would have been dozens of them out fishing with

high muddy water.

Narrows Lodge. All registration fees, less prize money and promotion costs, are given directly to the Upper Lake Fire Department.

Clear Lake Observer Feb. 8, 1996

ELRCD & Whitney plan St. Helena Creek restoration project

MIDDLETOWN — The Eastlake Resource Conservation District (ELRCD) and Helen Whitney, Lake County supervisor, are sponsoring a restoration project along St. Helena Creek.

The overall goal of the project is to bring the community together in a cooperative effort to stop stream bank erosion and flooding in the Middletown area.

"I'm pleased with the project," said Whitney, "because not only does the work get done for no cost or very little cost to the property owners along the creek, it also brings the agencies and community together to work as a team on other projects in the watershed. The work on St. Hele-

na Creek shows us projects are do-able. They just take cooperation between the agencies and the community. Also, the Putah Creek watershed has been largely ignored; but with adjudication of Putah Creek affecting so many of us as defendants and knowing there is a finite amount of water available for appropriation, coupled with the continual flooding problems we experience, there is a real need for us to take a proactive approach to managing our watershed."

On Jan. 26, action began on the St. Helena project as Earl Brown's JTPA crew cut and cleared debris from the creek. The debris had been clogging the channels and

diverting water, causing increased flooding and erosion. St. Helena Creek resident Leland Miller helped the crew by providing his winch, time and labor. Greg Conley of Middletown, a director of the East Lake RCD, is also volunteering his time.

Americorps' Chris Auld is project manager, working with Len Kashuba of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service).

Eastlake RCD agreed to be the lead agency, while NRCS and Lake County Flood Control will provide technical expertise. Earl Brown also offered the services of his job training crew. Other agencies, including California Depart-

ment of Fish and Game and Americorps, offered technical support and direct assistance to the community to address the continual flooding and erosion problems along creeks in the Upper Putah Creek Basin.

Another component of the organization is education. Olga Clymire, working through the Lake County Office of Education, was hired through a Watershed Awareness Program grant to be the Watershed Curriculum Specialist.

The next community meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 12, at the Middletown Firehouse on Highway 175.

VEHICLES DISCOUNTED BELOW BLUE BOOK* PREVIOUSLY OWNED VEHICLES SELECTION AND SERVICE • OVER 150 VEHICLES

*USED RETAIL BOOK

VEHICLES

100% FINANCING

ON APPROVAL OF CREDIT

LOW INTEREST RATES

4.6 V8

COME SEE THE ALL NEW '97 F150

Dual Side Doors

CUTLASS NOW 3991

WAGONS & VANS

93 ESCORT WAGON UC9728 • #123029 NOW \$8993



Bank restoration means more fish, biologist says

By ROGER PHELPS
of the R-B staff

MIDDLETOWN — A California Department of Fish and Game biologist painted a pristine picture of wildlife benefiting from restored banks along St. Helena Creek Monday, when a meeting was held at the South Lake County Fire Protection District to discuss the St. Helena Creek Restoration Project.

While the biologist, Rick Macedo, brought the good news, caution regarding the potential cost of the project was also a key theme at the 6 p.m. gathering.

District 1 Supervisor Helen Whitney, who spearheaded the project, told the group that cash outlay may be needed and

the amount would be less if creekside property owners cooperate.

The project has so far involved a work day in February during which dead trees and other debris were removed. "There has been no cost to property owners so far," Whitney said. "We're going for grants, but there may come a time when (property owners) need to work together so costs are more likely to be \$50 per owner than \$500 per owner."

Whitney said concerns of creekside property owners include vegetation growing in the middle of channels, thus heightening bank erosion, bulk water diversions, land-use changes, and, Macedo added, "permanent riparian corri-

dors."

Those corridors would allow deer and other wildlife to walk from one point to another, Macedo said.

And he piqued the interest of the group by saying the corridors could translate into better fishing, too.

"Before Berryessa Dam, steelhead came from the ocean and spawned in St. Helena Creek," Macedo said.

"We still have landlocked steelhead residing in Berryessa that come to St. Helena to spawn."

Then, a question from Whitney.

"If we restored creek banks, would we get more fish?"

"Yes," said Macedo.

ht
at
t,
St
e
ll
s
ar
s
op
ea
ce,
all
n
I
at
a
C. Sh
tritic
the
en
W
idren
th and
ns, "I
porting
Started
ude: "C
keswom
y day
car
o those
to help
y child
e able
to care
pro
s design
t
nunity
Ce
CC
Office
ll also
be
noming
s, fro
I at Mendoc
class session
in
Child
C
or existing an

bud Community Hospital Clinical Laboratory works with PHCA to provide this service to the community free of charge; the Laboratory donates both the labor and materials necessary for this screening.

Representatives from PHCA will be at each of the screenings to answer general medical questions. Persons over the age of 54 may sign up at the screenings for other free medical services provided by PHCA.

New adult classes offered at MHS

An exercise class is being offered at Middletown School District Adult Education starting Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 6:30 p.m., Jan 22 through April 3. This class will take place in the Middletown Multi-Use Room. Instructor is Jane Goad. This is a fee-based course not supported by state funds; the fee will be \$35. You may register at the class. Bring a mat or towel, and water.

An ESL-Citizenship class will also be offered. We would like to offer this free course for people wishing to prepare to take the citizenship test, those with a primary language other than English.

We will need at least 10 people to sign up in order to offer the class. It would run Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. Child care will be available. If you are interested in this course, please call our answering machine and leave your name and phone number: 987-4175.

Coming soon will also be: Helping Your Child Succeed in School and Word Processing on the Mac using ClarisWorks.

area residents have often delighted to the music of this group as members of the now-defunct *Cheek to Cheek* band.

A gala evening at the ball could make an ideal way to honor your Valentine, Jones says, adding that a

weekend at \$40 per person. Tickets will be in limited supply due to the size of the Hidden Valley Lake Country Club dining room, where the ball will be held. Call 987-9654, 987-2349 or 987-0497 for information.

Creek helpers organize

The first meeting of the community restoration project of St. Helena Creek is scheduled for Jan. 18 at the South Lake County Fire Protection District.

The meeting will focus on the possible remediation of flooding and erosion problems.

County Supervisor Helen Whitney and the East Lake Conservation District are sponsoring this event.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. and is expected to last until noon. A representative of the conservation district will be discussing the possibility of a creek restoration project between the Wardlaw Street Bridge and the 'Lipscomb Bridge.' If the community supports the projects then a community stewardship organization will be formed to oversee its progress.

The new organization will consist of elected local landowners who can address community concerns regard-

ing the restoration project and other public interest projects throughout the watershed.

Technical and physical services will be available from a variety of organizations including Whitney's office, the resource conservation district, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, **Americorps**, Lake County Flood Control, the state Department of Fish and Game and Earl Brown's job training crew.

In Addition, teacher Coral Zanin, of Middletown Middle School, will prepare a curriculum for students on the importance of creek and watershed management.

Anyone with an interest in this issue is encouraged to attend the initial meeting. More information can be obtained from Whitney at 263-3368, or from **Chris Auld** of the East Lake Resource Conservation District at 263-4180.

Hearing set for L.L. water Park

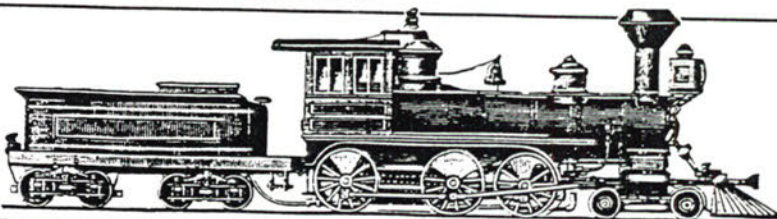
The county Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on plans for a water recreation park to be built in Lower Lake.

The park will feature water slides and other summer recreation. The 9-acre will be located in the 9200 block of Highway 53.

The Planning Commission meets

in Lakeport on Thursday, Jan. 25, in the Board of Supervisors chambers. The hearing is set for 9:05 a.m.

Another hearing is scheduled at 9:45 a.m. for Judy Hardester's proposal to place a double-faced outdoor advertising sign in the 18000 block of Highway 29,



Hidden Valley Lake Country Club Open to the Public

Buy a Business, Family or Individual Golf Membership by January 31, 1996 and **SAVE 50%** on initiation fee.

Call for more information 707-987-3035

1996
Age 25 to 69
You may save
big money
on your
auto insurance

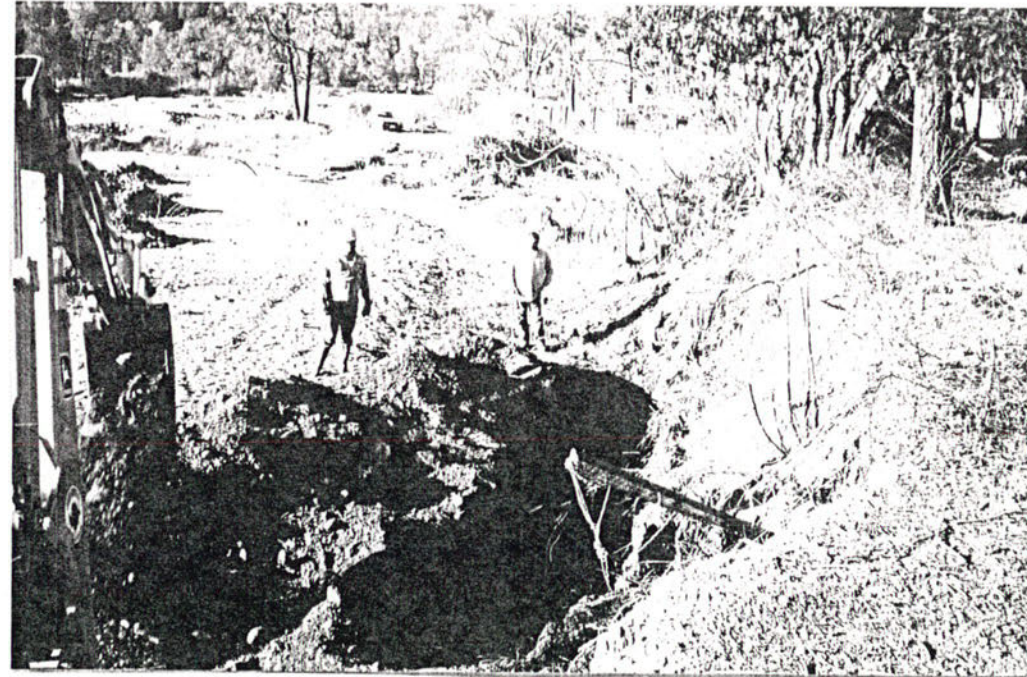
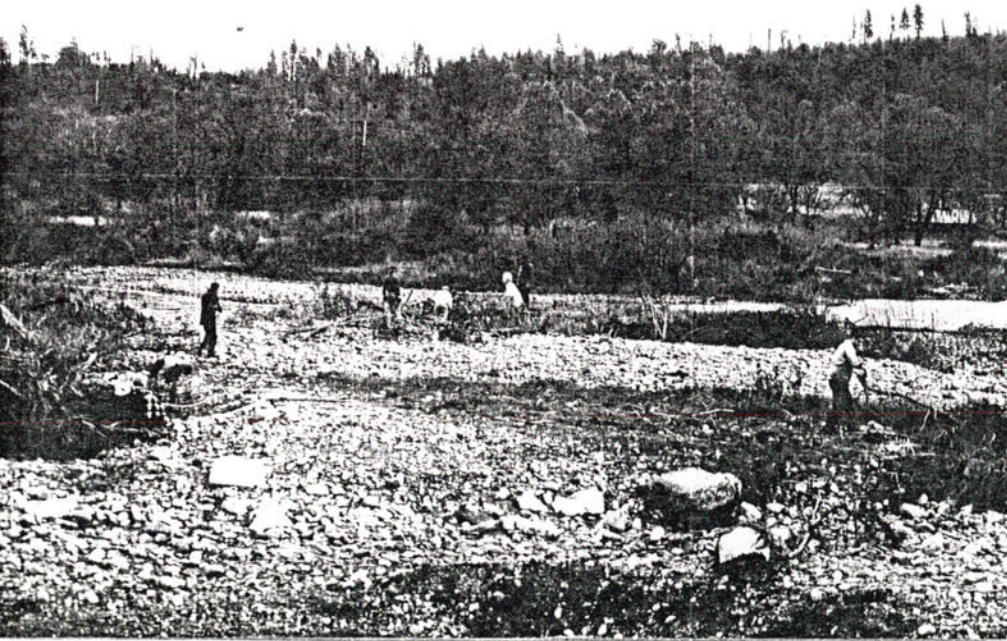
Married or single, qualified men and women may save plenty on car insurance with Farmers exclusive 30/60 Plus Package.

Why not check with Farm-

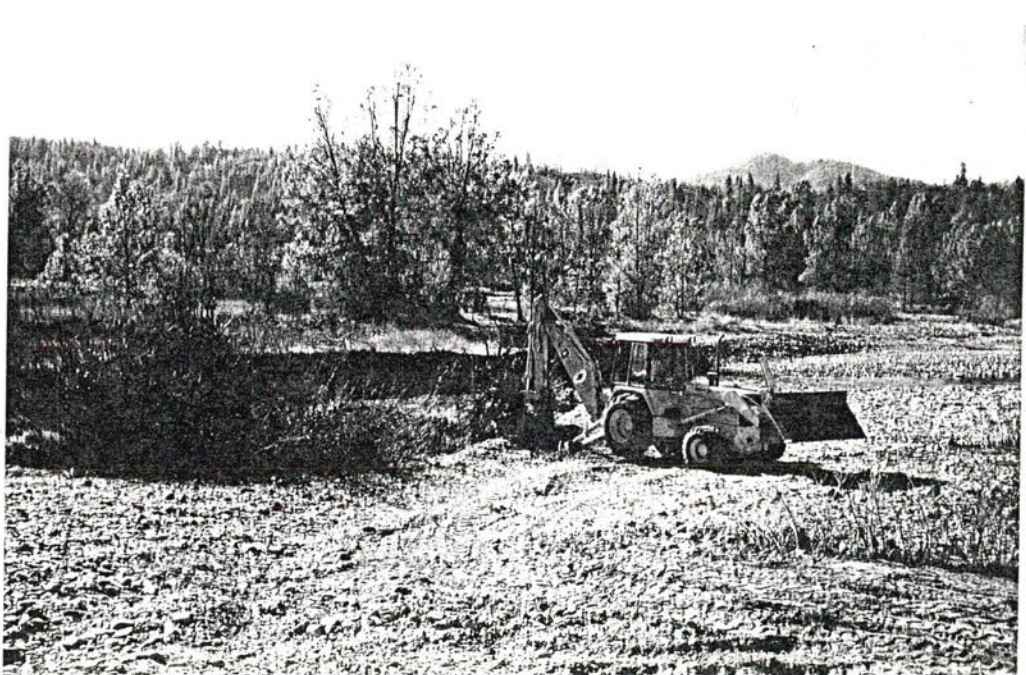
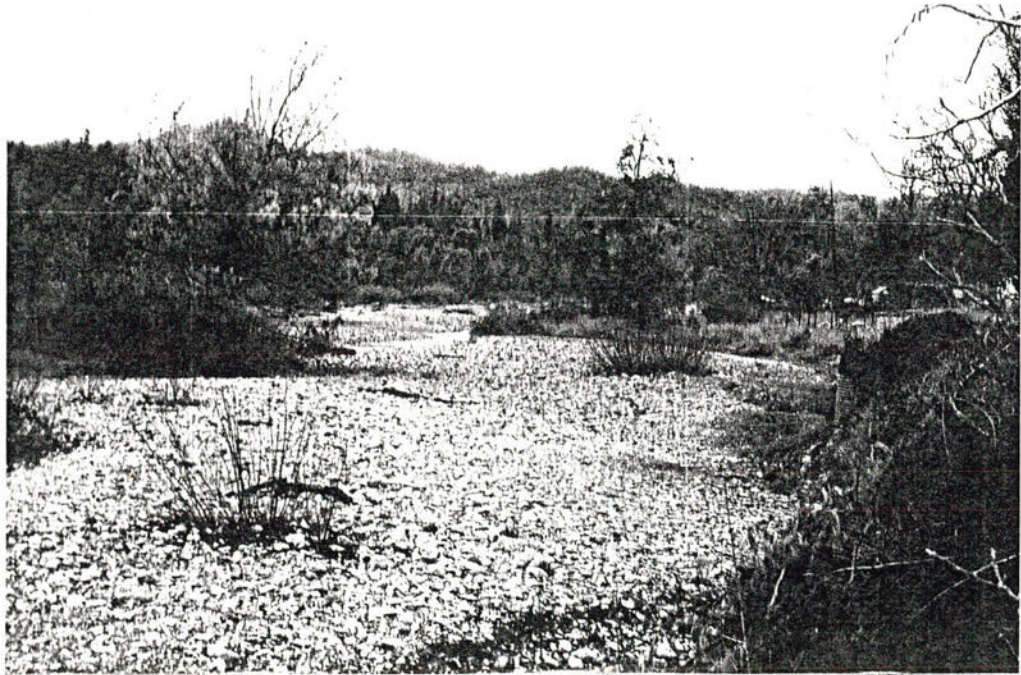
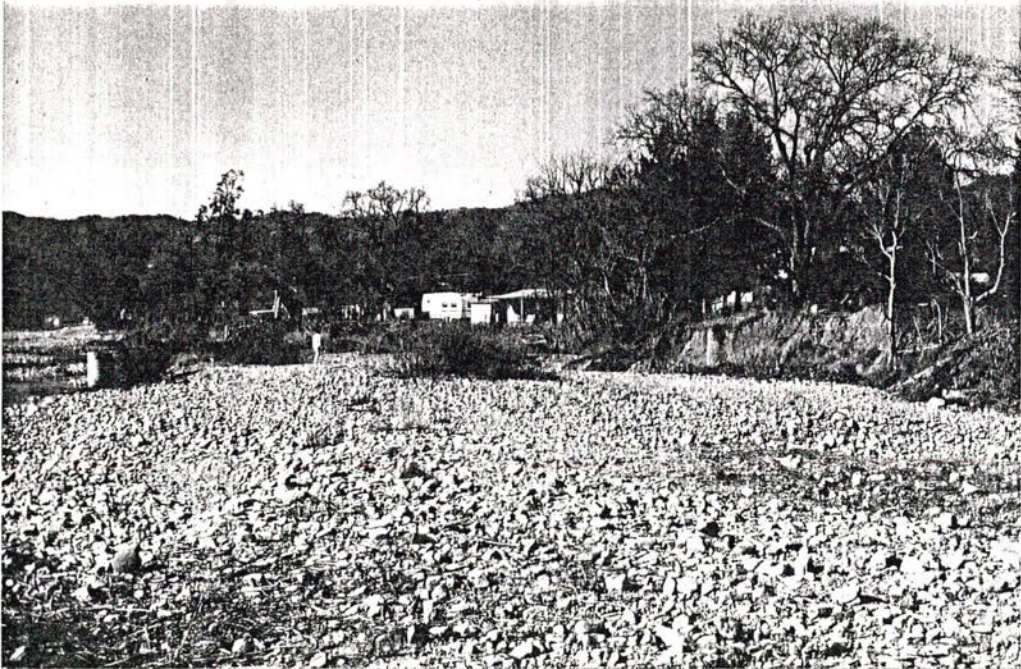
AmeriCorps



Community Involvement



UPS Restoration



AMERICORPS
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
883 Lakeport Blvd.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-4180

St. Helena Creek Restoration Project
(Wardlaw Street Bridge to "Lipscomb" Bridge)

This letter is a running journal/letter of what has happened along St. Helena Creek.

The goal of the Restoration Project is to bring the community of Middletown together to form a land stewardship organization by enhancing the condition of the St. Helena Creek and by educating on the importance of watershed management.

Soil and property erosion, flooding, habitat improvements, and riparian revegetation will be the primary focus for the enhancement of St. Helena Creek. The Natural Resource Conservation Service has agreed to develop a watershed team that will survey the creek and come up with the best practical remediation to help stop the erosion and flooding.

Education is another key issue to the remediation project. Already curriculum is being set up to educate students on the importance of watershed management. One of the main focuses of the Jan. 18th meeting was on educating the landowner on remediation practices and watershed management.

It is important now to give a brief history of the creek and the project. The Property Owners of the St. Helena Creek have been complaining for years over the constant flooding and land erosion the creek has been producing. The troubled creek has seen years of probable abuse from gravel extractions, mining, farming, etc. At one point, the creek meanders were believed to have been changed in order to straighten the creek. This change could have caused increase in creek flow, erosion, and flooding. Overgrazing practices could have also left the area with limited plant life along the creek banks and has caused further increases in erosion. In 1960 the creek was physically moved about 50 feet in order to put in a state highway. One year later large blowout areas were found around the creek.

Despite all the problems, limited restoration work has been done in this area. Len Kashubu of the National Resource Conservation District (NRCS) has put in some time working with individual landowners but only to have their efforts nullified by lack of maintenance and follow up from the landowners.

Recognizing this problem District Supervisor Helen Whitney proposed a community restoration project on the St. Helena Creek. It was discussed that I would act as project coordinator while the East Lake Resource Conservation District would act as the lead agency. Lake County Flood Control, NRCS, AmeriCorps, and Earl Brown's (Career Center) job training crew will all provide technical and physical services to the Middletown community. In addition Coral Zanin of the Middletown Middle School, Sonoma State University, and Olga Clymire Environmental Education Consultant will provide curriculum and physical service for training children on the importance of creek and watershed management.

The next step in the project was preparing for the meeting on January 18th. The importance of the meeting was to ensure the community understands that this is their project. It was, will and continue to be stressed that this is not my project, not ELRCD, and not Supervisor Whitney, but it is a community restoration project.

We decided to introduce to them the importance of watershed management, forming stewardships, and proper techniques in creek restoration. Next would hopefully be the community turn to express their concerns, ideas, and what they perceive to the future of their project. The end result was hoped that the community would form a stewardship that would not only serve the restoration project but will also continue on other public interest projects throughout the watershed. This stewardship would then be encouraged not to act as an advisory to any other agency but to act as their own separate entity. Later, the stewardship would be responsible for funding and developing watershed projects, while inviting other agencies to participate.

At the meeting, the community and local agencies began exchanging concerns and information on the creek. A large concern was focused on Andy Pedro's house and the possibility of it falling into the creek. To help in the situation, the Career Centers' Earl Brown volunteered the services of a training crew and the members of the meeting agreed that the crew should begin cleaning debris from the creek immediately.

The most successful development of the first meeting came from the local community. The community did agree to initiate a stewardship organization that can focus on controlling the restoration project and later expand to other project within the St. Helena - Putah Creek watershed.

After the meeting the job training crew began taking steps in helping clean the creek and on January 26 they began cutting and clearing debris from the creek. Volunteers from the local community also took part in the following days events. The local paper that has been kept updated on the project,

printed an article on February 1 with pictures of the workers and volunteers.

Other progress include Olga Clymire efforts to provide a watershed curriculum for the St. Helena Creek. One idea planned for the St. Helena Creek is to have a community restoration day. At this day federal and local agencies, teachers, private businesses and volunteers will set up workshops educating students and the public on watershed dynamics. The workshop will not only teach about the watershed but will also be centered around restoration work. An example may be a workshop on vegetation planting and why they are important. Other activity will be include but have not been defined at this time.

Private agencies are also becoming involved in the project. Real Estate 2000, located in Middletown, has help supply a listing of landowners along the St. Helena Creek. The information was used to send a letter to landowners about the upcoming meetings and possible ways to get involved. Also Jackson Equipment Co. helped by supplying equipment specifically a backhoe.

The backhoe was used on Wednesday February 14th to open a 4 ft deep trench to plant 11 willow baffles and a 100 ft long trench along the bank of the creek. Earl Brown, the JTPA crew, and other volunteers once again provide their services by cutting and planting the willows in the baffles the backhoe created. The willow planting created considerable publicity as community members came to check out what was happening and participate in the restoration. The project was written up in three local papers and cost a total of ten dollars (all on stamps informing landowners on the project.

Jim Branston of the California Department of Fish and Game said that he has no problem with using a backhoe in the project area as long as no water is entering the channel. The project area is in a dry channel that flows during flooding. He also stated that he would exempt us from any permit fees.

A second St. Helena Creek meeting was held on February 12th. At the meeting Earl Brown went over a possible design of a long term restoration project on the creek. Other ideas were expressed and it was confirmed that a survey will be completed by the NRCS during the first week of April. The NRCS will consider all information and then design their best version of a long term restoration.

An increase in attendance from the first meeting help to provide further momentum in organizing a community stewardship. Olga Clymire gave further information on watershed curriculum and other volunteers spoke on various other issues effecting the creek and the local community.

The next meeting is schedule for March 11.

The March 11 meeting was an even bigger event the first two meetings. Landowner attendance doubled in size from the last two meetings and increase awareness provide some interesting discussion. One interesting development was the structure formation for this organization which is now called the Upper Putah Stewardship (UPS).

The name was derived from the target watershed of the Upper Putah Creek and it is hoped that a 10 person committee will be in charge of the stewardship. The committee will consist of community members from the watershed and will direct local, state, and federal agencies to help in their efforts.

The stewardship efforts will be implemented by what we are going to call action groups. It will be up to the ten person committee to obtain the money, resources, and expertise to support a project while action group will be responsible for spearheading the project.

The intial and example project for this group will of course be on St. Helena Creek. One action group will be dedicated to the restoration of the creek. The group will be clearing debris, planting native vegetation for erosion control and shading. Another action group is dedicated to education of the Upper Putah Watershed. This group will be help to teach students and adults on the importance of watershed management and will sponsor workshops on erosion control, habitat improvement, water monitoring, and any other items within a watershed. It will then be up to the committee to coordinate efforts of the two groups so that the community can learn about watershed issues while protecting and restoring the creek. Coordinated efforts may include willow planting workshop that will take place on an eroded creek bed. Another action group in Hidden Valley for restoration work is currently gaining support.

Articles appeared in Lake County Record-Bee (March 12th) and Middletown Times Star (March 14th).

The next meeting will be held on April 19th. At this meeting the NRCS will present their findings from their survey which will be done on April 5th. Also Rick Macedo from the California Department of Fish and Game will be doing a presentation that will supplement the NRCS finding by including ways to improve the habitat while stopping erosion and flooding.

On April 5th the NRCS survey team attempted to survey St. Helena Creek. Unfortunately the team was unsuccessful due technique difficulties. The survey has been scheduled for May 1.

The next meeting for the UPS took place on Friday April 19th. Rick Macedo of the Department of Fish & Game was the guest speaker. Rick informed the UPS on the variety of life within Putah Creek. He also outlined the importance issue that the Dept. of Fish & Game are dealing within the Putah Creek Watershed.

Greg Giusti of the UC Cooperative Extension and Capt. Chris Godley of the Calif. National Guard were present and informed the group on their interest in the area. Giusti lectured on wildlife protection and prescribed burnings, while Capt. Godley lectured on how the Guard can help a community and volunteered the services of his equipment during restoration.

The major achievement of the meeting was the formation and sign-ups of subcommittees. It is hoped that these subcommittees will meet next month and get things done for the UPS. The St. Helena Subcommittee was already talking on when the can met to clean up the creek during the Middletown Clean Up day on June 1. The next meeting is skipping the month of May in hopes the subcommittees can met. The meeting is scheduled for June 3.

I hope this information will be useful to you and if you any questions please let me know. Also I would really like your input regarding anything you would like to see added or any problems you may see. If you want to reach me my number is (707) 263-4180.

Sincerely,

Chris Auld
AmeriCorps Member

State of California
The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

FISH POPULATION SURVEY

Putah Creek

LAKE COUNTY, 1988



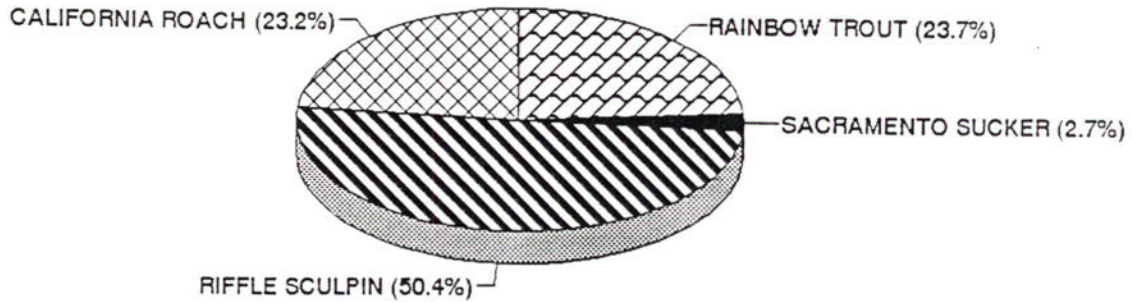
Prepared By

Richard A. Macedo

Fishery Biologist
Region 3

SITE #1

UPPER STATION



SITE #2

LOWER STATION

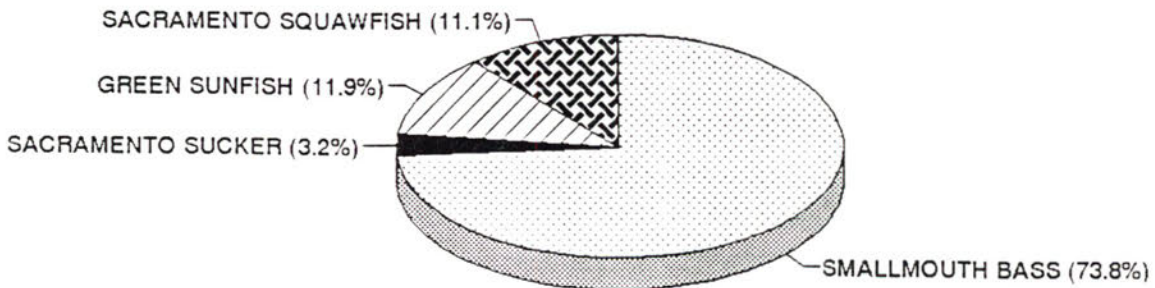


FIGURE 3. Species composition of fish captured at Sites #1 and #2, upper Putah Creek, Lake County.

pools, both biomass and average fork lengths for smallmouth bass and green sunfish would have been greater.

Summary and Suggestions Regarding Future Management:

Upper Putah Creek supports two primary sport fisheries; a coldwater fishery composed of rainbow trout and a warmwater fishery which supports smallmouth bass and green sunfish. The boundary dividing these two fisheries lies in the reach between the Highway 175 and Highway 29 bridges. This boundary is most likely dynamic depending upon the season. Cold winter flows are sufficient for sustaining trout all the way to Lake Berryessa. In fact, land-locked steelhead from Lake Berryessa are known to migrate up Putah Creek in the winter and spawn in main-stem Putah and its tributaries. Trout recovered at Site #1 may be the progeny of land-locked steelhead. Protection of this unique migratory fishery should be a primary goal of any agency having jurisdiction over activities in the upper Putah Creek watershed. Bridges, pipe crossings and other instream structures must be designed to permit fish migration and protect riparian habitat.

Lack of public access limits the potential for upper Putah Creek to become a popular recreational fishery. Acquisition of large areas would improve opportunities for both resident and non-resident anglers. Sections near and upstream of Site #1 have the potential of becoming Wild Trout Waters, however small sizes and limited public access may be insurmountable hurdles at this time. Tributary streams such as Anderson, Dry, St. Helena and Big Canyon Creeks also support self-sustaining trout fisheries and may be better suited for the Department's Wild Trout Program.

Sections of upper Putah Creek support one of California's more productive smallmouth bass fisheries. The potential of Putah Creek's smallmouth bass fishery is enormous. Unofficial public access exists at the Highway 29 bridge. Potential public access exists at the U.S. Coast Guard Loran Station. This facility may be abandoned and efforts should be made to ensure that public access is made available. To date, Coast Guard personnel limit most public access near the facility.

Water diversion projects in the Putah Creek watershed may have adversely impacted the streams fishery by: 1) reducing flows in the main-stem and some tributary streams; 2) increased the period that sections of Putah Creek and some tributaries remain dry during spring, summer and fall periods; blocked historic spawning and rearing habitat as a result of dams; and increased mortality as a result of inadequate screens and water velocities entering pump intakes. Collectively, water diversion projects in the Putah Creek watershed may be incurring cumulative impacts on the stream's fish and wildlife resources.

Instream flow studies and/or other applicable analyses are needed to determine optimum flows in Putah Creek and its major

tributaries. With this information, the DFG, SWRCB and other jurisdictional agencies would have information that could be used to set bypass flows and determine diversion seasons.

Sections of upper Putah Creek have been used by commercial miners to extract aggregate (sand and gravel) resources. In some cases, these operations have resulted in impacts to riparian habitat and loss of channel confinement. Well confined stream channels bordered with riparian habitat are optimal environments for fish and wildlife species. Future projects involving commercial gravel mining in upper Putah Creek should be conditioned to maintain channel confinement and protect riparian habitat.

UPPER PUTAH CREEK BASIN PROJECT AREA

COUNTY OF LAKE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Helen Whitney
District One Supervisor
255 N. Forbes St.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-2368

Supervision Whitney proposed
the project and is providing
project coordination

AMERICORPS

Chris Auld
Project Coordinator
883 Lakeport Blvd.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-4180

Chris is project coordinator

EAST LAKE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Frank Meisenbach and Greg Conley
Lead agency and overseer of project
883 Lakeport Blvd.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-4180

Frank and Greg will be supervising
the project

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Robert Cabalsi
Area Engineer
1301 Redwood Way, Suite 215
Petaluma, CA 94954
(707) 794-8692

Burt will provide technical assistance
and help provide a survey of the
creek

Len Kashuba
District Conservationist
883 Lakeport Blvd.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-4180

Len will provide technical assistance
And he is the local representative
for the NRCS

John Bennett
Field Office Engineer
405 Orchard Ave.
Ukiah, CA 95482

John will survey the creek and
and propose a long term
remediation plan

Tom Schott
District Conservationist
405 Orchard Ave.
Ukiah, CA 95482

Tom will supply technical support

CAREER CENTER

Earl Brown
Ecosystem Technician Training Supervisor
341 N. Main St.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 262-3406

Earl and a Job Training Crew
have provided technical
assistance and did supply the
man power during restoration

LAKE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL

Sue Arterburn

Director of Flood Control & Lake Management

Tom Smythe and Steve Why

Water Resources Engineer

255 N. Forbes St.

Lakeport, CA 95453

(707) 263-2343

The flood control team will supply support in flood protection and erosion control

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Jim Branston & Lynette Pedroncelli

Law Enforcement

(707) 263-4318

Jim and Lynette have been helpful in providing guidance on regulation for creek restoration

Rick Macedo

Biologist

(707) 928-4369

Rick will be helpful in providing information on improving wildlife habitat.

MIDDLETOWN RANCHERIA

Ivan Knight

Water Resources

Middletown Casino

(707) 987-0197

Ivan is helping to provide coordination interest between the project and the Indian Reservation.

LAKE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Olga Clymire

Environmental Education Consultant

1152 South Main St.

Lakeport, CA 95453

(707) 263-7249

Olga has begun setting up Watershed curriculum and is coordinating educational activities with Coral Zanin

MIDDLETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Coral Zanin, Tony Gallegos, & Judy Heywood

Watershed Education Coordinator

Middletown, CA 95461

(707) 987-4160

(707) 928-4017 Coral

(707) 928-5450 Tony

(707) 279-1484 Judy or (707) 987-4130 Work

Coral, Tony, and Judy are coordinating program along the creek and working on watershed awareness.

MIDDLETOWN TIMES STAR

Greg Kubelek

PO Box 1388

Cobb, CA 95426

Greg has been covering and giving his time to the project

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Ginger Fodge

1325 J Street

Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

(916) 557-5258

Ginger is helping provide guidance on regulation of creek restoration

JACKSON EQUIPMENT CO.

Joe Jackson
PO Box 699
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3660

Jackson Equipment Co. Provided a backhoe and their services to help construct willow baffle along the creek

REAL ESTATE 2000

Ed Breazeale
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-2003

Ed has provided us with a complete listing of all the landowner on the creek

CALTRANS

Don Rivers
PO Box 545
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3158

Don Rivers is interested in helping and solving problems involving the the freeways

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Cleve Dufer
(707) 966-2111 Lake
(707) 994-1802 Home

Cleve works in Lake Berryessa area and has a personal interest in helping the UPS

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

Capt. Chris Godley
1960 Camino Del Prado
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 323-4744

Capt. Godley will attempt to provide heavy machinery during restoration and give guideness in UPS formation.

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Greg Giusti
Agricultural Center/Courthouse
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 463-4495

Greg is supporting the UPS and its efforts

VOLUNTEERS

Andrew B. Pedro
P.O. Box 432
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3244

Andy's house lies in area of considerable concern and where the restoration will begin

Paul Carneggie
21308 Calistoga
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 546-7403

Paul is owner of Perry's Deli and has completed a restoration project on the creek

Don Parriott
P.O. Box 204
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3637

Don has been helpful in providing information about the creek

Joan Buchholz
P.O. Box 9714
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-0497

Joan is interested in helping teach about the importance of watershed management

Leland & Billii Miller
P.O. Box 552
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3472

Leland & Billii has already donated the services of their truck, winch, and time to help clean out the creek

Elsie Mackesy
Teacher
PO Box 55
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-2921

Interested educator

Frank Haas
Callayomi County Water District
(707) 987-2180

Frank is the director of Callayomi Water District and is interested in the St. Helena Creek

Robert and Florence Hacharison
PO Box 1106
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-0586

Robert and Florence are concerned with their property on the St. Helena Creek.

Bill Reed
Lake County Fish and Wildlife Committee
PO Box 205
Cobb, CA 95461
(707) 928-5036

Bill is an advisor to the Lake County Fish & Wildlife and is interested in helping coordinating efforts

Betty & Russ Huff
20653 St. Hwy. 53
Middletown, CA 95461

Betty & Russ are owners along the creek and are interested in stopping erosion on the creek

John Klier
JTPA Crew Member
2607 Hendricks Rd.
Lakeport, CA 95453

John has spent two full weeks working on the creek

Craig B. Barnette
JTPA Crew Leader
315 Walnut Dr.
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 263-3432

Craig was the onsite supervisor for the first portion of the restoration project and is interested in volunteering

Steven R Hoffman
JTPA Crew Member
607 1st Street
Lakeport, CA 95453
(707) 262-0978

Steve has spent tow weeks working on the creek and is interested in volunteering to help effort in the Upper Putah Creek.

Ronnie Williams
JTPA Crew Member
PO Box 834
Upper Lake, CA
(707) 275-2906

Ron has spent two full weeks working

Richard Thomas
PO Box 117
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-2227

Richard has expressed interest in the project

Ken McNamara
PO Box 1022
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-9338

Ken has agreed to use his dump truck during creek restoration

Chris Dawson
PO Box 996
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3637

Chris has helped coordinate the efforts of the former St. Helena Creek Riparian Water Users and the Upper Putah Stewardship

Dwight & Joelle Holford
24067 Hilderbraind
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-2600

Dwight and Joelle are interested in volunteering their time and efforts to help maintain the creek

Win Horne
22000 Hwy 29
Middletown, CA 95453
(707) 987-3743

Win is the owner of Horne Winery and is interested in protecting his land on St. St. Helena Creek

Ed Robey
PO Box 796
Lower Lake, CA 95461
(707) 994-4649

Ed is interested in the project as it effects the area

Ray Domergue
21252 Calyome
(707) 987-3254

Ray is interested in project as it is affecting his property

Dennis "Mickey" & Lisa Aiello
15998 Main St.
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-9319

Mickey and Lisa are intersted in donating time to help stop the erosion

Frank Yodi
PO Box 83
Middletown, CA 95461
(707) 987-3520

Frank is interested in the project



707/263-2343
FAX 707/263-7748

STEVE WHY
WATER RESOURCES PROJECT COORDINATOR
**Lake County Flood Control
& Water Conservation District**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

255 N. FORBES STREET
LAKEPORT, CA 95453



707/263-2364
FAX 707/263-7748

SUE A. ARTERBURN, P.E.
DIRECTOR
**Lake County Flood Control
& Water Conservation District**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

255 N. FORBES STREET
LAKEPORT, CA 95453



707/263-2343

**Lake County Flood Control
& Water Conservation District**

THOMAS R. SMYTHE
WATER RESOURCES ENGINEER

255 N. FORBES STREET
LAKEPORT, CA 95453



**LAKE COUNTY
CAREER CENTER**

EARL BROWN
Ecosystem Management Project Coordinator
(707) 262-3406

341 North Main Street
Lakeport, California 95453

(707) 263-0630
FAX (707) 263-0920



(707) 263-4180

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH:
**EASTLAKE RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
AND
WESTLAKE RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

LEN KASHUBA
DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST

883 LAKEPORT BLVD.
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

AMERICORPS

CHRISTOPHER AULD

SPONSORED BY:
USDA - NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
EAST & WEST LAKE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
883 LAKEPORT BLVD.
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

(707) 263-4180

FAX: 263-0912



Olga N. Clymire
Environmental
Education
Consultant

Lake County Office of Education
1152 South Main Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

(707) 263-7249 • Fax (707) 263-0197
E-mail: olganc@pacific.net

C-LINE #61217
BUSINESS CARD

FYI

**USDA SUMMER OF GLEANING
MEMBER AGREEMENT OF PARTICIPATION IN
AMERICORPS SUMMER PROGRAM**

Whereas, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) have jointly entered into this agreement to promote national and community service among the citizens of the United States to help meet human, educational, environmental, and public safety needs, particularly those related to poverty.

Whereas, the mission of the USDA AmeriCorps Program is to engage a diverse group of Americans in working partnerships with communities to provide real and measurable service to meet environmental and human needs, while earning education benefits and building an ethic of service, responsibility, and citizenship.

Whereas, USDA actively supports the development of the nation's youth through programs such as AmeriCorps.

Therefore, the USDA will operate its AmeriCorps Program to further objectives of mutual civic obligation.

AUTHORITY: This agreement is entered into pursuant to the authority of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 as amended (42 U.S.C. 12501 et. Seq.), Public Law 103-82.

I. Purpose

It is the purpose of this agreement to delineate the terms, conditions, and rules of membership regarding participation in the USDA AmeriCorps Summer of Gleaning Program. This agreement is hereby entered into on this _____ day of _____, 1996, between the USDA Subgrantee _____ (hereinafter referred to as the "Program") and _____ (hereinafter referred to as the "Member").

II. Minimum Qualification

The member certifies that he/she is a United States citizen, lawful permanent resident alien and at least 17 years of age and has not been previously terminated for cause from another AmeriCorps Program. Lawful permanent resident aliens must have a valid "Alien Registration Receipt Card," INS Form I-551 or I-151.

III. Term of Service

(a) The Member/Team Leader's term of service begins on _____ and ends on _____. The end date may be extended upon the mutual agreement of the program and the member.

(b) The regular member must complete 480 hours of direct community service in order to be eligible for the education award. In addition to the 480 hours of direct community service, the USDA term of service includes 16 hours of personal leave and 16 hours for Federal holidays. This makes the USDA Term of Service 512 hours for regular members. If a member does not use any of the personal leave and all of the holiday hours, s/he will receive a payment for the unused hours. The required number of service hours must be completed in no less than 10 weeks.

© The member understands that in order to be eligible for serving a second term of service, s/he must receive satisfactory performance reviews for any previous term of service. The member's eligibility for a second term of service will be based on at least a mid-term and end of term evaluation of his/her performance focusing on factors such as:

(1) completed the required number of hours;

(2) satisfactorily completed assignments, tasks, or projects; and

(3) met any other criteria that were clearly communicated both orally and in writing at the beginning of the term of service.

(d) the member understands, however, that mere eligibility for an additional term of service does not guarantee selection or placement. The member will have to apply and be considered with any other applicants applying for positions.

(e) the member may serve more than 480 hours of direct service if the USDA Director of National Service approves an extension but the member will not be eligible for more than the one education award and the amount of the education award can not exceed \$1,000.

(f) The team leader must complete 480 hours of direct community service in order to be eligible for the education award. In addition to the 480 hours of direct community service, the USDA term of service includes 16 hours of personal leave and 16 hours for Federal holidays. The team leader will also be available for an additional 40 hours for training and program evaluation. This makes the USDA Term of Service 552 hours for team leader. If a team leader does not use any of the personal leave and all of the holiday hours, s/he will receive a payment for the unused hours. The required number of service hours must be completed in no less than 11 weeks.

IV. Benefits

(a) The member will receive from the Program the following benefits --

(1) A living allowance of \$2,242, if the member is not a designated team leader. A living allowance of \$3,466 if the member is a designated team leader. In both cases the allowance will be distributed over the term of service (less tax withholdings).

(b) Upon successful completion of the member's term of service, the member will receive an education award of a value of \$1,000.

(1) Prior to using the education award, the member agrees (in the event the member has not yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent, including an alternative diploma or certificate for individuals with learning disabilities) to obtain a high school diploma or its equivalent (unless the member is enrolled in an institution of higher education on an ability to benefit basis or the Program has waived the requirement due to the results of the member's education assessment).

(2) The member understands that his/her failure to disclose to the Program any history of having been released for cause from another AmeriCorps Program will render the member ineligible to receive the education award.

© If the member has received forbearance on a qualified student loan during the term of service, and the member has successfully completed the term of service, the National Service Trust will repay any interest that accrued on the loan during the term of service.

V. Rules of Conduct

The member agrees to act in conformance with, and abide by, all current and future rules and procedures established by USDA. The AmeriCorps Summer of Gleaning Program member further agrees to act in conformance with and abide by, the provisions of 7 CFR Part 735. Members must not misuse government property and must conform to the specific limitations of use of such property and must conform to the specific limitations of use of such property while on official Federal government business.

(a) the member is expected to, at all times while acting in an official capacity as an AmeriCorps Member:

(1) demonstrate mutual respect toward others;

(2) follow directions;

(3) direct concerns, problems, and suggestions to the appropriate Program official, and

(4) not engage in any activity involving proselytizing or assisting religious organizations, attempting to influence legislation or an election or aid a partisan political organization, helping or hindering union activity, or aiding a business organized for profit;

(5) follow all safety instructions and use safety equipment.

(b) At no time may the member:

(1) engage in personal use of government vehicles, property, tools, equipment, or telephones;

(2) possess or use any and all forms of addictive or hallucinatory drugs, including, but not limited to amphetamines, barbiturates, cocaine, marijuana, etc.;

(3) consume or be under the influence of intoxicating beverages on or in government-owned or leased property/vehicles; or transportation of such beverages in government vehicles;

(4) use abusive, vulgar, or discriminatory language, including verbal/sexual harassment toward fellow members, staff, supervisors, or other official contacts;

(5) destroy government or personal property of others;

(6) fail to comply with a supervisor's instructions, unless these instructions are clearly illegal or unsafe;

(7) transport family members, pets, or any unauthorized personnel in government vehicles;

(8) engage in any activity that is illegal under local, State, or Federal law;

(9) engage in activities that pose a significant safety risk to others.

© the member understands that following acts will also constitute a violation of the Program's rules of conduct:

(1) unauthorized tardiness;

(2) unauthorized absences;

(3) repeated use of inappropriate language (i.e. profanity) at job site;

(4) failure to wear appropriate clothing to service assignments;

(5) stealing or lying;

(6) engaging in activity that may physically or emotionally damage other members of the program or members of the community; or

(7) failure to notify the Program of any criminal arrest or conviction that occurs during the term of service.

(d) For violating the above stated rules, the program will do the following (except in cases where during the term of service the member has been charged with or convicted of a violent felony, possession, sale, or distribution of a controlled substance) --

(1) for the member's first offense, an appropriate Program official will issue a verbal warning to the member;

(2) for the member's second offense, an appropriate Program official will issue a written warning and reprimand to the member;

(3) for the member's third offense, the member may be suspended for one or more days without compensation;

(4) for the fourth offense, the Program may release the member for cause.

(e) The program reserves the right to impose any one of the above sanctions regardless of the number of the offense (first, second, or third) if the Program determines that the violation is serious enough to warrant a more severe sanction than that listed above for the number of offense committed

(f) The member understands that s/he will be either suspended or released for cause in accordance with paragraphs (b), (d), and (e) of section VI of this agreement for committing certain acts during the term of service such as being convicted or charged with a violent felony, possession, sale, or distribution of a controlled substance.

VI. Release from Term of Service

(a) The member understands that s/he may be released for the following two reasons:

(1) for cause, as explained in paragraph (b) of this section; or

(2) compelling personal circumstances as defined in paragraph © of this section.

(b) The Program will release the member for cause for the following reasons:

(1) the member has dropped out of the Program without obtaining a release for compelling personal circumstances from the USDA AmeriCorps Taskforce in Washington, D.C.;

(2) during the term of service the member has been charged with a violent felony or the sale or distribution of a controlled substance;

(3) the member has committed a fourth offense in accordance with paragraph (d) of section V of this agreement; or

(4) any other serious breach that in the judgment of the Director of the Program would undermine the effectiveness of the Program.

(C) The Program may release the member from the term of service, due to compelling personal circumstances if--

(1) the member has a serious injury or illness that makes completing the term of service impossible;

(2) there is a serious injury, illness or death of an immediate family member and the member is needed to care for that family member or take over the duties of the family member;

(3) the member is drafted by the Armed Services of the United States; or

(4) some other circumstance occurs that makes it impossible or very difficult for the member to complete the term of service and the USDA Director of National Service deems that circumstance to be compelling.

(d) the program will suspend the member's term of service for the following reasons:

(1) during the term of service, the member has been charged with a violent felony or the sale or distribution of a controlled substance. (If the member is found not guilty or the charge is dismissed, the member may résumé his/her term of service. The member, however, will not receive back living allowances or credit for any service hours missed.)

(2) during the term of service, the member has been convicted of a first offense of possession of a controlled substance. (If the member, however, demonstrates that s/he has enrolled in an approved drug rehabilitation program, the member may résumé his/her term of service. The member will not receive back living allowance or credit for any service hours missed.)

(e) The Program may suspend the member's term of service for violating the rule of conduct provision in accordance with the rules set forth in paragraph © in section V of this agreement.

(f) If the member discontinues his/her term of service for any reason other than a release for compelling personal circumstances as described in paragraph (b), (d), and (e), the member will cease to receive the benefits described in paragraph (a) of section IV and will receive no portion of the education award or interest payments.

(g) If the member discontinues his/her term of service due to compelling personal circumstances as described in paragraph (b) of section V of this agreement, the member will cease to receive benefits described in Section IV. If, however, the member has completed at least 15% of the required service hours (135 service hours) the member will receive a pro-rated portion of the education award or interest payments described in paragraphs (b) and © of section IV.

VII. Grievance Procedure

(a) The member understands that the Program has a "grievance procedure" (outlined in the USDA Operations Manual as amended) to resolve disputes concerning the member's suspension, dismissal, service evaluation or proposed service assignment;

(b) The member understands that, as a participant of the Program s/he may file a grievance in accordance with the Program's grievance procedure.

VIII. Program's Responsibilities to Members

- (a) Select all AmeriCorps Members in an impartial and non-discriminatory manner that bolsters AmeriCorps' vision of diversity;
- (b) provide AmeriCorps members with approved handbooks, documents, and forms needed to follow the provisions of AmeriCorps and the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993;
- (c) provide AmeriCorps members with the orientation, training, technical assistance, and supervision necessary to complete their service activities;
- (d) provide all AmeriCorps members with ongoing education and instruction needed not only to perform their specific service projects, but to grow and develop as citizens, community problem-solvers, and developing professionals;
- (e) design and coordinate service projects for AmeriCorps members so that the members will continuously have productive and useful service projects in environmental or human needs;
- (f) structure work schedules to ensure that AmeriCorps members will be reasonably able to perform 480 hours of service within twelve weeks;
- (g) treat all AmeriCorps members with respect and provide them with the guidance, support, discipline, and counseling they reasonably require to perform AmeriCorps service;
- (h) work with AmeriCorps members to develop mechanisms through which the AmeriCorps members can have significant input and impact upon service assignments, rules of conduct, and all other aspects of the AmeriCorps Program; and
- (i) provide other additional support and services to ensure the success of all programs.

IX. Amendments to This Agreement

This agreement may be changed or revised by written consent by both parties.

X. Certification

By signing this agreement the member certifies that:

1. If s/he has served in a previous AmeriCorps program, that fact has been revealed to the project director/manager, and if s/he was released for cause from the previous AmeriCorps program, that fact has also been disclosed.
2. S/he understands that the law places restrictions on the purposes for which the education award can be used and that generally its redemption is limited to qualified loans (those covered by Title IV of the Education Act of 1965) and **cannot be transferred to another person or used to pay off general loans even if those loans were used to pay education expenses. S/he further understands that they cannot be given a cash payment in lieu of an education award administered by the National Service Trust.**
3. S/he understands that by signing this agreement s/he is making a commitment to complete the full term of service and that receipt of the education award is contingent upon the successful completion of the full term of service. If s/he should choose to leave before the completion of the service, regardless of how many hours have been completed, s/he is NOT eligible for any part of the education award.
4. S/he understands that s/he is not covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act and is not eligible for overtime pay. For example, s/he is not eligible for overtime pay for time worked in excess of eight (8) hours in a day or forty (40) hours in a week although such times does count toward completing the required term of service.
5. S/he understands s/he is not a Federal employee and that the service hours do not count toward any Federal retirement program computations nor does s/he obtain any special status with respect to seeking a Federal job on the basis of having successfully completed a term of service.
6. S/he understands that this program is subject to the availability of government funds and that should those funds not become available, the program would be terminated. It is further understood that the program may be subject to a temporary shut-down in the event of a Government shut-down.
7. S/he understands that the receipt of the \$1,000 education award constitutes one full education award and that after receiving/earning this award the Member is only eligible for a maximum of one more education award with a maximum award amount of \$4,725. In other words, members in the USDA AmeriCorps Summer of Gleaning Program can earn the \$1,000 award and then be eligible if they enter another year long AmeriCorps program to earn one full-time award in the amount of \$4,725. In such a case the maximum education awards the member could earn would be \$1,000 plus \$4,725 for a total of \$5,725. Whereas someone who participated in two full year programs could possible earn two awards each worth \$4,725 for a total of \$9,450.
8. S/he understands that they should retain a copy for their personal files of all forms they sign while in the program.
9. S/he understands that as members in a program and not employees they are not eligible for unemployment compensation upon termination of all or part of their term of service.

XI. Authorization

The Member and Program hereby acknowledge by their signatures that they have read, understand, and agree to all terms and conditions of this agreement and the rules and regulations of the Corporation for National Service.

_____ Date _____
AmeriCorps Member

_____ Date _____
Project Director

Draft

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Katherine

Renovating the home of disabled Hinds County Senior Citizen

AMERICORPS MEMBERS RENOVATE HOME OF ELDERLY WOMAN

U.S.
U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Rural Economic and Development (RECD) AmeriCorps members are playing a key role in the renovations taking place at an elderly Hinds county woman's home. Ms. Dorothy Coffee, a 64 year old disabled woman, received a grant totaling \$6,500 from Rural Economic and Community Development for repairs to remove health and safety hazards from her home. Renovations being done come as a result of an effort begun almost ten months ago of AmeriCorps members Charlet Meredith and LaDonna James.

*RECD
Renovations are the result of the efforts begun almost*

The members first met Ms. Coffee in April of 1995. The AmeriCorps team was interested in performing minor repairs renovations to a home in rural Mississippi as part of 1995 National Day of Volunteering. Ms. Coffee had applied for a loan through RECD in 1992 but was ineligible because of lack of income and location of her home. Meredith knew that Ms. Coffee's home would require more time and funds than were available to the team for National Day of Volunteering, but were determined to see the necessary repairs completed.

was

Meredith researched the file on Ms. Coffee and found that county lines had been redrawn since the time Ms. Coffee had made her application and her home was no longer out of the RECD service area. "Once we knew that Ms. Coffee was in an area where we could help her, the problem was how to go about doing it. If Ms. Coffee applied for another loan she would again be turned down on the basis of her income. I went back to RECD procedures for the grants, and found out that the homeowner had to be 62 years or older, no to little income and the home needed removal of health and safety hazards." *Meredith said*

???

Harris Building and Roofing Company in Hazlehurst, MS secured the bid for renovations. George Harris, owner, of the construction company, surveyed the home and estimated that necessary repairs would exceed \$13,000. In order to work within the \$6,500 grant Mr. Harris could only eliminate extreme health hazards. Harris agreed to work with the AmeriCorps members in an effort to maximize repairs to the Coffee home. AmeriCorps members were able to maximize Ms. Coffee's grant by providing labor and donating materials to the contractor.

the AmeriCorps members, RECD's

USDA/RECD/Hinds County Supervisor ~~W.~~ Cecil L. Williams, Jr. says of volunteers, "RECD's grant does not provide for cosmetic improvements such as paint and cabinet work. The AmeriCorps members have not only made Ms. Coffee's home safer but more valuable."

(more)

When asked how she felt about the renovations, ~~being done to her home~~ Ms. Coffee ~~says~~, "People used to tell me not to complain about the way my house looked because some people didn't have anywhere to stay. By the time I met them I had given up hope on having my house repaired."

AmeriCorps members will be on site daily from February 20 until all repairs are completed. RECD sponsors 13 AmeriCorps Members throughout Mississippi. Members serve a minimum of 1,700 hours of ~~community service~~ in exchange for a small living allowance and future educational benefits.

In addition to AmeriCorps members from RECD and NRCS, *the National Resources Conservation District,* volunteers from Jackson State University and nearby neighbors. ~~We have over 230 hours toward the completion of this project.~~ *helped with this project*

230 hours the workers have worked more than
AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program, passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages 25,000 Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that meets critical community needs in return for an award which may be used for college, job training, or to pay back students loans. The majority of AmeriCorps Members are working in partnership with states, local governments and non-profit organizations.

USDA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is running three types of AmeriCorps teams in 45 states, composed of approximately 1,350 Members: an Anti-Hunger Team, a Public Lands and Environment Team, and a Rural Development Team. Many of the AmeriCorps projects are sponsored by community-based organization and all projects are designed to get things done while boosting community, opportunity, and responsibility.

[Handwritten signature]

Betty Oliver

F04601-965-5460

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

...the way by which I have been able to...
...by the time I had been given a hope of having my house repaired.

Americorps members will be on site daily from February 20...
...all repairs are completed. RECD sponsored a...
...Americorps Members throughout Mississippi. Members serve a...
...minimum 100 days of community service in exchange for a...
...small living allowance and future educational benefits.

In addition to Americorps members from RECD and WRCS...
...volunteers from Jackson State University and nearby...
...neighbors. We have over 300 hours toward the completion of...
...this project. *helped with the project*
...Americorps, President Clinton's national service program...
...passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages 25,000...
...Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that...
...meets critical community needs in return for an award which...
...may be used for college, job training, or to pay back...
...students loans. The majority of Americorps Members are...
...working in partnership with states, local governments and...
...non-profit organizations.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is running three types of...
...Americorps teams in 45 states, composed of approximately...
...1,350 Members: an Anti-Hunger Team, a Public Lands and...
...Environment Team, and a Rural Development Team. Many of the...
...Americorps projects are sponsored by community-based...
...organization and all projects are designed to get things...
...done while boosting community, opportunity, and...
...responsibility.

Handwritten initials

**RECEIVED
FEBRUARY 20 1993**

Handwritten signature

601-965
5460

601-965-5460

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

Amer-Assist

Helping You Get Things Done

How to Get the Message of AmeriCorps to America

By Bobbi Fischer

AmeriCorps projects are making a difference in people's lives all over the country, but nobody seems to know about these important programs. With the federal government looking carefully at every expenditure, it is more important than ever before that AmeriCorps members demonstrate the value of their work in communities across the nation.

One of the most effective ways to publicize AmeriCorps projects is through the media. Newspapers, magazines and radio and television stations are hungry for good stories, and thus provide the best arena for getting the AmeriCorps message to America. AmeriCorps members throughout the country are learning how to access the media and inform the public about projects that support education, the environment and the health and welfare of Americans.

The most important component of successful media relations is to recognize and build on the fact that success comes from establishing an ongoing relationship with the press, providing ideas for stories on a regular basis and being responsive to reporters when they call. Ongoing communications can include press releases, public service announcements, opinion editorials, letters to the editor and other media outreach activity.

There are two main ways to get a story into the media. One easy method is to develop an angle for the subject that hooks

it onto a recent, major news event such as the post-traumatic stress that may result from a natural disaster. The other method is to piggyback your story onto a local or national trend such as the way schools and communities are forming partnerships. Depending on time, pitches (suggestions for stories) can be by telephone, in the case of an immediate situation, or by pitch letter, when the news is more of an ongoing issue. The pitch letter may be strong enough to stand alone, or a press release and/or press kit containing fact sheets and other information may be included to provide background.

Make sure you identify the AmeriCorps members who will act as media spokespeople for your program. Develop "talking points" for these spokespeople. These points are simply the key messages that tell your story. Be sure to include a description of AmeriCorps so that reporters will understand a program in context. Provide spokespeople with media training to help these individuals succinctly—and successfully—get important points across.

Media representatives receive an average of over 100 pieces of mail each day, so telephone follow-up is usually a good idea. The caller must never be pushy, which may alienate the reporter. Also, the caller should listen to the reporter to discover the angle that will most appeal to that particular individual. Sometimes, the reporter will talk about stories he/she is working on; note how current stories may apply to the story being pitched.

Because telephone pitching is selling an idea, it takes a great deal of positive energy. The person pitching the story generally has less than 10 seconds to make a point before the reporter tunes out. In addition, the reporter must be given enough information to "sell" the story

Message Out, continued on next page

INSIDE • Volume 1 • Number 1 • April 1996
Media Relations
Promoting AmeriCorps
Surviving & Thriving



AMERICORPS PROJECTS SUPPORT THE NATIONAL ROAD

Five-member team makes excellent progress in National Road highway beautification, National Register nominations for historic taverns and historic districts in communities along the Road, and development of educational programs for students in school districts along the National Road corridor.

The Fayette County AmeriCorps Team has spent the winter months actively engaged in projects aimed at satisfying some of the team's outlined objectives. Many of these activities are designed to encourage tourism-related heritage development within the National Road Heritage Park (NRHP) corridor, and to elicit community awareness of, support for, and involvement in the projects.

Dump-site and junkyard clean-up campaign

One team member has begun work on a comprehensive dump-site and junkyard clean-up initiative. Preparation for launching this campaign included surveying some of the junkyards along the road and researching ways to remedy the visual and environmental pollution caused by these sites. Application was made for a grant to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to secure funding for this project.

Educational Summit

Another team member has been planning a summit conference to be held in March at the Fayette Campus of Penn State University. The purpose of the conference is to introduce local teachers to the educational potential of the National Road and the Youghiogheny River Trail as field classrooms. Several speakers from fields as diverse as geology and theater will discuss how the resources found in the two corridors can be incorporated into existing curricula.

Low-interest loan program for rehabilitation of historic structures

One team member has secured a commitment of \$100,000.00 from a local bank to support a low-interest loan program for property owners along the National Road. The program will make low-interest loans available to property owners interested in historically sensitive rehabilitation of their residences and places of business. Several other banks have been contacted requesting their support and at least two have expressed strong interest in the program. Applications to participate in this loan program will be available from the National Road Heritage Park office by Spring. Watch for an announcement in future issues of *The Milepost*.

Survey of commercial property owners along the National Road

Work on a survey of commercial property owners along the National Road is ongoing. The completed survey will serve as a basis for future economic development planning by the NRHP. Two team members have developed a database to store this information at the NRHP headquarters. Two other team members have begun to survey several businesses in Washington County which were not visited by the NRHP intern last Summer.

Flatiron Building Brochure

A team member completed a promotional brochure for the historical museum to be developed in the Flatiron Building in Brownsville after the building has been restored.

Automobile-Era Interpretive Center

A team member has been planning for the development of an automobile-era

interpretive center for the NRHP. The adaptive reuse of an historic automobile showroom and garage has been selected as the site for the project. The owners of the building are working with the National Road on the project. In addition to conducting further feasibility research, a team member has written a grant request to be submitted to DCNR to fund the acquisition and stabilization of the building in 1996.

Grant funding sought for additional projects

A team member also submitted applications to DCNR for grants for two additional NRHP projects, the acquisition of an historic schoolhouse along the National Road, and the installation of an informational kiosk at the I-79 welcome center in Washington County.

Historic District Nominations

Historic District nominations for Centerville and Scenery Hill are nearing completion. During the coming month, a team member will finalize the building inventories and hold public meetings to discuss the proposed districts prior to submitting the nominations.

Signage for the National Road

Two team members met with representatives of Penn-DOT engineering District 12-0 to discuss a signage program for the NRHP. A plan for

continued on page 16

AmeriCorps, continued from page 9

developing and installing directional signage identifying the original route of the National Road was agreed upon.

Rehabilitation Projects

The team continued to meet with representatives of the East End Community Center in Uniontown regarding AmeriCorps assistance in the rehabilitation of their facility. Team members are also seeking other potential residential facade improvement projects along the YRT and NRHP corridors. To be eligible a home must be located within view of either the National Road or the Youghiogheny River Trail; the repairs must be exterior and limited in scope; and the site must be available for work this spring and/or summer.

Pike Festival planning

Team members have also been involved in planning the Pike Festival, scheduled to take place May 16-19. They have developed a student art and essay contest, designed banners for homes and businesses, and are planning some entertainment events. Announcements for the art and essay contest were sent to all elementary and middle schools in districts along the National Road in early February. Pike Festival banners will be available for purchase in mid-March.

For more information about the AmeriCorps team or any of the above projects, contact team members at the NRHP offices by phone (412) 329-1560 or fax (412) 329-1561.

JUN 19 1996



DOWN EAST
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
(RC&D)

VACATIONLAND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

P O Box 210
Cherryfield ME 04622

Phone: (207) 546-2368

FAX: (207) 546-2369

SPONSORS

Town of Bar Harbor

June 17, 1996

Town of Brooklin

Town of Bucksport

Jane Lamson
USDA AmeriCorps
Down East RC&D
PO BOX 210
Cherryfield ME 04622

City of Calais

Town of Cherryfield

City of Eastport

City of Ellsworth

Hancock County Commissioners

Dear Jane,

Hancock County Extension
Association

On behalf of the Down East RC&D's Vacationland Resources Committee, I would like to congratulate you and the Washington County students on the latest edition of the "Washington County Environmental Newsletter."

Hancock County Planning
Commission

Hancock County Soil & Water
Conservation District

Town of Machias

It is clear we don't have to explain the concept of ecotourism to these young people - someone already has! Their thoughts are creative, meaningful and most caring toward our environment and all living things. From cautioning about daily or too frequent whale watching tours to pointing out the economic benefits of tourism, these students show they have put much thought into this subject. I love the quote, "Ecotourism means...that we devote the same amount of caring to our travels that we would to our own homes."

Town of Millbridge

Town of Sullivan

Washington County
Commissioners

Washington County Extension
Association

Washington County Regional
Planning Commission

Washington County Soil &
Water Conservation District

Everyone connected with this newsletter is to be commended for a fine job. Perhaps we can use excerpts from this or a future publication during our next spring conference?



Sincerely,
Joanne Williams
Joanne Williams

Committee Chair
VISION STATEMENT OF THE VACATIONLAND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Maine USDA AmeriCorps End of Service Retreat



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

*June 17 - 19, 1996,
Greenland Point Center
Princeton, Maine.*

Greenland Point Center is a rustic lodge located in Princeton, Maine and administered by the University of Maine at Machias (directions and map on following pages). Participants will be staying in cabins with bunks, but must bring their own sleeping bag / linens, pillows, and towels. The facility is equipped with indoor bathrooms and running water, but these facilities are separate from the cabins so you may want to bring a flashlight for those midnight trips to the bathroom! Also, pets are not allowed at GPC (just in case you were thinking about bringing yours).

Greenland Point is also equipped with canoes, swimming facilities, and hiking trails which will all be at our disposal, so please bring the proper gear. Fishing is allowed if you have a valid State of Maine license, but you will have to bring your own gear. Also, please note that we will be hiking through the woods for a few of the sessions so you will want to bring the proper boots, bug spray, and binoculars.

AGENDA **Monday, June 17**

(NOON) :	Arrive and eat lunch
1:00 - 2:00 PM:	Resume writing: short presentation by Richard Baird and Mike Tardy, then tips and advice on personal resumes.
2:00 - 3:30 PM:	Reflection and discussion on the AmeriCorps year
3:30 - 5:00 PM:	Free time
5:00 PM:	Dinner: Cook out and awards ceremony.

Tuesday, June 18

7:00 AM:	Breakfast
8:00 - 9:00 AM:	Work styles: North, South, East, West.
9:00 AM:	Leave for Grand Lake Stream Atlantic Salmon Hatchery
9:30 - 10:30 AM:	Tour Hatchery
10:30 AM:	Return to GPC
11:00 - Noon:	Free time
Noon:	Lunch
1:00 - 3:00 PM:	Forestry Practices discussion.
1:00 - 1:30 PM:	Geneva Duncan, Maine Forest Service; History: Forest Practices Act
1:30 - 2:00 PM:	Paul Donohue, Ban Clearcutting.
2:00 - 2:30 PM:	Patty Cormier, Georgia Pacific.
2:30 - 3:00 PM:	Q & A
3:00 - 5:00 PM:	Myers - Briggs
5:00 - 6:00 PM:	Free time
6:00 PM:	Dinner
7:30 PM:	OPTIONAL trial Interviews with Richard Baird and Dana Nelson.

Wednesday, June 19

7:00 AM:	Breakfast
8:00 - 9:00 AM:	Free time
9:00 - 9:30 AM:	Travel to Moosehorn
9:30 - Noon:	Tour Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge
Noon:	Lunch at Moosehorn
1:00 PM :	Depart

Attention!!

If you would like some advice on your resume, please bring it along. Also, we would appreciate it if some of you could send your resumes in to Karen a few weeks early so that we can use them as examples during the resume session. Be warned that good and bad examples may be taken from your resume if you send it in.

Directions

From the North

Proceed through the town of Princeton. The road is called West Rd. and is on your right after a red house. Once on West Rd., look for signs on your right for Greenland Point Center (these are fairly small). The road is a dirt road and will take you straight to GPC.

From the South

Look for West Rd. on your left. There is a red house immediately after the road and this is a good thing to look for as well. If you get to the main drag in Princeton, you have passed the road. Once on West Rd., look for signs on your right for GPC (they are quite small). The road is a dirt road and will take you to GPC.

File

September 6, 1994

To: Lou

From: Joel

JB

9 pages, including this cover

I just received this Mississippi information, and, as promised, I have comments within a few hours.

Feel free to fax my memo to Heaslip or relay the information to him by phone, whichever you believe to be most appropriate.

I will continue to provide feedback in this way.

Thanks.

September 6, 1994

To: Lou
From: Joel
Subject: **Final Steps in Recruitment, Part II**

I just received the attached information from Mississippi. It represents some really good work --- particularly in some excellent community service objectives --- but I have some concerns:

- 1) Again, the names are presented in a vacuum by agency and by state. How do these applicants relate to the SCS, FmHA, and RDA applicants? Even if the other agencies are not ready with their applicants, how do these FS applicants relate to the LA and AR FS applicants?
- 2) The applicants are 80% African-American and do not represent a socio-economic mix of the area.
- 3) It is unclear which objectives will apply to which AmeriCorps members and it is unclear where they will be based.
- 4) One objective is to "Expand Empowerment Zone Activities" in Greenville. This is impossible, since the Empowerment Zone locations have not been named and will not be named until. Thus, all such references should be either deleted or include the disclaimer: "If this area is named as an Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community."
- 5) The MS Christian Family Service Center is listed as a participating agency. We must be sure that participants working with them do not engage in prohibited activities.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	re: non-selection (1 page)	09/02/1994	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
AmeriCrops
General Files
OA/Box Number: 24229

FOLDER TITLE:

USDA [Department of Agriculture]/AmeriCorps Progress Reports, 1995-1996 [1]

2013-0661-F
rc3052

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Northwest Mississippi



RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AREA

Post Office Box 313, Stoneville, MS 38776
Telephone (601)686-9850

PLAN OF WORK AMERICORP PROGRAM

Fiscal Year: 94&95

Objective Statements:

1. Improve living conditions through technical assistance with rural sewer systems and urban forestry in the MS Delta. Cleveland-2
2. Evaluate, expand and/or publicize existing recycling projects in the Delta. Belzoni-2
3. Transfer and demonstrate modern timber bridge technology. Greenville-1
4. Conduct and establish community planning programs in Delta. Stoneville-2
5. Expand Empowerment Zone activities. Greenville-1
6. Reforestation of bottom land in the MS Delta. Stoneville-1
7. Americorp coordinator/teamleader. Stoneville-1

Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery,
Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Washington, Yalobusha, and Yazoo Counties, Mississippi

RC&D financial and technical assistance is offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap.

Northwest Mississippi



RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AREA

Post Office Box 313, Stoneville, MS 38776

Telephone (601)686-9850

MISSION STATEMENT:

This program seeks to make significant changes in the livability of communities in the Mississippi Delta by enhancing natural resource base opportunities, strengthening community leadership, and expanding transportation to create sustainable local economies.

ANNUAL OBJECTIVES:

- *To establish a recycling center utilizing mentally and physically challenged adults, creating employment.
- *To identify, ^{survey, & design} demonstration sites for timber briges and write grants for construction.
- *To assist communities in the development of a comprehensive improvement plan.

Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery,
Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica, Washington, Yalobusha, and Yazoo Counties, Mississippi

RC&D financial and technical assistance is offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap.

Objective 1 - Improve living conditions through technical assistance with rural sewer systems and urban forestry.

Components of Objective Statement:

-
- 1) Activity- Members will assess communities to indentify inadequate sewer systems and methods to incorporate Urban Forestry in 10 MS Delta counties. Members will assist sponsors with securing funding for tree planting and up-grade rural sewage systems.
 - 2) Result- Counties will have detailed information describing this community issue. Partnerships will be formed to correct 6 critical sites. Local, State and Federal funds will be coordinated to correct the problem.
 - 3) Measure of Quality- All projects will be reviewed by State Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Health, and MS Forestry Commission.
 - 4) Successful if- 80% of critical sites secure funding.
70% of recipients are in a socially and economically disadvantaged group.
 - 5) Number of Beneficiaries- 1,200 individuals and 6 communities.

TASKS TO BE PERFORMED:

- A) Develop standard DATA collection form.
- B) Assess community needs by meeting with local leaders.
- C) Surveying specified communities.
- D) Identify potential sponsors.
- E) Assist sponsors with securing funds to implement project.

Participating Agencies

Soil Conservation Service
Northwest RC&D Inc.
Farmers Home Administration
North Delta Planning & DD
South Delta Planning & DD
Local & County units of Government
Delta Council
Leland Tree Board
Mississippi Forestry Commission(MFC) .

Technical Advisor Group

Clarence Finley, RC&D
James Curcio, NDP&DD
Leland Tree Board
MS Forestry Commission(MFC)

Objective 2- Evaluate, expand and/or publicize existing recycling projects in the Delta.

Components of Objective Statement:

- 1) Activity- To implement a county wide recycling program in Sharkey/Issaquena counties That will reduce landfill space requirement by 25%, which will be required by law in Mississippi in 1995.
- 2) Result- Project will educate people about the environment and recycling. Will reduce the space needed for landfills by 25%. Project will create employment for the physically and metally challenged.
- 3) Measure of Quality- Data will be collected to show 25% reduction in landfills.
- 4) Successful if- Project is successful if 25% less waste is going into landfills. A tally of quantities sold will be kept to evaluate the project.
- 5) Number of Beneficiaries- The entire population in Sharkey/Issaquena counties.

TASKS TO BE PERFORMED:

- A) Find source to take recyclable materials.
- B) Secure funding source
- C) Coordinate community support.
- D) Assist sponsors with a collection plan.
- E) Educate community.
- F) Monitor the progress.

Participating Agencies

MS Christian Family Service Center
Community Recycling
Northwest MS RC&D, Inc.
Local & County Officials

Technical Advisors

Franklin Co. Recycling
U.S. Forest Service

Objective 3- To identify demonstration site and demonstrate modern timber bridge technology.

Components of Objective Statement:

1) Activity- To improve the transportation system in rural communities by using modern timber bridges to replace deficient bridges. Americorp members will assess the existing bridges in 3 counties in the MS Delta. Members will assist sponsors with securing funding to construct demonstration timber bridges. *Survey & design*

2) Result- Reliable and safe transportation in rural communities. Modern timber bridge information and technology transferred.

3) Measure of Quality- All work plans will be approved by the State Department of Transportation. U.S. Forest Service Engineers will review and approve designs.

4) Successful if- All the projects are funded.
80% of county officials and engineers become familiar with the modern timber bridge.

5) Number of Beneficiaries- 2,000 individuals

TASKS TO BE PERFORMED:

- A) Meeting local officials to discuss program.
- B) Survey deficient bridges.
- C) Help sponsors complete grant application.

Participating Agencies

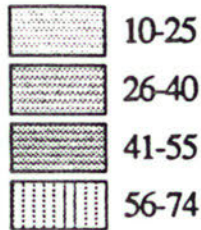
U.S. Forest Service
Soil Conservation Service
Local & County Government units
Northwest MS RC&D, Inc.
MS Forestry Commission

Technical Advisory Groups

U.S. Forest Service
County Engineers
Soil Conservation Service

Map 2. Percentage of Deficient Bridges Per County in Mississippi, 1993
(Sufficiency Rating less than 50).

Percentage of Deficient Bridges



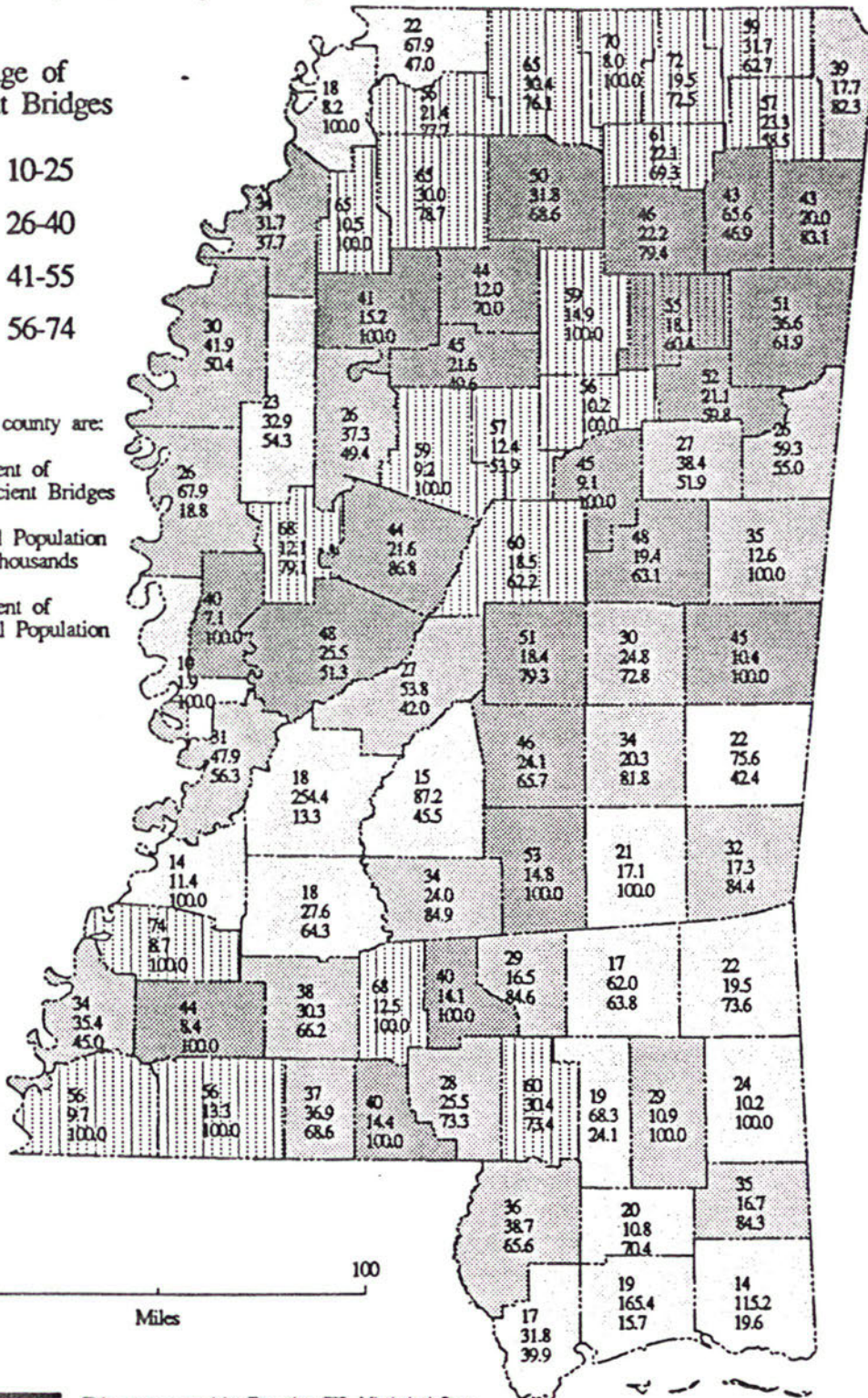
Values per county are:

- 00 - Percent of Deficient Bridges
- 00.0 - Total Population in Thousands
- 00.0 - Percent of Rural Population



COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
SERVICE

This map prepared by Extension GIS, Mississippi State University - Cooperative Extension Service. Extension GIS does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. Map prepared January 1994.



From: Joel Berg
To: AWEBB, BWOLF, SIESNET.SIES1.CMACIAS, SIESNET.OSEC....
Date: 4/4/96 9:15am
Subject: Preliminary AmeriCorps Talking Points for Secretarys Food Chain Speech

Because I am leaving the country Friday for two weeks, I wanted to make sure everyone had preliminary talking points about the AmeriCorps component of the Secretary's announcement at Food Chain on April 19. My staff will provide any additional information about specifics.

Of course, any of this information could be folded into not only his speech, but into the press release.

I am also drafting a sample local press release. I believe we should issue a customized release for each media market in which we are going to have a summer AmeriCorps project.

Lastly, we need to finalize whether we want simultaneous announcements from the Members of Congress whom will have AmeriCorps gleaning projects in their districts and/or states this summer. Because the Congressional Hunger Center is already so heavily involved in our efforts, we may definitely want to involve Tony Hall.

CC: KGIBNEY, NSERVICE2, NSERVICE1, WDC-ASCS.ASCS_PO6.C...

PRELIMINARY TALKING POINTS ON AMERICORPS GLEANING PROJECTS FOR THE SECRETARY'S
FOOD CHAIN SPEECH ON APRIL 19, 1996

* As you know, AmeriCorps is the President's national service program --- a kind of domestic Peace Corps that allows Americans of all backgrounds to serve their communities in exchange for an educational awards that can be used to pay for college, graduate school, job training, or to pay back existing students loans.

* While the vast majority of AmeriCorps projects are NOT sponsored by Federal agencies, I am extremely proud that USDA runs the largest single Federal agency component of the program. This year, we will sponsor up to 1,300 AmeriCorps Members serving in 45 states in projects fighting hunger and improving nutrition, boosting rural development, and protecting the environment.

* The USDA AmeriCorps program has already begun successful gleaning and perishable food rescue projects. For instance, the Illinois Rural Development Team AmeriCorps Team sponsored by the Farm Services Agency plans to provide peas, green beans, potatoes, and sweet corn to some 25 needy families in the Mason County area this year through a gleaning program. Representatives from food processing companies and vegetable farmers have become partners in this project. The 5-Member USDA AmeriCorps Team will recruit area volunteers to harvest and distribute the vegetables, and an Extension Service course on the proper care and freezing of these foods will be offered to the recipient families.

* In Washington, D.C., USDA's AmeriCorps Anti-Hunger Team is continuing for the second year its very successful gleaning project in partnership with the Washington Area Gleaning Network (WAGN). During the first year, hundreds of bushels (512 bushels on one day alone!) of fresh produce were picked and distributed to local soup kitchens and shelters, such as Bread for the City, Martha's Table, So Others Might Eat, and the DC Central Kitchen. This year's gleaning project has already expanded to include the harvest of fresh fruits (apples) in the distribution process, and has established a regular monthly commitment to work with WAGN during harvesting seasons.

* Other USDA/AmeriCorps anti-hunger programs are also involved in various types of food rescue and distribution programs across the country, such as salvaging thousands of loaves of day-old bread from grocery stores in Burlington, VT to be donated to local food shelves (pantries) there; helping to allocate foods, collected through massive food drives, to the Milwaukee area pantries; and contacting the hundreds of restaurants and fast-food outlets in the Los Angeles area to encourage them to participate in the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank's very successful "Second Helpings" program, a city-wide perishable food rescue effort.

* Given that our AmeriCorps gleaning pilot projects seem to be succeeding marvelously, I am excited to be able to announce today that USDA will be sponsoring an AmeriCorps Summer of Gleaning in which we will create special summer projects that will dramatically expand AmeriCorps involvement in

gleaning and perishable food rescue activities.

* We will sponsor _____ (need number) AmeriCorps Members serving in _____ (need number) projects in _____ different states. The projects will be in (list all project sites: _____

* The projects will last for twelve weeks each and Members will receive a \$_____ (need number) living allowance for the summer. If they successfully complete the 12 week program, they will also receive a \$1,000 educational award.

* Every project would be a volunteer generator model, utilizing a handful of AmeriCorps Members to recruit many more non-compensated volunteers. The goal is for most of the sites to continue gleaning in future years even without an AmeriCorps project. At each site, non-profit organizations are being engaged as full partners.

* The diversity of projects planned for this summer is impressive. (Need examples of specific summer projects.

*Any citizen or permanent resident of the United States age 17 or older can apply for this program. Anyone interested can call 1-800-880-4183 for more information and for an application.

* Lastly, I am today announcing a National Day of Gleaning on _____ (need date) on which AmeriCorps members and gleaning activists will coordinate private citizens around the nation in gleaning activities.

From: Joel Berg
To: CRAY,MPHIPPS
Date: 3/22/96 5:11pm
Subject: Events Commemorating Oklahoma City Bombing

On April 19 --- the one year anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing --- our AmeriCorps Members in Claremore, Oklahoma will be planting trees in memory of the victims.

On April 23 -- the National Day of Service ---- AmeriCorps Members in Oklahoma City will be helping restore a school damaged by the bombing.

Let me know if the Secretary might want to attend one of these events.

Also, given the strong symbolic impact of these two events, I would like to recommend that perhaps the President, VP, or First Lady should attend one of the events.

I will provide more details as I have them.

MARTIN T. MEEHAN
5TH DISTRICT MASSACHUSETTS

318 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3411

COMMITTEES
NATIONAL SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY READINESS
SMALL BUSINESS
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAXATION AND FINANCE

CO CHAIRMAN
NORTHEAST MIDWEST CONGRESSIONAL COALITION
CO CHAIRMAN
CONGRESSIONAL MANUFACTURING TASK FORCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-2105

July 17, 1995

DISTRICT OFFICES
11 KEARNEY SQ
LOWELL, MA 01852
(508) 459-0101

BAY STATE BUILDING
11 LAWRENCE ST
SUITE 312
LAWRENCE, MA 01840
(508) 681-6200

WALKER BUILDING
255 MAIN ST
ROOM 102
MARLBOROUGH, MA 01752
(508) 460-9292

Mr. Joel Berg
USDA
Office of the Secretary, Room 538A
14th and Independence SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Berg:

I am writing to endorse the application by the Nashua River Watershed Association for interns through the Americorps program.

I feel the Nashua River Watershed Association is critical to the environmental well-being of my Congressional District. Active throughout Eastern Massachusetts, the program provides citizens with the knowledge and resources that empower them to save endangered watershed areas. In the twenty-five years the program has been in existence, the Nashua River Watershed Association has made important progress in the fight to save our precious natural resources.

I believe the Nashua River Watershed Association would be a strong addition to the Americorps program, and urge you to give their application all appropriate consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 508-459-0101.

Sincerely,



Marty Meehan
Member of Congress

MM:kpr

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

ESPIRIT D'AMERICORPS

A Newsletter About and For AmeriCorps/USDA Members and Staff



March 6, 1996

From the Field

A Visit with the Los Angeles Anti-Hunger Project

(Editor's Note: The Department of Agriculture has AmeriCorps members in more than 300 locations nationwide and staff members from the Washington office are continually making visits to these sites. From time-to-time, these staff members will give an account of how they saw our Members getting things done all across America.)

BY DONNA HINES

AMERICORPS/USDA DIRECTOR ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS

On my recent trip to California, I had the pleasure of visiting with USDA's AmeriCorps anti-hunger project in Los Angeles, run by the Southern California Interfaith Hunger Coalition (IHC).

and individuals break out of the poverty cycles that keep them spinning, homeless outreach and referrals, etc.

Upon reflection, it occurred to me that two of the strongest common threads linking every one of these 40 Members and the staff of IHC together are their unflinching enthusiasm for the work they are doing, and the unshakable conviction that they are performing service that can never be reduced to mere dollars and cents.

Donna Hines

IHC operates a 40-Member project in the Los Angeles area (including the nearby San Fernando Valley) that runs the gamut of anti-hunger activities: outreach and assistance to WIC and Food Stamp applicants/recipients, gleaning and community gardening, nutrition education for schoolchildren and elderly persons, micro enterprise efforts that help low-income families

DURING THE COURSE of my day-long visit, I sat in on an interview with a young homeless woman who hadn't eaten in two days and had no way to feed her toddler; observed a planning session at the University of Southern California's Business Enterprise Network (BEN), where a small group of Members will be teaching students in an alternative high school the basics of entrepreneurship (starting a business); discussed with another group of Members their plans for the Second Annual Youth Anti-Hunger Conference, which is expected to be even bigger than the 1,000-student turnout they had last April; watched as one of the largest food banks in the country gratefully accepted the Team's help in revamping its community garden, and made plans for Members to solicit restaurants and fast-food producers as participants in its food rescue program; and participated in the ground breaking for a garden that will provide fresh vegetables to young and expectant mothers staying in a shelter adjacent to IHC's offices. The youngest mother at the shelter is all of 11 years old.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

(2)

I also talked with the other Team Members, who were eager to tell about their current projects, such as School Breakfast (Start Your Head), Summer Feeding, and nutrition education presentations in the Los Angeles schools -- outreach and advocacy work with low-income families who are having problems with the established public assistance structure -- and a wide variety of other projects that made me tired just to hear about them! At a reception later, I had the opportunity to talk with the Members again, as well as to meet some of the organization's key partners in L A.

UPON REFLECTION, it occurred to me that two of the strongest common threads

linking every one of these 40 Members and the staff of IHC together are their unflinching enthusiasm for the work they are doing, and the unshakable conviction that they are performing service that can never be reduced to mere dollars and cents.

These Members are not only feeding people's bodies -- they are engaged in feeding their minds, and their dignity, and maybe even their very souls, and somehow in this process, they are feeding their own as well. It was an incredible, and incredibly short, visit, but it reminded me of what we are all here to do, and refueled my excitement about doing it.

AmeriCorps and its Peace Corps predecessor join forces

AmeriCorps and its predecessor -- the Peace Corps -- joined forces on March 1, with current and former Members of both organizations working side-by-side in community service projects across the country to celebrate the international agency's 35th anniversary.

In Washington, D.C., Members of AmeriCorps/USDA's Anti-Hunger Team were joined by former Senator Harris Wofford, the CEO of the Corporation for National Service, at the Rudolph Elementary School. **Members Tim Forbes, Gerrie Wiggins, Willie**

Wilson, Craig Speller painted bathrooms at the school. The poor conditions in the bathrooms of city's public schools had recently been the subject of an article in the *Washington Post*.

The Anti-Hunger Team Members teach nutrition education in elementary and junior high schools, work with soup kitchens, food banks, and a gleaning project, do nutrition screening for the elderly, and teach life skills management with the School for Tomorrow, whose students are preparing to get off welfare. Project Members also are organizing youth anti-

hunger clubs to assist high school students in meeting a 100-hour community service requirement through anti-hunger work.

The AmeriCorps /USDA Members at the National Plant Materials Center in Beltsville, Maryland, painted four bathrooms at the Blow Elementary School in northeast Washington. The Members who participated were: **Matt Shinderman, Kerry Tibbs, Nicole Abrams, William Watkins, Jemel Jacobs, Marvin Drummond, and Lina Udayag**. The Members are part of the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Public Lands and

Environment Team who do watershed restoration and reforestation throughout Maryland and D.C.

Michael Smith and Adrian Harris, AmeriCorps/USDA Public Lands and Environment Team Members at the National Arboretum in D.C., painted bathrooms at the Richardson Elementary School.

The Members were joined in the project by Arboretum project manager, Larry Winston. The project is sponsored by the Agricultural Research Service.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

February 3, 1997

MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Glickman", written over the "TO:" line of the memorandum.

TO: USDA Program Managers for Projects Utilizing AmeriCorps Members

SUBJECT: The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Role in AmeriCorps

I regret to inform you that we have been unable to reach an agreement with Congress that will allow us to continue directly running service projects that utilize AmeriCorps members. Therefore, we have no choice but to cancel those projects planned for this year.

I want to thank you for your tremendous effort and patience in implementing previous projects utilizing AmeriCorps members--and in working towards a possible implementation of similar projects this year. You have exemplified the best of public service through your efforts to reinvent government by creating service projects that achieved concrete, measurable results fighting hunger, protecting the environment, and boosting rural communities. In just 2 years of operation, these projects directly aided over 1 million citizens and improved over 400,000 acres of land. Last summer alone, a handful of AmeriCorps members aided by USDA recovered over 1,000 tons of excess food--enough to provide over 1.3 million meals. You should be forever proud of these achievements.

It is important to note that, while projects sponsored directly by USDA will not continue this year, growing bipartisan support for the overall AmeriCorps program has allowed the program as a whole to thrive. This year, the overall program will enable 25,000 citizens to earn money for post-secondary education by serving their nation. Your past efforts in pioneering high-quality projects throughout the nation played a significant role in building public support for the overall program. I believe history will show that USDA's early involvement in AmeriCorps played a major role in making national service a permanent fixture in American life.

In the months and years ahead, USDA and the Corporation for National Service will work closely together to find alternative ways to continue the important work you and your projects have started. We will work hard to guarantee that rural America is fully served by AmeriCorps, and that community service projects focused on fighting hunger, boosting community development, protecting the environment, and preserving public lands will continue.

Although I must again state my regret that we are forced to cancel our projects, I am confident that your energy and expertise will, in the future, continue to be focused on positive ways to engage citizens in improving our nation.



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

June 14, 1996

To: Shawn Gilleylen, Office of Senator Kit Bond

From: Joel Berg, Director of National Service, USDA *JB*

Subject: **The Future Status of USDA AmeriCorps Projects**

Per our discussion today, I am enclosing detailed information about the USDA AmeriCorps program, including our annual report from the first year of the program and a description of ongoing projects in Missouri.

As you will read, AmeriCorps Members sponsored by USDA are *not* Federal bureaucrats directed from Washington to implement traditional government programs. Rather, USDA AmeriCorps Members are providing direct community service in projects planned and implemented at the grass-roots level by local communities to fill pressing neighborhood needs in the areas of rural development, the environment, and hunger.

Often, USDA projects are the *only* AmeriCorps projects serving rural areas, as in the example of our projects in Missouri working with farmers to help them improve the quality of their drinking water. Mike Mills of your Jefferson City office is familiar with this project.

As you know, the Corporation for National Service (CNS) will no longer be making grants of operating funds to Federal agencies. Given that such grants now constitute only a small portion of the overall USDA AmeriCorps budget, we would be able to continue to run our program without such grants.

We would very much like Senator Bond to support an arrangement in which USDA would no longer receive operating grants from CNS, but would continue to use the Department's own appropriated funds to support AmeriCorps projects related to those appropriations. Individual AmeriCorps Members in the USDA program would continue to receive educational awards funded by the Corporation, but no funds whatsoever would be transferred from CNS to USDA.

Please feel free to contact me at (202) 720-5746 if you have any additional questions or would like to be briefed at greater length on this issue.



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

February 15, 1996

TO: USDA AmeriCorps Project Directors and Managers
THRU: Agency Program Managers
FROM: Joel Berg, Director of National Service, USDA
SUBJECT: AmeriCorps Annual Training

JB

Once again it is time to plan for this year's training conference. We would like to have the training sometime in June if possible. We are considering sites that are centrally located. We will let you know as soon as possible what site will be selected.

I would like to take this opportunity to solicit thoughts and ideas from you as to what you would like to see at this training session. This is your training, and it should meet your needs. So if you have any ideas, please submit them to this office as soon as possible.

One idea we are considering is to set up displays to demonstrate projects that are currently going on across the country. For instance, Louisiana has developed a display for Dry Fire Hydrants. Some states have as part of their objectives display development. I would like to see these displayed at the training. We are also going to pursue the possibility of setting up displays of new technology.

Anyone who has a display and would like to set up at the training, should contact Donna Hines at (202) 690-0693 or Dee DiFiore at (202) 690-3051. Information may also be faxed to (202) 720-4614.

Again, I urge you to submit your ideas for training. Let us know how we can help you. Your ideas should be submitted to us no later than March 1.

ESPRIT D'AMERICORPS



*A Newsletter About and For AmeriCorps/USDA Members and Staff ---
July 26, 1996*

Projects, Take Note!

August 19-25 designated as Food Recovery Week

The figures are preliminary -- but impressive. Our 20 special "Summer of Gleaning" projects have already rescued more than 100,000 lbs. of food for distribution to the hungry.

The program is based on the premise that up to one-fifth of the food produced for consumption in this country in fields, commercial kitchens, markets, stores, schools, and restaurants is lost -- but could be salvaged for use in the battle against hunger. Gleaning has been designated by Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman as one of his top priorities.

TO EXPAND THE effort, the week of August 19-25 has been designated as "National Week of Food Recovery" and all USDA AmeriCorps projects are urged to spend that week

-- or at least one day that week -- engaged in some activity to recover excess food.

Projects are encouraged to work with existing Summer of Gleaning sites and/or contact local anti-hunger groups to arrange to glean food from fields or to recover food from large events, institutions, and/or restaurants. **Projects are also encouraged to work with state, national, and community service commissions to recruit other, non-USDA, AmeriCorps members and community volunteers for the week's activities.**

WITH THIS EDITION of *L'Esprit d'AmeriCorps* is a form for information about your gleaning project to be faxed to the National Office, and a site list for the Summer of Gleaning projects.

Our Second Year Coming To A Close

AmeriCorps/USDA is about to graduate its second class, as projects nationwide plan special ceremonies.

In Kentucky, 14 Rural Development Team members and six Summer of Gleaning members have organized a service project for their final day. The members will serve food at Hope Center, a facility for homeless men in Lexington, then work in the center's garden. Later that evening, a banquet is planned and local dignitaries

have been invited. Let us know your project's graduation plans by faxing the accompanying form to the National Office at (202) 720-4614.

Commemorative Plaques Are Again Available

The metal signs that can be used to designate a site as an AmeriCorps/USDA project are available again this year.

Fax your request for plaques to Dee DiFiore at (202) 720-4614. Order as many as you

thing that you will need.

THERE ARE ABOUT 600 available and they will be divided among projects as fairly as possible. Projects are encouraged to use them as part of graduation ceremonies or some sort of ceremony that would make a good media event.

They should be erected as close as possible to the specific work site. Space has been left for projects to engrave more information as desired.

**AMERICORPS/USDA RESPONSE FORM FOR SPECIAL SERVICE
PROJECT DURING NATIONAL WEEK OF FOOD RECOVERY**

Location of Project (City or State): _____

Description of Event: _____

Event Site: _____

Date and Time: _____

Number of AmeriCorps/USDA members expected to attend: _____

County or counties of duty stations of AmeriCorps/USDA members expected to participate: _____

Collaboration with 1) existing gleaning project _____

2) local anti-hunger group _____

3) non-USDA AmeriCorps project _____

Local leader invited and/or confirmed: _____

Name, telephone and fax numbers of contact person for food recovery project:

Please fax to (202) 720-4614 when complete.

Call (202) 720-6350 with questions.

AmeriCorps Summer Gleaning Projects

California (Rural Development) will use six Members in Watsonville and King County to provide fresh produce to over 5,500 people.
Contact: Toni Symonds (916) 668-2025

Connecticut (Rural Development/FSA) will conduct a joint project using four Members that will serve at least 100 needy families and enhance the relationship between local farmers and community food banks. The Connecticut project will focus on the Hartford and New Haven areas.
Contact: Richard Burke (RD) (413) 253-4319
Vincent Majchiers (FSA/CT) (860) 285-8483

District of Columbia/Northern Virginia (Food and Consumer Service), under the leadership of the Congressional Hunger Center (CHC), will implement a gleaning and perishable food rescue program in Washington, D.C. and the Northern Virginia area to provide meals and fresh produce to residents of the District (through the D.C. Central Kitchen) and Arlington (through the Arlington Food Assistance Center). This project will utilize three Members, who will work as an adjunct to the District of Columbia's existing USDA/AmeriCorps Anti-Hunger, Nutrition, and Empowerment Team.
Contact: Joshua Yates (CHC) (202) 547-7022

Georgia (Rural Development) will provide 2 Members to work closely with the Atlanta Community Food Bank in accomplishing the first-ever food rescue project associated with the Olympic Games. This project anticipates providing approximately 25,000 meals to city distribution centers every day during the event.
Contact: Donnie Thomas (RD) (706) 546-2171

Illinois (FSA) will, with the addition of only two new AmeriCorps Members, expand its gleaning project in Mason County to include most of Southern Illinois, resulting in a program that will provide the local soup kitchens and food banks, which serve a total of more than 8,500 people daily, with an additional 5 tons of produce.
Contact: Rod Atterberry (309) 543-2852

Indiana (Rural Development) will focus on providing nutritious foods to 10 new "Kids' Cafes" (that serve low-income and homeless children), spearheaded by the efforts of six AmeriCorps Members who will coordinate both food rescue and farm gleaning efforts in rural and urban areas. Terre Haute and Indianapolis are the main focus areas for the Indiana project.
Contact: Kelly Barmann or (317) 290-3104
Sharon Zapata

Iowa (FSA) will use three Members in the Model City area of Des Moines (A HUD Enterprise Community) to establish a gleaning and food rescue program that will also emphasize nutrition education and neighborhood gardens.
Contact: Kevin Fitzpatrick (515) 386-3138

Kentucky (Rural Development) will focus on the Kentucky Highlands Empowerment Zone in Eastern Kentucky, where six Members will glean and distribute excess crops to at least 100 local families, who will also be provided with training to improve the nutritional value of their meals through the addition of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Contact: Louis Elliott (502) 633-0891

Maryland (FSA) will use four Members, in partnership with the 3,000-volunteer Washington Area Gleaning Network, to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to needy families in the Baltimore area.

Contact: Jim Voss (410) 381-4550
John Ciekot (Member Issues) (410) 366-8533
George Roche (Volunteers) (301) 879-1484

Michigan (FSA) will use six Members, two of whom will be stationed in Detroit to coordinate an urban perishable food rescue effort as well as distribute some fresh produce to local food banks. Another four Members will work in the East Lansing area to recover fresh fruits and vegetables from farms after the mechanical harvesting is completed, provide these foods to the local food distribution center (run by the Red Cross), and take an active part in educating the recipients about the proper preparation and storage of the foods they receive.

Contact: Sandi Ramos (517) 337-6660, ext.1212

Mississippi (Rural Development) will, through the joint efforts of four new AmeriCorps Members and the newest USDA AmeriCorps Anti-Hunger Project, work to provide fresh foods, poultry, and nutrition education to 425 families in the Mississippi Delta Empowerment Zone and nearby counties.

Contact: Bettye Oliver (601) 965-5460

Missouri (FSA) will sponsor a 5-Member farm gleaning project near Kansas City, MO, that will serve nearly 400 poor, primarily elderly individuals this summer.

Contact: Cindy White (816) 776-5861

New Jersey (Extension Service) will use five Members, in partnership with the Bonner Foundation and many other partners, to provide fresh produce to the southern New Jersey food bank network (Atlantic, Cumberland, Burlington, and Camden Counties) and over 100 families, with a secondary goal of effectively reducing crop waste.

Contact: Joni Elliott (609) 292-8897

New Mexico (Rural Development and FSA) will actually operate two separate projects, one in the Albuquerque area and one in the Four Corners area of the state, with four Members each, and will serve a total of more than 200 soup kitchens, 800 individuals, and over 75 Native American families on the Navajo reservation.

Contact: Lloyd Wilhelm (FSA/Four Corners) (505) 334-3090
John Thomas (RD/Albuquerque) (505) 761-4960

New York (FSA) will use six Members in a five-county area around the state capital of Albany, in partnership with the Albany Service Corps, to provide fresh produce to 20,000 low-income individuals per month in the targeted Capital Region. Activities include maintenance of a large community garden, rescuing produce from local farmers and farmers' markets, and training the staff, volunteers and clients of local food pantries and soup kitchens on the preparation and use of the fresh foods obtained through this project.

Contact: Marc Smith (FSA) (315) 477-6304
Paul Winkeller (518) 434-2677
(Albany Service Corps)

Oregon (Rural Development) will, with six new Members, build on existing efforts by the Oregon Food Bank (Portland/Eugene area) to develop linkages between rural and urban populations, and to serve an additional 100 needy families during the summer months.

Contact: Bruce Kohler (503) 465-6850

Pennsylvania (Rural Development) will use five Members to organize volunteers to serve 200 needy people per day, through the local food banks serving Uniontown/Fayette County, using perishable foods that are rescued from area restaurants and cafeterias.

Contact: Lee Patterson (412) 482-4888

Rhode Island (FSA) will use three Members to serve needy families in the area by enhancing the relationship between local farmers and community food banks, as well as by providing extensive education to the local food bank operators about proper food storage, handling, and preparation techniques. Rhode Island's efforts are centered primarily around Providence.

Contact: Patricia Seites (FSA/RI) (401) 828-8232

Texas (Rural Development) will use five Members to help provide fresh food to 100 families living in the Colonias area inside and near the Rio Grande Empowerment Zone.

Contact: Lorraine Clements (817) 774-1304

Washington (Extension Service) will, with six Members, effectively double the amount of food gleaned from farms in Pierce and Yakima Counties this summer, thus dramatically increasing the number of families that will benefit from these efforts; an innovative partnership with the local cannery will provide job training opportunities for low-income recipients as well as preserved foods that can be distributed during the winter months.

Contact: Dr. Steven Garrett (206) 591-7180

USDA Contacts: Joel Berg, Director of National Service (202) 720-5746
Donna Hines, FCS Anti-Hunger Coordinator (202) 690-0693

FACT SHEET ON THE STATUS OF FUTURE USDA-SPONSORED AMERICORPS PROJECTS

In both the 1994-1995 program year and the 1995-1996 program year, USDA sponsored community-based AmeriCorps projects throughout the country that fought hunger, protected the environment, and boosted rural community development. In both program years, the projects were supported by four sources of funding:

- 1) Corporation for National Service (CNS) funding paid for educational awards for AmeriCorps Members that successfully completed the program; *none of these funds were ever transferred to USDA* --- they went into a trust fund that will eventually pay the lending and/or educational institutions of AmeriCorps graduates.
- 2) CNS funds were granted from CNS to USDA, which USDA, in turn, sub-granted to local AmeriCorps projects, especially to five anti-hunger projects; the total amount of these funds were minimal compared to the overall cost of the USDA program.
- 3) USDA utilized money from the Department's own appropriated funds; USDA used funds from a variety of agencies to support AmeriCorps projects that provided critical community services in areas related to the broad mission areas of those agencies.
- 4) State and local governments and private sector organizations provided matching funds; in the 1994-1995 program year, non-Federal sources provided \$1.7 million in funding to USDA-sponsored AmeriCorps projects.

In a compromise brokered between CNS head Harris Wofford and Senator Charles Grassley (R-IA), a leading critic of the program, CNS will no longer make grants of operating funds to Federal agencies. This deal compromise codified by the appropriations language governing CNS. Some of those critics who agreed to the compromise may have believed, incorrectly, that they eliminated CNS's legal ability to allow USDA to continue to sponsor AmeriCorps projects. In fact, neither the compromise nor the appropriations language restricted CNS' legal ability to continue to allow AmeriCorps Members sponsored by USDA to receive educational awards.

The only legal result of the compromise is that it eliminated AmeriCorps funding source #2 --- operating funds transferred from CNS to USDA. The few projects that were most dependent on this source of funding --- the five anti-hunger projects --- banded together as a consortium under the umbrella of the non-profit Congressional Hunger Center to successfully apply for funding directly from CNS. However, the over 1,000 remaining USDA sponsored AmeriCorps positions focused on environmental protection and rural development would be eliminated entirely if CNS could not continue to sign a cooperative agreement with USDA in which the Department would continue to use its own appropriated funds to support these projects. **These projects --- many of which are the only significant AmeriCorps presence in rural areas of their states --- would end if USDA's involvement in AmeriCorps was terminated. Most state commissions on national service have neither the available funds nor the technical expertise to continue these projects on their own.**

Under the current appropriations language governing CNS, while CNS can no longer transfer operating funds (source #2) to USDA, it may sign a cooperative agreement with the Department to allow USDA-sponsored educational awards funded by source #1. Under this arrangement, USDA would still be able to spend its own funds (source #3) and USDA AmeriCorps projects would still be able to obtain state, local and private funds (source #4).

Thus, CNS still has the *legal* ability to sign an agreement with USDA to sponsor AmeriCorps projects with funds provided by USDA and non-Federal sources. Under this condition, USDA-sponsored AmeriCorps Members would still have the legal ability to receive educational awards from the CNS. However, even though both agencies have the legal ability to ensure that USDA can continue to run an AmeriCorps program, the Department and CNS are seeking to reach a bi-partisan *policy* consensus with key leaders in Congress that USDA will do so. The Department wants to be sure that no critics of AmeriCorps believe that either CNS or USDA have, in essence, “broken the deal” regarding Federal agency programs.

Consequently, both USDA and CNS are seeking at least tacit approval from Senator Christopher S. (Kit) Bond of Missouri, the Chairperson of the Senate VA/HUD appropriations sub-committee that funds CNS, to support a compromise in which USDA would no longer receive operating awards from CNS but in which USDA would still be able to spend its own already-appropriated funds on AmeriCorps, and in which USDA-sponsored AmeriCorps Members would still be able to receive educational awards funded by CNS.

Tom Amontree 202-720-4623
Joel Berg 202-720-5746

CONGRESS CANCELS FOREST SERVICE AMERICORPS PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 19 STATES

WASHINGTON, July xx, 1996--Congress has canceled the portion of the AmeriCorps national service program planned for this fiscal year that would have engaged 683 participants in USDA Forest Service projects in 19 states, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said today.

The program was canceled because Interior Appropriations Subcommittees in Congress denied the U.S. Department of Agriculture's request to reprogram Fiscal Year 1996 Forest Service funds for AmeriCorps. However, Glickman expressed his desire to work with Congress to obtain bipartisan support to begin new, year-long USDA Forest Service AmeriCorps projects nationally beginning this October using FY97 funds.

The Forest Service AmeriCorps projects would have engaged AmeriCorps members in building and restoring trails, rehabilitating campground sites, fighting forest fires, making recreation areas accessible for disabled persons, protecting habitats for endangered and threatened species, improving timber stands, boosting rural development, providing environmental education services to local schools, and preserving historic sites. AmeriCorps members who successfully completed a full term of service would have received educational awards worth \$4,725 to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

"It is unfortunate that the people of the United States will not receive the beneficial services that AmeriCorps members would have performed on national forests. It is also unfortunate that potential participants in the program will not be able to aid their own post-secondary educations," said Glickman, who oversees the USDA Forest Service. "Given that Congress has recently taken bipartisan steps to work with the President to preserve the entire AmeriCorps program, I hope we can reach bipartisan agreement to continue AmeriCorps projects on national forests starting this fall."

USDA Forest Service AmeriCorps projects were planned this fiscal year for Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Washington, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

AmeriCorps is the President's domestic national service program, authorized by the National and Community Service Act of 1993, which allows Americans of all backgrounds to perform community service in exchange for educational benefits. While most AmeriCorps projects are not run by federal agencies, USDA manages a small portion of AmeriCorps focused nationally on rural development, environmental protection, and anti-hunger work--most of which were allowed by Congress to continue this year. All USDA AmeriCorps projects are designed to "get things done" while strengthening communities, expanding educational opportunity, and promoting personal responsibility.

Nationally, in the Forest Service's first operational program year (1994-1995), AmeriCorps members nationally constructed, maintained, and improved 682 miles of trails, achieved 2,569 acres of wildlife habitat enhancement, improved 668 acres of timber stands, built or completely rehabilitated 446 campground sites, reforested 638 acres of land, prepared 42 campsites for accessibility to people with disabilities, improved 760 acres of fisheries habitat, and provided conservation education to 8,373 public school students.

Also in the first year of the program, in rural development projects implemented nationally by the USDA Forest Service, AmeriCorps members promoted alternative energy sources and wood technologies, improved emergency response and prevention, helped home owners relocate from a flood plain, and developed and implemented municipal recycling initiatives.

#

DRAFT MODEL STATE PRESS RELEASE

Tom Amontree 202-720-4623
Joel Berg 202-720-5746

CONGRESS CANCELS VERMONT AMERICORPS PROJECT ON GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

WASHINGTON, July xx, 1996--Congress has canceled the portion of the AmeriCorps national service program planned for this year on the Green Mountain National Forest, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said today.

The program was canceled because Interior Appropriations Subcommittees in Congress denied the U. S. Department of Agriculture's request to reprogram Fiscal Year 1996 Forest Service funds for AmeriCorps. However, Glickman expressed his desire to work with Congress to obtain bipartisan support to begin a new, year-long USDA Forest Service AmeriCorps project in Vermont beginning this October using FY97 funds.

The Vermont program would have engaged 20 citizens as AmeriCorps members performing critical work clearing and restoring trails, rehabilitating and cleaning campground sites, protecting wildlife, improving timber stands, providing environmental education services to local schools, improving fisheries, and preserving historic sites. All the AmeriCorps members who successfully completed the program would have received educational awards worth \$4,725 to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

"It is unfortunate that the people of Vermont will not receive the beneficial services that AmeriCorps members would have performed in the Green Mountain National Forest. It is also unfortunate that potential participants in the program will not be able to aid their own post-secondary educations," said Glickman, who oversees the Forest Service. "Given that Congress has recently taken bipartisan steps to work with the President to preserve the entire AmeriCorps program, I hope we can reach bipartisan agreement to continue AmeriCorps projects on national forests starting this fall."

AmeriCorps is the President's domestic national service program, authorized by the National and Community Service Act of 1993, which allows Americans of all backgrounds to perform community service in exchange for educational benefits. While most AmeriCorps projects are not run by federal agencies, USDA manages a small portion of AmeriCorps focused nationally on rural development, environmental protection, and anti-hunger work. All USDA AmeriCorps projects are designed to "get things done" while strengthening communities, expanding educational opportunity, and promoting personal responsibility.

USDA currently sponsors both anti-hunger and rural development AmeriCorps projects in Vermont, which were allowed to continue by Congress.

Nationally, in the Forest Service's first operational program year (1994-1995), AmeriCorps members constructed, maintained, and improved 682 miles of trails, achieved 2,569 acres of wildlife habitat improvement, improved 668 acres of timber stands, built or completely rehabilitated 446 campground sites, reforested 638 acres of land, prepared 42 campsites for accessibility to people with disabilities, improved 760 acres of fisheries habitat, and provided conservation education to 8,373 public school students..

Also in the first year of the program, in rural development projects implemented nationally by the USDA Forest Service, AmeriCorps members promoted alternative energy sources and wood technologies, improved emergency response and prevention, helped home owners relocate from a flood plain, and developed and implemented municipal recycling initiatives.

#

DRAFT MODEL STATE PRESS RELEASE

Tom Amontree 202-720-4623
Joel Berg 202-720-5746

CONGRESS CANCELS ARKANSAS AMERICORPS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PLANNED BY USDA FOREST SERVICE

WASHINGTON, July xx, 1996--Congress has canceled the portion of the AmeriCorps national service program planned by the USDA Forest Service that would have implemented community development projects in Arkansas, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said today.

The program was canceled because Interior Appropriations Subcommittees in Congress denied the U. S. Department of Agriculture's request to reprogram Fiscal Year 1996 Forest Service funds for AmeriCorps. However, Glickman expressed his desire to work with Congress to obtain bipartisan support to begin a new, year-long USDA Forest Service AmeriCorps project in Vermont beginning this October using FY97 funds.

The Arkansas program would have engaged three AmeriCorps members in performing critical work in Holly Grove, North Little Rock, and Batesville, Arkansas that would have promoted economic development, protected the environment, and relocated families living in flood plains. All the AmeriCorps members who successfully completed the program would have received educational awards worth \$4,725 to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

"It is unfortunate that the people of Arkansas will not receive the beneficial services that AmeriCorps members would have performed. It is also unfortunate that potential participants in the program will not be able to aid their own post-secondary educations," said Glickman, who oversees the Forest Service. "Given that Congress has recently taken bipartisan steps to work with the President to preserve the entire AmeriCorps program, I hope we can reach bipartisan agreement to continue Forest Service-sponsored AmeriCorps projects starting this fall."

AmeriCorps is the President's domestic national service program, authorized by the National and Community Service Act of 1993, which allows Americans of all backgrounds to perform community service in exchange for educational benefits. While most AmeriCorps projects are not run by federal agencies, USDA manages a small portion of AmeriCorps focused nationally on rural development, environmental protection, and anti-hunger work. All USDA AmeriCorps projects are designed to "get things done" while strengthening communities, expanding educational opportunity, and promoting personal responsibility.

USDA currently sponsors other community development AmeriCorps projects in Arkansas, which were allowed to continue by Congress.

Nationally, in the Forest Service's first operational program year (1994-1995), AmeriCorps members constructed, maintained, and improved 682 miles of trails, achieved 2,569 acres of wildlife habitat improvement, improved 668 acres of timber stands, built or completely rehabilitated 446 campground sites, reforested 638 acres of land, prepared 42 campsites for accessibility to people with disabilities, improved 760 acres of fisheries habitat, and provided conservation education to 8,373 public school students..

Also in the first year of the program, in community development projects implemented nationally by the USDA Forest Service, AmeriCorps members promoted alternative energy sources and wood technologies, improved emergency response and prevention, helped home owners relocate from a flood plain, and developed and implemented municipal recycling initiatives.

#

REVISED DRAFT EXAMPLE LETTER TO SENATORS, CONGRESSMEN

The Honorable James Jeffords
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Jeffords:

I regret to inform you that, because the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees in Congress have denied the Department's request to reprogram Fiscal year (FY) 1996 Forest Service funds for AmeriCorps, USDA has been forced to cancel the AmeriCorps program that was planned in Vermont on the Green Mountain National Forest for this year.

However, I want to assure you that the Department will take every possible step to obtain bi-partisan support to begin a new, year-long, Forest Service AmeriCorps program beginning this October with funds from FY 1997.

This program in Vermont would have engaged 20 citizens --- most of whom would have been from the state --- as AmeriCorps members performing critical work on the Forest clearing and restoring trails, rehabilitating and cleaning campground sites, protecting wildlife, improving timber stands, providing environmental education services to local school, improving fisheries, and preserving historic sites. All the AmeriCorps Members who successfully completed the program --- most of whom would have been from middle class families --- would have received educational awards worth \$4,725 to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

It is unfortunate that the people of Vermont will not be able to benefit from such service and that possible participants will not be able to aid their own post-secondary educations.

Nationally, Forest Service AmeriCorps projects in the first year of the program (1994-1995 program year) achieved impressive results. In Public Lands teams serving directly in National Forests, USDA AmeriCorps Members:

- * Constructed, maintained, and improved 682 miles of trail.
- * Achieved 2,569 acres of wildlife habitat improvement; built 133 structures to shelter or protect wildlife; built 296 nesting boxes; and constructed a threatened and endangered plant greenhouse.
- * Improved 668 acres of timber stand.
- * Built or completely rehabilitated 446 campground sites.

- * Reforested 638 acres of land.
- * Prepared 42 campsites for accessibility to people with disabilities.
- * Improved 760 acres of fisheries habitat.
- * Constructed 86 miles of new fence.
- * Maintained 18 miles of vehicle trails to keep them free of obstructive growth and slides.
- * Improved watersheds damaged by fire by cutting and planting 92,500 willows in riparian areas.
- * Improved Forest Service road and safety conditions ---- by "day lighting" 50 curves.
- * Released 775,000 salmon fry in a fish stocking operation.
- * Constructed a major visitor information center.
- * Provided conservation education to 8 8,3 7 3 students K- 1 2.

Also in the first year of the program (1994-1995 program year), AmeriCorps Members serving in Rural Development teams in local communities:

- * Promoted alternative energy sources and wood technologies.
- * Improved emergency response and prevention.
- * Helped home owners relocate from a flood plain.
- * Provided environmental and conservation education to school children.
- * Helped design and construct timber bridges.
- * Developed and implemented municipal recycling initiatives.
- * Created plans for improving local recreational areas.
- * Helped implement historic, scenic, and tourism trails.

In order to start the second program year of Forest Service AmeriCorps projects, we took every possible effort to obtain bi-partisan Congressional support. In both February and May, I wrote letters to Senator Slade Gorton and Congressman Regula, the Senate and House chair people, respectively, of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Interior. Unfortunately, both requests were denied.

However, I am encouraged that recent votes in both the House and the Senate have demonstrated growing bi-partisan support for the overall AmeriCorps program. I believe that the portion of AmeriCorps managed by the Forest Service was responsible for some of the highest quality projects in the entire AmeriCorps program.

Therefore, we expect to soon submit an AmeriCorps reprogramming letter for FY 1997, for which we are extremely hopeful that we will receive bi-partisan support from the Interior appropriations sub-committees in both Houses.

I hope I can have your support in requesting the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees to support our upcoming reprogramming request. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact me or Joel Berg, Director of National Service for USDA, at (202) 720-5746. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Dan Glickman
Secretary

PRO-VOLUNTEER LANGUAGE IN FY 1997 AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

DOC CONTENTS

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Enrolled Bill (Sent to President))

production or the lack of a conserving use is a consequence of drought, flood, or other natural disaster.

SEC. 727. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to extend any existing or expiring contract in the Conservation Reserve Program authorized by 16 U.S.C. 3831-3845.

SEC. 728. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to carry out the provisions of section 918 of Public Law 104-127, the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act.

SEC. 729. Hereafter, funds appropriated to the Department of Agriculture may be used for incidental expenses such as transportation, uniforms, lodging, and subsistence for volunteers serving under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2272, when such volunteers are engaged in the work of the United States Department of Agriculture; and for promotional items of nominal value relating to the United States Department of Agriculture Volunteer Programs.

SEC. 730. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 30 days unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 731. Section 747 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 is amended by inserting, 'effective October 1, 1996,' following 'The Secretary shall make grants' in section 310B(e)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided*, That this section shall take effect upon enactment of this Act into law.

SEC. 732. LABELING OF RAW POULTRY PRODUCTS-

(a) IN GENERAL- Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to implement or enforce the final rule related to the labeling of raw poultry products promulgated by the Food Safety and Inspection Service on August 25, 1995 (60 Fed. Reg. 44395), and the final rule shall not be effective during fiscal year 1997.

(b) FINAL RULE- Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall issue a revised final rule related to the labeling of raw poultry products that--

USDA AmeriCorps Projects in Missouri

In Missouri, USDA sponsored 11 full-time Members last year, is sponsoring 5 full-time Members this year, and will be sponsoring 5 additional Members this summer in a special project focused on transferring excess food to hungry people.

Last Year (1984-1985) Program Year

Eleven AmeriCorps Members aided flood recovery work on 53,000 acres of land; provided conservation education to 1,770 students; helped maintain 27 flood-retarding dams; assisted 95 landowners in assessing herbicide runoff into the water supply; worked with 11 farmers to develop water management plans; completed flood prevention work on 3,600 acres of land; and restored 995 acres of wetlands.

This Year (1985-1986) Program Year

As of the second quarter ending June 30, the five AmeriCorps Members had performed "Farm-a-Syst" water quality evaluations for 147 farm families, 65% of whom adopted all or some of the water quality protection measures recommended by the AmeriCorps Members; ***this project has been aided significantly by the support of local Farm Bureau offices.*** The AmeriCorps Members also provided conservation education to 1,747 students and 622 adults, of whom 99% and 97%, respectively, later demonstrated improved knowledge of conservation issues.

This Summer and Fall ("Summer of Gleaning" Initiative)

As part of Secretary Glickman's personal initiative to increase the nation's commitment to recovering excess food for distribution to hungry citizens, AmeriCorps Members will serve this summer and fall in a food recovery project in the Kansas City area.



STATE OF KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

Operations Office
512 SE 25th Avenue
Pratt, KS 67124-8174
316/672-5911 FAX 316/672-6020



March 6, 1996

Joel Berg
Director of National Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Ag. Box 1301
Washington, DC 20250-1301

Dear Mr. Berg:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to allow Kansas, and specifically the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, to be associated with the USDA Americorps program. Those crews who served for the Natural Resources Conservation Service on flood-related projects at our reservoirs have been particularly beneficial. These crews have completed many projects with tremendous long-term resource and economic benefits. Kansas' natural resources, our state parks, our wildlife areas, and our citizens will derive many benefits for years to come from the service provided by these individuals.

While these individuals have accomplished much, there is much more that must be accomplished. If possible, we would like you to consider renewing commitments to allow these existing crews to continue their efforts next fiscal year. Due to restructuring within the Department, which was effective March 10, 1996, Americorps coordination for the Department has been reassigned from Mr. Robert Barbee to Region 4 Parks Supervisor Alan Stark (Great Plains Nature Center, 6232 E. 29th St. N., Wichita, KS 67220 316-683-8069). You should be receiving documents soon from Mr. Stark concerning the support these crews will have. Should any additional crews be available, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks would be greatly interested in discussing future possibilities with you.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and again for the opportunity to be associated with this fine program. I hope it was as beneficial for the members who served as it was for Kansas.

Sincerely,


Rob Manes
Assistant Secretary for Operations

kp
cc: Jerry Hover
Alan Stark
Robert Barbee
File: 807 c

TALKING POINTS ON THE USDA AMERICORPS PROGRAM

*** USDA is sponsoring approximately 1,000 AmeriCorps Members who are serving in over 45 different states in projects fighting hunger, improving the environment, and re-building rural communities.** The USDA portion of AmeriCorps is a relatively small, yet important, portion of the larger overall program; the overall program now enrolls approximately 23,000 AmeriCorps members serving in every state of the nation. The USDA portion of the program is highly unusual because the vast majority of AmeriCorps projects are not funded or managed by Federal agencies --- most are funded through state commissions appointed by each state's governor and are managed by non-profit organizations and local government organizations. USDA AmeriCorps projects do **NOT** duplicate the functions of AmeriCorps projects funded by state commissions; rather, USDA AmeriCorps fill unique needs that can not generally be filled by state commission-funded projects.

*** USDA AmeriCorps Members are reducing government bureaucracy by performing community service that rapidly and directly aids citizens.** USDA AmeriCorps Members are not Federal employees and are not performing functions generally performed by Federal employees. However, they are performing work far more cost-effectively than would be provided through normal government methods.

*** USDA AmeriCorps projects are "getting things done" providing vital and mainstream service to rural, suburban, and urban communities throughout America.** For instance, USDA projects are building trails and fighting fire on National Forests, improving city parks, aiding rural fire departments, creating urban gardens, bringing running water to low-income rural families, and teaching children how to improve their nutrition.

*** USDA AmeriCorps projects provide taxpayers with double the "bang for the buck."** USDA is simply utilizing funds already appropriated to the Department. For instance, USDA Forest Service projects use some funding from existing trail repair budgets. Not only do the AmeriCorps Members repair more trails than would be repaired by other means, they also bring communities together, promote personal responsibility, and help them earn their own way through college --- all for the same tax dollars that normally would fund just the trail repair.

*** USDA AmeriCorps projects are strengthening communities.** Usually working in partnership with community-based organizations, USDA AmeriCorps Members are meeting the most pressing needs in each of hundreds of locales in which they are operating. **The service projects are not designed or implemented as a "cookie cutter" approach dictated from Washington --- all the projects are locally-proposed and locally-administered.** Consequently, virtually all of the USDA AmeriCorps projects have received broad-based bi-partisan support from local community leaders.

*** Most USDA AmeriCorps projects are in rural and suburban areas that often receive less aid from the Federal government.** These areas also often lack significant non-profit sector support networks. USDA has a field structure that is uniquely suited to run programs in traditionally under-served areas. USDA AmeriCorps projects are particularly important in North and South Dakota, which currently do not have state national service commissions.

*** The USDA program enables AmeriCorps Members to perform tasks requiring technical expertise far beyond the capabilities of the vast majority of non-profit organizations.** For instance, under direct and sustained supervision from experts in the field, USDA AmeriCorps Members are inspecting flood-damaged dams, implementing strategic plans to create local jobs, designing and implementing entire recycling programs for counties, helping farmers diversify their crops, bolstering Empowerment Zones and Enterprise communities, designing and building timber bridges, and decreasing ground water pollution. If AmeriCorps Members are to "get things done" that require more than simple physical labor and that result in long-lasting improvements in communities, then Members need the kind of advanced technical training and supervision that can be provided by entities such as USDA.

*** The USDA AmeriCorps program forges common bonds of unity among all Americans.** By bringing together Americans of all races, classes, genders, religions, and physical abilities to work side-by-side, AmeriCorps strengthens the cords that bind us together as a people. The "sweat equity" created by AmeriCorps is playing a role in healing the nation's wounds and bridging our divisions. AmeriCorps is changing the country because it creates a new civic compact in which any citizen can be tied to the nation by the simple virtue of making a difference in the lives of others.

*** The USDA AmeriCorps program expands educational and economic opportunity.** Participants in the program receive a small living stipend and an educational award worth \$4,725 that can be used to pay for college, graduate school, job training, or to pay back existing student loans. There is NO economic needs test to participate in this program -- the only requirement to participate is a desire to serve the country. Thus, this program greatly boosts students from the middle class, who were previously told that their families "make too much money" to qualify for most existing Federal aid programs. Yet the program also helps low income families for whom aid programs are clearly insufficient.

*** The USDA AmeriCorps program promotes personal responsibility.** All AmeriCorps projects require extremely hard work in exchange for educational benefits, while helping AmeriCorps Members build a life-long commitment to community service. AmeriCorps gives all Americans a new way of giving something back to the country. It reminds us that, along with rights we enjoy as citizens, we all have certain obligations to protect those rights and to aid our own communities. Furthermore, AmeriCorps gives young people a tangible way to take charge of their own lives.

USDA AMERICORPS SUMMER OF GLEANING

* In partnership with literally dozens of locally based anti-hunger groups, youth service corps, food pantries, and food recovery organizations, USDA is sponsoring special "Summer of Gleaning" AmeriCorps projects in 20 states. This special summer initiative is a small, but important, part of both the USDA AmeriCorps program and the overall AmeriCorps program.

* The "Summer of Gleaning" projects promote the general idea of food recovery, a top personal priority of Secretary Glickman. These projects are designed to work with farmers, agribusinesses, food distribution organizations, institutions, and restaurants to recover and glean food that would be otherwise thrown away and to distribute that food to hungry people.

* The "Summer of Gleaning" projects are based on the so-called "volunteer generator" model in which a handful of AmeriCorps Members recruit numerous non-compensated volunteers to help implement the project.

* The "Summer of Gleaning Projects last twelve weeks, during which the AmeriCorps Members receive small living stipends. All AmeriCorps Members who successfully complete this special summer program will receive a \$1,000 educational award that can be used to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

* The "Summer of Gleaning" is **NOT** based on the traditional liberal premise that a heavy-handed, bureaucratically driven, large government program based in Washington has all answers to the nations' problems. Conversely, the "Summer of Gleaning" is **NOT** based on the traditional conservative premise that the free-market, volunteers, and non-profit organizations alone --- without any government help at all --- can solve all the nation's social problems. Rather, **the "Summer of Gleaning" is based on the reinventing government philosophy of President Clinton, Vice-President Gore, and Secretary Glickman which believes that government must provide energy, vision, and some limited Federal funds as a catalyst to empower local communities to help solve their own problems.**

Front Page

AmeriCorps links service with funds for college

Sections

- [News](#)
- [Editorial](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Arts](#)

*By Sam T. Dudek
Daily Staff Reporter*

Lending a helping hand has become a way of life for thousands of Americans.

Since 1994, AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program, has recruited 25,000 Americans from all walks of life to perform community service projects.

In exchange for their work, AmeriCorps participants receive money that may be used for college, job training or to pay back student loans.

The largest division of AmeriCorps -- with more than 1,350 members -- is managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Joel Berg, head of the USDA's AmeriCorps program, visited Michigan last week to check on some of AmeriCorps' projects statewide.

"Our organization is here to provide assistance to communities with their agricultural needs," Berg said.

Berg has been director of National Service for the USDA since April 1994. He said his branch of AmeriCorps helps communities clean rivers, assist earthquake and hurricane victims, run soup kitchens and conduct nutrition education programs.

"We are here to help," Berg said.

However, AmeriCorps is not without its problems.

The financial books of the service program are in such disarray that they could not be audited, an internal investigation uncovered last week.

Harris Wofford, head of the Corporation for National Service, which oversees the AmeriCorps project, said he was concerned with the sloppy record keeping.

"The review has concluded that the corporation's financial statements from its first year of operations are not auditable, and that the corporation needs to take additional steps to strengthen internal controls within the organization," Wofford said in a letter to Congress.

Berg said he was also concerned about the recent discovery.

"In Congress, people are going to want to know how the country's money is spent," he said.

Berg said he did not think recent financial troubles would threaten the future of the organization.

"The program has bipartisan support," he said. "It helps middle-class students pay for their education."

According to the USDA/AmeriCorps annual report, the program actually saves taxpayer dollars. The report states that for every dollar spent on AmeriCorps, taxpayers receive more than a dollar's worth of service in return.

-- *The Associated Press*

contributed to this report.

©1996 The Michigan Daily

Letters to the editor should be sent to
daily.letters@umich.edu

Comments about this site should be addressed to
online.daily@umich.edu

II. Community Building: Progress made in meeting your community service objectives.

The AmeriCorps position gained more publicity for the Soil District and for the programs that are available. New clients were introduced to the assistance that is available from their county through the NRCS office, Interagency and Ag-business relationships were renewed or strengthened. The community as a whole gained awareness of the need for riparian protection. Farmers became more receptive to streambank protection and fencing programs as a result of the AmeriCorps streambank project.

Unique Successes or "Great Stories":

We have been lucky and or fortunate that one of the landowners we have installed a streambank protection practice on, has done a 180 degree turn around in his attitude toward government involvement on private land. He has gone from writing news articles on why ecosystem based planning is a top down way for bureaucrats to take control of private land to doing a great job installing streambank protection, providing good estimates and materials lists and offering to have people visit his farm to show how the practice works.

Bent Creek
Project, TN

© Blum

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. A winding road or path cuts through the scene, leading towards a small cluster of buildings in the upper center. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by terraced fields, showing distinct, curved patterns of land. The overall tone is dark and grainy, typical of a high-contrast black and white photograph.

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

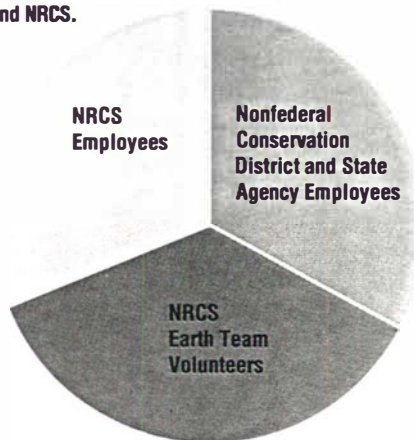
**In Partnership
With People and
A Healthy Land**

Our Partners



Earth Team volunteers share their stewardship nationwide.

The local conservation delivery system is a partnership—conservation districts, state agencies, Earth Team volunteers, and NRCS.



and state conservation agency partners—and with their own technical and support staff.

There are almost as many Earth Team volunteers as there are NRCS employees. In 1994, some 11,400 volunteers contributed over a half million hours of service, valued at \$5.5 million, in agency offices, on the land, and in conservation education programs in schools and communities across the nation. The Earth

Team is an opportunity for Americans to share their ethic of good land stewardship.

AmeriCorps, the President's initiative to engage Americans of all ages and backgrounds in community-based service, is helping the Natural Resources Conservation Service reach out to communities in ways we otherwise could not do. AmeriCorps addresses a wide variety of rural development and environmental protection projects affecting streams, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. It benefits coastal erosion control and flood control efforts, recreation programs, urban conservation, and economic development. AmeriCorps also exposes youth to new skills and new careers.

NRCS partners with other USDA agencies to share resource inventories and to coordinate research and programs, develop conservation technology, and provide information and outreach. For example, NRCS and five other federal agencies have underway a pilot program called the "Urban Resources Partnership" to coordinate their assistance in improving natural resource conditions in selected urban areas. NRCS also works closely with other federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, on resource conservation issues.

We have also teamed up with private-sector partners to meet mutual goals. These partners include other conservation, environmental, and agricultural groups as well as agribusiness.

Conservation is the work of many—no one can do it alone. The Natural Resources Conservation Service relies on many partners to help set conservation goals, work with people on the land, and provide services. Our partners include conservation districts, state and federal agencies, NRCS Earth Team volunteers, AmeriCorps members, agricultural and environmental groups, and professional societies.

America's conservation districts—about 3,000 in all—are the heart of the conservation delivery system. These units of local government, organized by citizens under state law, operate on the premise that local people know the most about local needs. NRCS and districts are bound together by mutual conservation objectives as well as by legislation and formal agreements with the Secretary of Agriculture.

Districts do more than link NRCS with their neighbors and with local priorities for soil and water conservation. They augment the work of the NRCS's conservationists with district programs—often funded by county

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 23, 1995

CONTACT: BARBIE WA SHBURN
(501) 829-2573

CITY OF MARVELL, ARKANSAS RECEIVES AMERICORPS GRANT

MARVELL, AR.-- The City of Marvell, Arkansas, in partnership with the East Arkansas Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, has received funding through the Rural Forestry Assistance (Rural Development) AmeriCorps Program.

The mission of the AmeriCorps Program is to engage a diverse group of Americans in working partnerships with communities to provide real and measurable services to meet environmental and human needs while building an ethic of service, responsibility, and citizenship.

The "City of Marvell Enhancement Project" is designed to improve the social, economic, and natural environment of the town. "As part of the project, trash bins and planters will be installed as permanent fixtures in the downtown area. Accessible ramps will be built and the existing sidewalks will be made accessible. New culverts will be installed in residential areas where they are virtually nonexistent or nonserviceable," stated Barbie Wa Shburn, Assistant to the Mayor Clark Hall

As part of the project, the East Arkansas RC&D Council will begin revisions on an Area Plan. In the plan revisions, committees will be selected and public meeting held for each county in the district. The following concerns have been identified in Phillips County: Soil Conservation and Land Treatment; Infrastructure; Use, Quality, and Quantity in Irrigation Water; Flood Protection and Drainage of Agricultural and Urban Land; Recreation and Tourism; Rural Fire Protection; and Recycling & Waste Management.

The "City of Marvell Enhancement Project" will address waste management, infrastructure, flood protection, and drainage concerns.

Besides the City of Marvell and the East Arkansas RC&D Council, additional partners include the USDA Forest Service, Phillips County Conservation District, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

"Getting Things Done" is the motto of the AmeriCorps Program. With assistance from this grant and the partners involved, the City of Marvell is doing just that.

###



AmeriCorps

The national service program, AmeriCorps, has its origins in the National and Community Service Trust Act signed into law by President Clinton in September of 1993. Since then, 20,000 Americans have joined this "domestic Peace Corps", eager to serve their country right here in their country.

Departments in the executive branch of the federal government, state agencies, local governments and non-profit organizations host AmeriCorps programs throughout the United States. The US Department of Agriculture has taken on AmeriCorps programs in many of its agencies. These programs are devoted to meeting the unmet needs of communities and the nation.

The USDA Forest Service is one such agency. The San Bernardino National Forest hosts an AmeriCorps program devoted to meeting the unmet needs of communities within and around the forest, as well as the needs of the forest itself.

AmeriCorps on the San Bernardino National Forest works to preserve the health and beauty of Public Lands and the Environment. It is the largest non-residential program of its kind with ~~78~~⁷² members.

Members of the San Bernardino National Forest's AmeriCorps are highly motivated individuals. They are very devoted to the work of preserving the environment and fulfilling the needs of world-class management of the lands belonging to the people of the United States. Many of our members were drawn to the program because of its environmental mission,



while others joined because they want to head in career directions that this program offers them exposure to, such as wildlife biology, hydrology, forestry, or firefighting.



AmeriCorps members have been involved in many work projects to improve the local and global environment. Projects have been completed on National Forest land, National Park land, and other public lands throughout inland Southern California.

AmeriCorps has:

- *completed post-fire rehabilitation
- *removed graffiti from recreation areas
- *constructed and maintained miles of trail
- *rehabilitated Off Highway Vehicle paths
- *restored sensitive plant habitats
- *planted thousands of trees
- *built a native plant park
- *promoted environmental responsibility through education

AmeriCorps Member Benefits

Some of the benefits members receive for serving their country are:

- *a \$4725 educational award for college, vocational schooling, or paying off existing student loans
- *health care coverage during the program
- *child care coverage during the program
- *exposure to interesting career fields
- *on the job training
- *a living stipend of \$8000

- Lancaster area - LA Co
Redlands
Riverside
Glenn

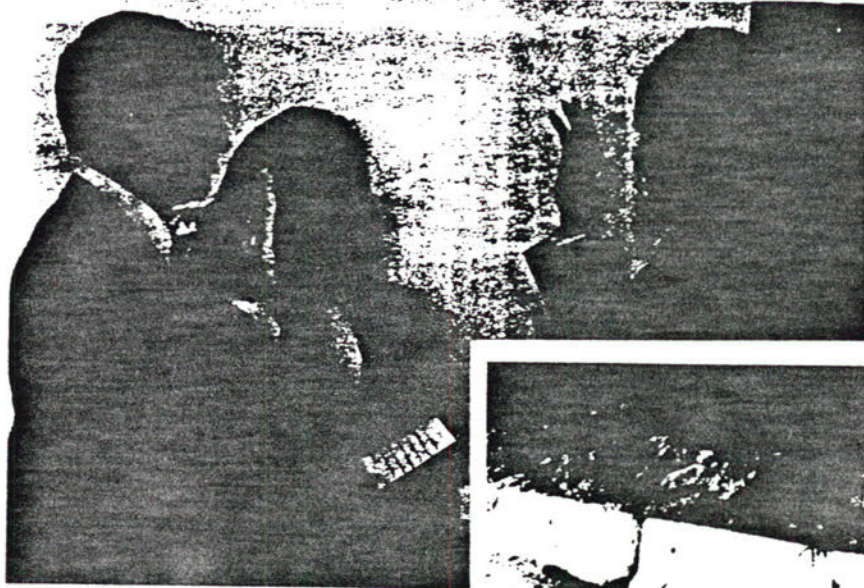
We Welcome Our 26th Secretary

INSIDE

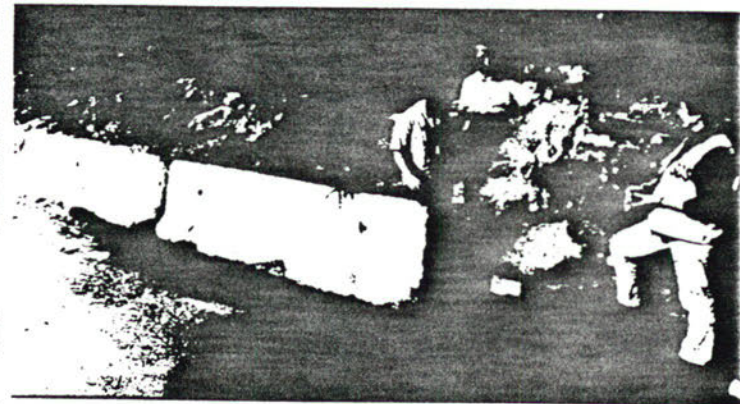
W
DAN
M
D.H.
S.B.

Volume 54 No. 1

March-April 1995



The swearing-in makes it official, as Dan Glickman (right) becomes our 26th Secretary...page 1.



• • • • • INSIDE

Dan Glickman takes helm of Department

USDA's FY96 budget calls for a \$2.1 billion g

When it floods—twice—in Calif., our em

Around & About USDA—For Employees

Editor's Roundup on USDA People in the

NRCS civil engineer Laura Lundin (center) explains to AmeriCorps volunteers Phillip Sam (left) and Sandy Haynes in Altadena, Calif. how NRCS employees directed the placement of the two cement barriers, known as "K rails." This ensured that the barriers worked as a conservation measure by deflecting and redirecting sediment during the rains and subsequent flooding that hit the state in January and March. USDA employees initiated a number of actions, in both urban and rural settings, to combat the effects of these floods. Note the story on page 3.



STATE OF LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MELINDA SCHWEGMANN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
AND
COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE,
RECREATION AND TOURISM

R. O. BOX 44243
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804
(804) 342-7009
FAX (804) 342-1949

July 7, 1995

Mr. Richard B. Hoffpauir
RECD
3727 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302

Dear Mr. Hoffpauir:

On behalf of the Louisiana Serve Commission and AmeriCorps, I would like to extend my thanks for your assistance with helping the victims of floods in the New Orleans area. Your contribution to the flood recovery efforts was invaluable.

I trust your experience with helping all those in need was as rewarding for you as it was to the victims you assisted. You are truly an example of AmeriCorps' pledge of "getting things done."

Thank you for your continued dedicated service to our country and state.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melinda Schwegmann".

MELINDA SCHWEGMANN
Lieutenant Governor



Concordia Council on Aging

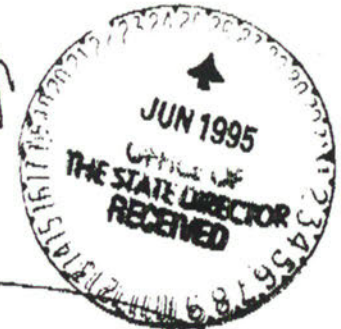
OLD COURTHOUSE BLDG.

TEL. 318/386-7887

VIDALIA, LA. 71373

June 23, 1995

Austin Cormier
Acting State Director
Rural Economic & Community Development
3727 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302



ATTN: Richard Hoffpauir
Americorp Coordinator

Dear Mr. Cormier:

I would like to express appreciation for the work that Mrs. Bobbie Ignont has done for the Council on Aging in Concordia Parish. Mrs. Ignont has personally worked with us and was responsible for getting other volunteers to help.

She walked with us in our 'Miles For Meals' Walk for Homebound senior citizens in this parish. She helped work the roadblock on June 16 in Ferriday, La. She has been instrumental in securing donations of money and merchandise for a raffle from businesses in the Ferriday and Vidalia areas.

Bobbie has maintained good communication throughout this drive. She is very dependable and an overall asset to your organization. Thank you for providing this quality personnel to our area.

Sincerely,

Dorothy H. McDonald

Dorothy H. McDonald
Executive Director

dhm

cc: Paul Eiland, DD
Debbie Redfearn
Mike Taylor

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages ▶ 3
To Katherine Gibney	From Richard	
Co. FYI "	Co. IZCD - LA	
Dept.	Phone #	
Fax #	Fax #	

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Mary J. Ferrington
Mary J. Ferrington
Home Economist
Tensas/Concordia Parishes



Louisiana State University
Agricultural Center
 Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

Richard

June 26, 1995

Concordia Parish Office
 405 Carter Street
 3rd Floor, Old Courthouse
 Vidalia, LA 71373
 (318) 338-5315

AUSTIN CORMIER
 Acting State Director
 Rural Economic & Community Development
 3727 Government Street
 Alexandria, LA 71320

Attn: Richard Hoffpauir
 Americorp Coordinator

Dear Mr. Cormier:

I've had the pleasure of working with Bobbie Ignont since December 1994. She introduced herself to me at the Concordia Parish Extension Advisory Committee Meeting, which she attended to voice concerns about our community. She expressed an interest in working with me with home economics programs in Tensas and Concordia Parishes.

We met in January 1995 to discuss programming needs for both parishes. She began assisting at monthly Council On Aging meetings and with commodity food distributions.

She played an important role in the Tensas Parish Health Fair. She helped set up the building, register participants, direct people to services, and assisted with clean-up.

Bobbie has demonstrated a sincere effort to work with people. She's cooperative, dependable, and has a pleasant personality. She has helped educate the elderly and needy in these communities, and learned a few things during the process.

I've enjoyed working with Bobbie, and hope to continue to do so. She's definitely an asset to the Americorp program.

Sincerely,

Mary J. Ferrington
 Mary J. Ferrington
 Home Economist
 Tensas/Concordia Parishes



MJF;lt

c: Paul Eiland, DD
 Debbie Redfearn
 Mike Taylor

Office of the Mayor

Minden, Louisiana

Proclamation

WHEREAS, national service is a part of our history as people, as this day, our nation has come together to celebrate the Spirit of Service; and

WHEREAS, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the GI Bill, the Peace Corps, and VISTA have helped set the stage for a service movement in the country and in response to environmental concerns in the 1970's and 1980's, a grassroots youth movement has emerged, focusing on service and supported by national and community foundations; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the success of the rapidly expanding grassroots service movement generated bipartisan support for the passage of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, followed by the National and Community Trust Act of 1993, as amended, and the state of Louisiana, through the Lieutenant Governor's office, initiated the first national and community service program in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, programs of the Louisiana Serve Commission have had an impact on communities throughout Louisiana, today, we recognize those who have answered the call to serve our national community. Service, and those who serve, makes a difference in America; and

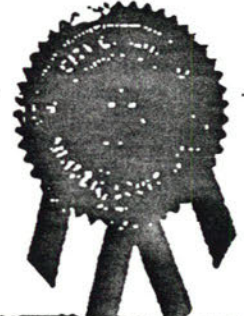
WHEREAS, volunteers throughout Louisiana have favorably impacted all aspects of life for our citizens, I ask all Minimites to join me in commending those who exemplify the Spirit of Service through their actions in our community and in finding ways in which each of us can contribute to this effort to foster the feeling of civic responsibility and renew the Spirit of Service that calls us all to serve; and

WHEREAS, Minimites are "getting things done" through this service movement, together, we can make a difference in the lives of our citizens, and in doing so, give something back to our country which has provided us with so much.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **BILL ROBERTSON**, Mayor of the City of Minden, State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 23, 1995, as

... NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE ...

in the City of Minden, Louisiana.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this proclamation to be attested.

Bill Robertson
 Mayor
 City of Minden, Louisiana
 April 23, 1995

Mayor Bill Robertson presented me with a framed proclamation.

VILLAGE OF DOWNSVILLE

**Reggie G. Skains
Mayor**

Official Statement

- WHEREAS,** national service is a part of our history as people, on this day, our nation has come together to celebrate the Spirit of Service; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Civilian Conservation Corps, the GI Bill, the Peace Corps, and VISTA have helped set the stage for a service movement in the country and in response to environmental concerns in the 1970's and 1980's, a grassroots youth movement began to emerge, focusing on service and supported by national and community foundations; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1990, the success of the rapidly expanding grassroots service movement generated bipartisan support for the passage of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, followed by the National and Community Trust Act of 1993, as amended, and the state of Louisiana, through the Lieutenant Governor's office, initiated the first national and community service program in Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS,** programs of the Louisiana Serve Commission have had an impact on communities throughout Louisiana, today, we recognize those who have answered the call to serve our national community. Service, and those who serve, makes a difference in America; and
- WHEREAS,** volunteers throughout Louisiana have favorably impacted all aspects of life for our citizens, I ask all Louisianians to join me in commending those who exemplify the Spirit of Service through their actions in our communities and in finding ways in which each of us can contribute to this effort to foster the feeling of civic responsibility and renew the Spirit of Service that call us all to serve; and
- WHEREAS,** Louisianians are "getting things done" through this service movement, together, we can make a difference in the lives of our citizens, and in doing so, give something back to our country which has provided us with so much.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, REGGIE G. SKAINS, Mayor of the Village of Downsville, Louisiana do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 25, 1995 as**

NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

in the Village of Downsville.

Given under my hand and seal
this the 25th day
of April A.D. 1995


Mayor of Downsville



TOWN OF DUBACH

STEPHEN HAMMONS

MAYOR

Official Statement

- WHEREAS,** national service is a part of our history as people, on this day, our nation has come together to celebrate the Spirit of Service; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1990, the success of the rapidly expanding grassroots service movement generated bipartisan support for the passage of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, followed by the National and Community Trust Act of 1993, as amended, and the state of Louisiana, through the Lieutenant Governor's office, initiated the first national and community service programs in Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS,** volunteers in Dubach have favorably impacted all aspects of life for our citizens, I ask all citizens to join me in commending those who exemplify the Spirit of Service through their actions in our community and in finding ways in which each of us can contribute to this effort to foster the feeling of civic responsibility and renew the Spirit of Service that calls us all to serve; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 25, 1995 as

NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

in the Town of Dubach.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Seal of the Town of Dubach, on this the 21st day of April A:D 1995

Stephen Hammons
Mayor of Town of Dubach

Office of the Mayor

Ruston, Louisiana

Proclamation



- WHEREAS, AMERICORPS STRENGTHENS COMMUNITIES AND IMPROVES THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES, AND
- WHEREAS, THE USDOA/AMERICORPS MEETS LOCAL NEEDS BY USING LOCAL STRATEGIES, AND
- WHEREAS, AS A PROGRAM OF THE LOUISIANA SERVE COMMISSION, PEOPLE THROUGHOUT OUR LOUISIANA COMMUNITIES HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL TO SERVE OUR NATIONAL COMMUNITY, MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN AMERICA, AND
- WHEREAS, NATIONAL SERVICE IS A PART OUR HISTORY AS PEOPLE AND LOUISIANA'S ARE "GETTING THINGS DONE" THROUGH THIS SERVICE MOVEMENT, AND
- WHEREAS, TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR CITIZENS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MILDA TAYLOR PERRITT, MAYOR OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM APRIL 25, 1995 AS:

National Day Of Service

IN THE CITY OF RUSTON, AND URGE ALL OF OUR CITIZENS TO RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL TO SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHICH FOSTERS THE FEELING OF CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY AND CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE NETWORKING.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed:



ATTEST: Hilda Taylor Perritt
 Hilda Taylor Perritt-Mayor
 DATE: April 21, 1995

Mayor Hilda Perritt presented me with a plaque

TOWN OF MARION

MARION, LOUISIANA

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, national service is a part of our history as people, on this day, our nation has come together to celebrate the Spirit of Service; and
- WHEREAS, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the GI Bill, the Peace Corps, and Vista have helped set the stage for a service movement in the country and in response to environmental concerns in the 1970's and 1980's, a grassroots youth movement began to emerge, focusing on service and supported by national and community foundations; and
- WHEREAS, in 1990, the success of the rapidly expanding grassroots service movement generated bipartisan support for the passage of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, followed by the National and Community Trust Act of 1993, as amended, and the state of Louisiana, through the Lieutenant Governor's Office, initiated the first national and community service programs in Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS, programs of the Louisiana Serve Commission have had an impact on communities throughout Louisiana, today, we recognize those who have answered the call to serve our national community, Service, and those who serve, makes a difference in America; and
- WHEREAS, volunteers throughout Louisiana have favorably impacted all aspects of life for our citizens, I ask all Louisianians to join me in commending those who exemplify the Spirit of Service through their actions in our communities and in finding ways in which each of us can contribute to this effort to foster the feeling of civic responsibility and renew the Spirit of Service that calls us all to serve; and
- WHEREAS, the citizens of Marion, Louisiana are "getting things done" through this service movement, together, we can make a difference in the lives of our citizens, and in doing so, give something back to our country which has provided us with so much.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KENNETH W. FRANKLIN, Mayor of the Town of Marion, Louisiana do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 25, 1995 as

NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

in the Town of Marion, Louisiana.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Seal of the Town of Marion, Louisiana, on this the 24th day of April, 1995.

Kenneth W. Franklin

Town of Farmerville

Wille Davis, Jr.
MAYOR
Guy Nell McIntosh
TOWN CLERK/TREASURER
Deanna McCallum
TOWN ATTORNEY

P.O. Box 487
Farmerville, LA 71341
Phone (512) 368-9343
FAX (512) 368-7148

ALDERMEN
Jerry L. Taylor
Thaddeus E. Wallace
Kelle E. Stansbury
Tommy J. Johnson
Kenneth W. Dixon

PROCLAMATION

By the Mayor

- WHEREAS, national service is a part of our history as people, on this day, our nation has come together to celebrate the Spirit of Service; and
- WHEREAS, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the GI Bill, the Peace Corps, and VISTA have helped set the stage for a service movement in the country and in response to environmental concerns in the 1970's and 1980's, a grassroots youth movement began to emerge, focusing on service and supported by national and community foundations; and
- WHEREAS, in 1990, the success of the rapidly expanding grassroots service movement generated bipartisan support for the passage of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, followed by the National and Community Trust Act of 1993, as amended, and the state of Louisiana, through the Lieutenant Governor's office, initiated the first national and community service programs in Louisiana; and
- WHEREAS, programs of the Louisiana Serve Commission have had an impact on communities throughout Louisiana, today, we recognize those who have answered the call to serve our national community. Service, and those who serve, makes a difference in America; and
- WHEREAS, volunteers throughout Louisiana have favorably impacted all aspects of life for our citizens, I ask all Louisianians to join me in commending those who exemplify the Spirit of Service through their actions in our communities and in finding ways in which each of us can contribute to this effort to foster the feeling of civic responsibility and renew the Spirit of Service that calls us all to serve; and
- WHEREAS, Louisianians are "getting things done" through this service movement, together, we can make a difference in the lives of our citizens, and in doing so, give something back to our country which has provided us with so much.

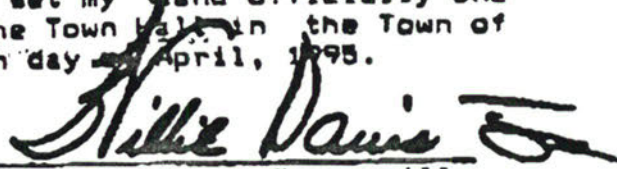
NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIE DAVIS, Mayor of the Town of Farmerville
do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 25, 1995 as

NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

in the State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and
caused to be affixed at the Town Hall in the Town of
Farmerville on this the 25th day of April, 1995.

signed



Mayor, Town of Farmerville



SEAL
attest



TMC, Town Clerk

USDA AMERICORPS DRY FIRE HYDRANT PROJECTS
STATE-BY-STATE RESULTS
As of September 1996

	Arkansas	Louisiana	South Carolina	Vermont	TOTAL
# of dry fire hydrant installations performed and/or coordinated by AmeriCorps/USDA	30	848*	99	44	1,021
Total federal/state cost of program	\$44,05	\$1,523,024**	\$113,200	\$60,000	\$1,740,274
# of structures directly or indirectly saved from damage by dry fire hydrants	0	10	1	4	15
Estimated value of the structures saved	N/A	\$730,000	\$75,000	\$400,000	\$1,205,000
Estimated number of homeowners to to obtain lower insurance rate	2,250	300,000	9,000	1,600	312,850
Average yearly insurance rate reduction for homeowners	\$200	\$150	\$250	\$76	\$169
Total estimated yearly savings for homeowners	\$450,000	\$45,000,000	\$2,250,000	\$121,600	\$47,821,600
Number of dollars returned to homeowners for each dollar spent by the government	\$9.22	\$29.03	\$19.54	\$7.69	\$27.17

**1,167 additional dry fire hydrants are planned for installation next year in Louisiana.*

*** The cost of the Louisiana program covers the installation of the total 2,015 dry fire hydrants.*

NEWS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Communications News Room 460-A
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Internet: News @usda.gov Phone: 202-720-9035
World Wide Web Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov>

Release No. 0523.96

Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623
Joel Berg (202) 720-5746

USDA AMERICORPS RURAL FIRE PROJECTS SAVE PROPERTY AND MONEY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30, 1996 --Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced today that rural fire protection projects implemented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's AmeriCorps national service program have protected property from destruction and will save rural homeowners in four states an estimated \$48 million in one year.

Given that the total governmental cost for the AmeriCorps fire protection projects--including construction materials and education awards for the AmeriCorps members--was \$1.7 million, the projects will return \$27 to rural homeowners yearly for every dollar spent on the program by the government. The attached chart shows the economic benefits of "dry fire hydrant" projects implemented by USDA's AmeriCorps program in Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Vermont.

Dry fire hydrants are special hooks-ups that allow rural fire departments to obtain water for fire fighting in areas that do not have existing water mains that can provide adequate pressure. The installation of such dry fire hydrants has saved homes and commercial properties from destruction and is helping an estimated 312,000 rural homeowners reduce their insurance rates. Some homeowners will have their rates reduced by up to \$250 yearly. The rates are lowered by insurance companies as a result of an improvement in fire classification ratings in the counties or fire districts in which the dry fire hydrants are installed.

"This is another example of how USDA's AmeriCorps program meets critical local needs while promoting community, opportunity, and responsibility, but that the program is putting dollars directly back into the pockets of homeowners," Glickman said. "This program has already saved property -- and possibly lives -- at the same time it has helped families reduce their insurance payments. It is precisely because of success stories such as this that the President has been winning increasing bi-partisan support for his AmeriCorps program."

The AmeriCorps dry fire hydrant projects are jointly sponsored by Resource Conservation and Development Councils, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Corporation for National Service, and local fire departments. AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages over 20,000 Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that meets critical community needs in return for an award which may be used for post-secondary education.

#

NOTE: USDA news releases and media advisories are available on the Internet. Access the USDA Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov>

NEWS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Communications News Room 460-A
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Internet: News @usda.gov Phone: 202-720-9035
World Wide Web Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov>

Release No. 0523.96

Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623
Joel Berg (202) 720-5746

USDA AMERICORPS RURAL FIRE PROJECTS SAVE PROPERTY AND MONEY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30, 1996 --Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced today that rural fire protection projects implemented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's AmeriCorps national service program have protected property from destruction and will save rural homeowners in four states an estimated \$48 million in one year.

Given that the total governmental cost for the AmeriCorps fire protection projects--including construction materials and education awards for the AmeriCorps members--was \$1.7 million, the projects will return \$27 to rural homeowners yearly for every dollar spent on the program by the government. The attached chart shows the economic benefits of "dry fire hydrant" projects implemented by USDA's AmeriCorps program in Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Vermont.

Dry fire hydrants are special hooks-ups that allow rural fire departments to obtain water for fire fighting in areas that do not have existing water mains that can provide adequate pressure. The installation of such dry fire hydrants has saved homes and commercial properties from destruction and is helping an estimated 312,000 rural homeowners reduce their insurance rates. Some homeowners will have their rates reduced by up to \$250 yearly. The rates are lowered by insurance companies as a result of an improvement in fire classification ratings in the counties or fire districts in which the dry fire hydrants are installed.

"This is another example of how USDA's AmeriCorps program meets critical local needs while promoting community, opportunity, and responsibility, but that the program is putting dollars directly back into the pockets of homeowners," Glickman said. "This program has already saved property -- and possibly lives -- at the same time it has helped families reduce their insurance payments. It is precisely because of success stories such as this that the President has been winning increasing bi-partisan support for his AmeriCorps program."

The AmeriCorps dry fire hydrant projects are jointly sponsored by Resource Conservation and Development Councils, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Corporation for National Service, and local fire departments. AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages over 20,000 Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that meets critical community needs in return for an award which may be used for post-secondary education.

#

NOTE: USDA news releases and media advisories are available on the Internet. Access the USDA Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov>

USDA AMERICORPS DRY FIRE HYDRANT PROJECTS
STATE-BY-STATE RESULTS
As of September 1996

	Arkansas	Louisiana	South Carolina	Vermont	TOTAL
# of dry fire hydrant installations performed and/or coordinated by AmeriCorps/USDA	30	848*	99	44	1,021
Total federal/state cost of program	\$44,05	\$1,523,024**	\$113,200	\$60,000	\$1,740,274
# of structures directly or indirectly saved from damage by dry fire hydrants	0	10	1	4	15
Estimated value of the structures saved	N/A	\$730,000	\$75,000	\$400,000	\$1,205,000
Estimated number of homeowners to obtain lower insurance rate	2,250	300,000	9,000	1,600	312,850
Average yearly insurance rate reduction for homeowners	\$200	\$150	\$250	\$76	\$169
Total estimated yearly savings for homeowners	\$450,000	\$45,000,000	\$2,250,000	\$121,600	\$47,821,600
Number of dollars returned to homeowners for each dollar spent by the government	\$9.22	\$29.03	\$19.54	\$7.69	\$27.17

**1,167 additional dry fire hydrants are planned for installation next year in Louisiana.*

*** The cost of the Louisiana program covers the installation of the total 2,015 dry fire hydrants.*

NEWS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Communications News Room 460-A
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Internet: News @usda.gov Phone: 202-720-9035
World Wide Web Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov>

Release No. 0523.96

Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623
Joel Berg (202) 720-5746

USDA AMERICORPS RURAL FIRE PROJECTS SAVE PROPERTY AND MONEY

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30, 1996 --Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced today that rural fire protection projects implemented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's AmeriCorps national service program have protected property from destruction and will save rural homeowners in four states an estimated \$48 million in one year.

Given that the total governmental cost for the AmeriCorps fire protection projects--including construction materials and education awards for the AmeriCorps members--was \$1.7 million, the projects will return \$27 to rural homeowners yearly for every dollar spent on the program by the government. The attached chart shows the economic benefits of "dry fire hydrant" projects implemented by USDA's AmeriCorps program in Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Vermont.

Dry fire hydrants are special hooks-ups that allow rural fire departments to obtain water for fire fighting in areas that do not have existing water mains that can provide adequate pressure. The installation of such dry fire hydrants has saved homes and commercial properties from destruction and is helping an estimated 312,000 rural homeowners reduce their insurance rates. Some homeowners will have their rates reduced by up to \$250 yearly. The rates are lowered by insurance companies as a result of an improvement in fire classification ratings in the counties or fire districts in which the dry fire hydrants are installed.

"This is another example of how USDA's AmeriCorps program meets critical local needs while promoting community, opportunity, and responsibility, but that the program is putting dollars directly back into the pockets of homeowners," Glickman said. "This program has already saved property -- and possibly lives -- at the same time it has helped families reduce their insurance payments. It is precisely because of success stories such as this that the President has been winning increasing bi-partisan support for his AmeriCorps program."

The AmeriCorps dry fire hydrant projects are jointly sponsored by Resource Conservation and Development Councils, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Corporation for National Service, and local fire departments. AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages over 20,000 Americans of diverse backgrounds in performing service that meets critical community needs in return for an award which may be used for post-secondary education.

#

NOTE: USDA news releases and media advisories are available on the Internet. Access the USDA Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov>

USDA AMERICORPS DRY FIRE HYDRANT PROJECTS
STATE-BY-STATE RESULTS
As of September 1996

	Arkansas	Louisiana	South Carolina	Vermont	TOTAL
# of dry fire hydrant installations performed and/or coordinated by AmeriCorps/USDA	30	848*	99	44	1,021
Total federal/state cost of program	\$44,05	\$1,523,024**	\$113,200	\$60,000	\$1,740,274
# of structures directly or indirectly saved from damage by dry fire hydrants	0	10	1	4	15
Estimated value of the structures saved	N/A	\$730,000	\$75,000	\$400,000	\$1,205,000
Estimated number of homeowners to obtain lower insurance rate	2,250	300,000	9,000	1,600	312,850
Average yearly insurance rate reduction for homeowners	\$200	\$150	\$250	\$76	\$169
Total estimated yearly savings for homeowners	\$450,000	\$45,000,000	\$2,250,000	\$121,600	\$47,821,600
Number of dollars returned to homeowners for each dollar spent by the government	\$9.22	\$29.03	\$19.54	\$7.69	\$27.17

**1,167 additional dry fire hydrants are planned for installation next year in Louisiana.*

*** The cost of the Louisiana program covers the installation of the total 2,015 dry fire hydrants.*



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

JOEL BERG

Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E-mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel Berg".

JOEL BERG

Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E- mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel Berg".

JOEL BERG

Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E- mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

JOEL BERG
Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E-mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,



JOEL BERG

Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E-mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,



JOEL BERG

Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E- mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

JOEL BERG
Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E- mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1995-1996 Program Year of AmeriCorps/USDA

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your year of AmeriCorps. Your efforts played a significant role in getting things done, strengthening communities, and expanding educational opportunity. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

JOEL BERG
Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:

Name (signature): _____

Name (print): _____

Permanent Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Fax Number (if any): _____

E-mail Address (if any): _____



UNITED
STATES
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

BIOGRAPHY OF JOEL BERG

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Joel Berg is Director of National Service for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), a position he has held since April 1994. He is responsible for planning and managing the largest-single component of the AmeriCorps national service program run by a Federal agency, overseeing 1,350 AmeriCorps Members serving in USDA anti-hunger, environmental, and rural development projects in 45 states.

From January through March of 1993, he served as USDA's Acting Director of Public Affairs and Press Secretary, coordinating all communications activities for the Department. From April 1993 through March 1994, he served as Director of Public Liaison, holding responsibility for the Department's interactions with constituency groups.

Berg moved to USDA from the domestic policy staff of the Presidential Transition Team, where he helped develop the details of President-Elect Clinton's national service initiative. For a year preceding the 1992 Presidential election, Berg worked for the Clinton for President Campaign in Arkansas, Maine, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and Kansas.

From March 1989 to August 1990, and again in 1991, Berg was a Policy Analyst for the Progressive Policy Institute and the Democratic Leadership Council. These groups played a key role in developing many of the reinventing government ideas advanced by President Clinton and Vice-President Gore. Berg served both groups as their principal researcher on policy relating to national service, public housing, youth apprenticeship, and higher education. He played a significant role in crafting the national service demonstration project provisions of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, a forerunner to President Clinton's national service bill. His writings on national service and other topics have appeared in major publications throughout the country.

Among other experiences, Berg served as Campaign Manager for Representative Frank Pallone in New Jersey in both 1990 and 1992, and for Peter Gruenstein for Congressman-at-large in Alaska in 1988. In 1987 and 1988, Berg helped run the Bruce Babbitt for President Campaign in New York State.

Berg is a native of New York State. His first government service was in 1986 when he was appointed Environmental Quality Commissioner in Ramapo, NY. He graduated from New York's Columbia University in 1986 with a B.A. in political science.