

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2167

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans, to help restore natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of the United States, to train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts, to promote the value of public service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2015

Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. FARR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of the Interior to provide service opportunities for young Americans, to help restore natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of the United States, to train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts, to promote the value of public service, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “Public Lands Service Corps Act of 2015”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
 7 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Amendment to existing short title.
- Sec. 3. Name and project description changes.
- Sec. 4. Findings.
- Sec. 5. Purposes.
- Sec. 6. Definitions.
- Sec. 7. Public Lands Service Corps program.
- Sec. 8. Residential conservation centers and program support.
- Sec. 9. Resource assistants and consulting interns.
- Sec. 10. Inclusion of Indian Youth Service Corps and issuance of guidance.
- Sec. 11. Living allowances and terms of service.
- Sec. 12. National service educational awards.
- Sec. 13. Nondisplacement.
- Sec. 14. Funding.
- Sec. 15. Authorization of appropriations.

8 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SHORT TITLE.**

9 Section 201 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
 10 (16 U.S.C. 1701 note; title II of Public Law 91–378) is
 11 amended to read as follows:

12 **“SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.**

13 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the
 14 ‘Public Lands Service Corps Act of 1993’.

15 “(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference contained in any
 16 law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the
 17 United States to the ‘Public Lands Corps Act of 1993’

1 shall be considered to be a reference to the ‘Public Lands
2 Service Corps Act of 1993’.’’.

3 **SEC. 3. NAME AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION CHANGES.**

4 The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C.
5 1721 et seq.; title II of Public Law 91–378) is amended—

6 (1) in the title heading, by striking “**PUBLIC**
7 **LANDS CORPS**” and inserting “**PUBLIC**
8 **LANDS SERVICE CORPS**”;

9 (2) in section 204 (16 U.S.C. 1723), in the
10 heading, by striking “**PUBLIC LANDS CORPS**” and
11 inserting “**PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE CORPS**”;

12 (3) in section 210(a)(2) (16 U.S.C.
13 1729(a)(2)), in the heading, by striking “**PUBLIC**
14 **LANDS**”;

15 (4) by striking “Public Lands Corps” each
16 place it appears and inserting “Corps”;

17 (5) by striking “conservation center” each place
18 it appears and inserting “residential conservation
19 center”;

20 (6) by striking “conservation centers” each
21 place it appears and inserting “residential conserva-
22 tion centers”;

23 (7) by striking “appropriate conservation
24 project” each place it appears and inserting “appro-

1 appropriate natural and cultural resources conservation
2 project”; and

3 (8) by striking “appropriate conservation
4 projects” each place it appears and inserting “ap-
5 propriate natural and cultural resources conservation
6 projects”.

7 **SEC. 4. FINDINGS.**

8 Section 202(a) of the Public Lands Corps Act of
9 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1721(a)), as amended by section 3, is
10 amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (1)—

12 (A) by striking “Corps can benefit” and
13 inserting “conservation corps can benefit”; and

14 (B) by striking “the natural and cultural”
15 and inserting “natural and cultural”;

16 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as
17 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

18 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
19 lowing new paragraph:

20 “(2) Participants in conservation corps receive
21 meaningful education and training, and their experi-
22 ence with conservation corps provides preparation
23 for careers in public service.

24 “(3) Young men and women who participate in
25 the rehabilitation and restoration of the natural, cul-

1 tural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and sce-
2 nic treasures of the United States will gain an in-
3 creased appreciation and understanding of the public
4 lands and heritage of the United States, and of the
5 value of public service, and are likely to become life-
6 long advocates for those values.”;

7 (4) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by para-
8 graph (2), by inserting “, cultural, historic, archae-
9 ological, recreational, and scenic” after “Many facili-
10 ties and natural”; and

11 (5) by adding at the end the following new
12 paragraph:

13 “(6) The work of conservation corps can benefit
14 communities adjacent to public lands and facilities
15 through renewed civic engagement and participation
16 by corps participants and those they serve, improved
17 student achievement, and restoration and rehabilita-
18 tion of public assets.”.

19 **SEC. 5. PURPOSES.**

20 Subsection (b) of section 202 of the Public Lands
21 Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1721) is amended to read
22 as follows:

23 “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as fol-
24 lows:

1 “(1) To introduce young men and women to
2 public service while furthering their understanding
3 and appreciation of the natural, cultural, historic,
4 archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of
5 the United States.

6 “(2) To facilitate training and recruitment op-
7 portunities in which service is credited as qualifying
8 experience for careers in the management of such
9 resources.

10 “(3) To instill in a new generation of young
11 men and women from across the United States, in-
12 cluding young men and women from diverse back-
13 grounds, the desire to seek careers in resource stew-
14 ards and public service by allowing them to work
15 directly with professionals in agencies responsible for
16 the management of the natural, cultural, historic,
17 archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources of
18 the United States.

19 “(4) To perform, in a cost-effective manner, ap-
20 propriate natural and cultural resources conservation
21 projects where such projects are not being performed
22 by existing employees.

23 “(5) To assist State and local governments and
24 Indian tribes in performing research and public edu-
25 cation tasks associated with the conservation of nat-

1 ural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational,
2 and scenic resources.

3 “(6) To expand educational opportunities on
4 public lands and by rewarding individuals who par-
5 ticipate in conservation corps with an increased abil-
6 ity to pursue higher education and job training.

7 “(7) To promote public understanding and ap-
8 preciation of the missions and the natural and cul-
9 tural resources conservation work of the partici-
10 pating Federal agencies through training opportuni-
11 ties, community service and outreach, and other ap-
12 propriate means.

13 “(8) To create a grant program for Indian
14 tribes to establish the Indian Youth Service Corps so
15 that Indian youth can benefit from carrying out
16 projects on Indian lands that the Indian tribes and
17 communities determine to be priorities.”.

18 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

19 Section 203 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
20 (16 U.S.C. 1722) is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
22 (7), (8) through (10), and (11) through (13) as
23 paragraphs (5) through (9), (11) through (13), and
24 (15) through (17), respectively;

1 (2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and in-
2 serting the following new paragraphs:

3 “(1) APPROPRIATE NATURAL AND CULTURAL
4 RESOURCES CONSERVATION PROJECT.—The term
5 ‘appropriate natural and cultural resources conserva-
6 tion project’ means any project for the conservation,
7 restoration, construction, or rehabilitation of nat-
8 ural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational,
9 or scenic resources.

10 “(2) CONSULTING INTERN.—The term ‘con-
11 sulting intern’ means a consulting intern selected
12 under section 206(a)(2).

13 “(3) CORPS AND PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
14 CORPS.—The terms ‘Corps’ and ‘Public Lands Serv-
15 ice Corps’ mean the Public Lands Service Corps es-
16 tablished under section 204(a).

17 “(4) CORPS PARTICIPANT.—The term ‘Corps
18 participant’ means an individual enrolled—

19 “(A) in the Corps or the Indian Youth
20 Service Corps; or

21 “(B) as a resource assistant or consulting
22 intern.”;

23 (3) by inserting after paragraph (9), as redesign-
24 nated by paragraph (1), the following new para-
25 graph:

1 “(10) INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.—The
2 term ‘Indian Youth Service Corps’ means a qualified
3 youth or conservation corps established under sec-
4 tion 207 that—

5 “(A) enrolls individuals between the ages
6 of 15 and 25, inclusive, a majority of whom are
7 Indians; and

8 “(B) is established pursuant to a tribal
9 resolution that describes the agreement between
10 the Indian tribe and the qualified youth or con-
11 servation corps to operate an Indian Youth
12 Service Corps program for the benefit of the
13 members of the Indian tribe.”;

14 (4) by striking paragraph (12), as redesignated
15 by paragraph (1), and inserting the following new
16 paragraph:

17 “(12) PUBLIC LANDS.—The term ‘public lands’
18 means any land or water (or interest therein) owned
19 or administered by the United States, including
20 those areas of coastal and ocean waters, the Great
21 Lakes and their connecting waters, and submerged
22 lands over which the United States exercises juris-
23 diction, except that such term does not include In-
24 dian lands.”;

1 (5) in paragraph (13), as redesignated by para-
2 graph (1)—

3 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

4 (i) by striking “full-time,”;

5 (ii) by inserting “on eligible service
6 lands” after “resource setting”; and

7 (iii) by striking “16” and inserting
8 “15”;

9 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking
10 “and” at the end;

11 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
12 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

13 (D) by adding at the end the following new
14 subparagraph:

15 “(D) makes available for audit for each fis-
16 cal year for which the qualified youth or con-
17 servation corps receives Federal funds under
18 this Act, all information pertaining to the ex-
19 penditure of the funds, any matching funds,
20 and participant demographics.”;

21 (6) by inserting after paragraph (13), as redesi-
22 gnated by paragraph (1) and amended by para-
23 graph (5), the following new paragraph:

1 “(14) RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CEN-
2 TERS.—The term ‘residential conservation centers’
3 means the facilities authorized under section 205.”;

4 (7) in paragraph (15), as redesignated by para-
5 graph (1), by striking “206” and inserting
6 “206(a)(1)”; and

7 (8) in paragraph (16), as redesignated by para-
8 graph (1)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking
10 “and” at the end;

11 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the
12 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

13 (C) by adding at the end the following new
14 subparagraph:

15 “(C) with respect to the National Marine
16 Sanctuary System, coral reefs, and other coast-
17 al, estuarine, and marine habitats, and other
18 lands and facilities administered by the Na-
19 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
20 the Secretary of Commerce.”.

21 **SEC. 7. PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM.**

22 Section 204 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
23 (16 U.S.C. 1723), as amended by section 3, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), (e),
2 and (f) as subsections (d), (f), (g), and (h), respec-
3 tively;

4 (2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and in-
5 serting the following new subsections:

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS SERVICE
7 CORPS.—There is established in the Department of the
8 Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and the Depart-
9 ment of Commerce a Public Lands Service Corps.

10 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPS OFFICE; COORDI-
11 NATORS; LIAISON.—

12 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES.—

13 “(A) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—
14 The Secretary of the Interior shall establish a
15 department-level office to coordinate the Corps
16 activities within the Department of the Interior.

17 “(B) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—
18 The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish
19 within the Forest Service an office to coordinate
20 the Corps activities within that agency.

21 “(C) DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.—The
22 Secretary of Commerce shall establish within
23 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
24 istration an office to coordinate the Corps ac-
25 tivities within that agency.

1 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF COORDINATORS.—
2 The Secretary shall designate a Public Lands Serv-
3 ice Corps coordinator for each agency under the ju-
4 risdiction of the Secretary that administers Corps
5 activities.

6 “(3) ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON.—The Sec-
7 retary of the Interior shall establish an Indian Youth
8 Service Corps liaison that will—

9 “(A) provide outreach to Indian tribes
10 about opportunities for establishing Corps and
11 Indian Youth Service Corps programs; and

12 “(B) coordinate with the Tribal Liaison of
13 the Corporation for National Service to identify
14 and establish Corps and Indian Youth Service
15 Corps opportunities for Indian youth.

16 “(c) PARTICIPANTS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enroll
18 in the Corps individuals who are—

19 “(A) hired by an agency under the juris-
20 diction of the Secretary to perform work au-
21 thorized under this Act; or

22 “(B) members of a qualified youth or con-
23 servation corps with which the Secretary has
24 entered into a cooperative agreement to perform
25 work authorized under this Act.

1 “(2) RESOURCE ASSISTANTS AND CONSULTING
2 INTERNS.—The Secretary may also enroll in the
3 Corps resource assistants and consulting interns in
4 accordance with section 206(a).

5 “(3) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligi-
6 ble for enrollment as a Corps participant, an indi-
7 vidual shall—

8 “(A)(i) be between the ages of 15 and 25,
9 inclusive; or

10 “(ii) in the case of a military veteran, be
11 not older than 35; and

12 “(B) satisfy the requirements of section
13 137(a)(5) of the National and Community Serv-
14 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12591(a)(5)).

15 “(4) TERMS.—Each Corps participant may be
16 enrolled in the Corps for a term of up to 2 years of
17 service, which may be served over a period that ex-
18 ceeds 2 calendar years.

19 “(5) CIVIL SERVICE.—An individual may be en-
20 rolled as a Corps participant without regard to the
21 civil service and classification laws, rules, or regula-
22 tions of the United States.

23 “(6) PREFERENCE.—The Secretary may estab-
24 lish a preference for the enrollment as Corps partici-

1 pants individuals who are economically, physically,
2 or educationally disadvantaged.

3 “(7) LOCAL PREFERENCE.—The Secretary may
4 establish a preference for enrollment of Corps par-
5 ticipants who are individuals who live in that State
6 or region.”;

7 (3) in subsection (d), as redesignated by para-
8 graph (1)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1)—

10 (i) by striking “contracts and”; and

11 (ii) by striking “subsection (d)” and
12 inserting “subsection (f)”; and

13 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
14 ing the following new paragraphs:

15 “(2) RECRUITMENT.—The Secretary shall carry
16 out, or enter into cooperative agreements to provide,
17 a program to attract eligible youth to the Corps by
18 publicizing Corps opportunities through high schools,
19 colleges, employment centers, electronic media, and
20 other appropriate institutions and means.

21 “(3) PREFERENCE.—In entering into coopera-
22 tive agreements under paragraph (1) or awarding
23 competitive grants to Indian tribes or tribally au-
24 thorized organizations under section 207, the Sec-
25 retary may give preference to qualified youth or con-

1 servation corps that are located in specific areas
2 where a substantial portion of members are economi-
3 cally, physically, or educationally disadvantaged.”;

4 (4) by inserting after subsection (d), as redesign-
5 ated by paragraph (1), the following new sub-
6 section:

7 “(e) TRAINING.—For purposes of training, the Sec-
8 retary shall take into account training already received by
9 Corps participants enrolled from qualified youth or con-
10 servation corps.”;

11 (5) in subsection (f), as redesignated by para-
12 graph (1)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)—

14 (i) in the heading, by striking “IN
15 GENERAL.—” and inserting “USE OF
16 CORPS; PROJECTS.—”;

17 (ii) by striking “The Secretary may
18 utilize the Corps or any qualified youth or
19 conservation corps to carry out” and in-
20 serting the following:

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
22 use the Corps to carry out, with appropriate su-
23 pervision and training.”;

1 (iii) by striking “on public lands” and
2 inserting on “on eligible service lands”;
3 and

4 (iv) by adding at the end the following
5 new subparagraph:

6 “(B) PROJECTS.—Appropriate natural and
7 cultural resources conservation projects carried
8 out under this section may include—

9 “(i) protecting, restoring, or enhanc-
10 ing ecosystem components to promote spe-
11 cies recovery, improve biological diversity,
12 enhance productivity and carbon sequestra-
13 tion, and enhance adaptability and resil-
14 ience of eligible service lands and resources
15 to climate change and other natural and
16 human disturbances;

17 “(ii) promoting the health of eligible
18 service lands, including—

19 “(I) protecting and restoring wa-
20 tersheds and forest, grassland, ripar-
21 ian, estuarine, marine, or other habi-
22 tat;

23 “(II) reducing the risk of
24 uncharacteristically severe wildfire

1 and mitigating damage from insects,
2 disease, and disasters;
3 “(III) controlling erosion;
4 “(IV) controlling and removing
5 invasive, noxious, or nonnative spe-
6 cies; and
7 “(V) restoring native species;
8 “(iii) collecting biological, archae-
9 ological, and other scientific data, includ-
10 ing climatological information, species pop-
11 ulations and movement, habitat status, and
12 other information;
13 “(iv) assisting in historical and cul-
14 tural research, museum curatorial work,
15 oral history projects, documentary photog-
16 raphy, and activities that support the cre-
17 ation of public works of art related to eligi-
18 ble service lands; and
19 “(v) constructing, repairing, rehabili-
20 tating, and maintaining roads, trails,
21 campgrounds and other visitor facilities,
22 employee housing, cultural and historic
23 sites and structures, and other facilities
24 that further the purposes of this Act.”;

1 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and
2 (3) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

3 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the
4 following new paragraphs:

5 “(2) VISITOR SERVICES.—The Secretary may—

6 “(A) enter into or amend an existing coop-
7 erative agreement with a cooperating associa-
8 tion, educational institution, friends group, or
9 similar nonprofit partner organization for the
10 purpose of providing training and work experi-
11 ence to Corps participants in areas such as
12 sales, office work, accounting, and management,
13 provided that the work experience directly re-
14 lates to the conservation and management of el-
15 igible service lands; and

16 “(B) allow Corps participants to help pro-
17 mote visitor safety and enjoyment of eligible
18 service lands, and assist in the gathering of vis-
19 itor use data.

20 “(3) INTERPRETATION.—The Secretary may
21 permit Corps participants to provide interpretation
22 or education services for the public under the direct
23 and immediate supervision of an agency employee—

24 “(A) to provide orientation and informa-
25 tion services to visitors;

1 “(B) to assist agency employees in the de-
2 livery of interpretive or educational programs
3 where audience size, environmental conditions,
4 safety, or other factors make such assistance
5 desirable;

6 “(C) to present programs that relate the
7 personal experience of the Corps participants
8 for the purpose of promoting public awareness
9 of the Corps, the role of the Corps in public
10 land management agencies, and the availability
11 of the Corps to potential participants; and

12 “(D) to create nonpersonal interpretive
13 products, such as website content, Junior Rang-
14 er program books, printed handouts, and audio-
15 visual programs.”;

16 (6) in subsection (g), as redesignated by para-
17 graph (1)—

18 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
19 by striking “those projects which” and inserting
20 “priority projects and other projects that”; and

21 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
22 ing the following new paragraph:

23 “(2) will instill in Corps participants a work
24 ethic and a sense of public service;”; and

1 (7) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 sections:

3 “(i) OTHER PARTICIPANTS.—The Secretary may
4 allow volunteers from other programs administered or des-
5 ignated by the Secretary to participate as volunteers in
6 projects carried out under this section.

7 “(j) CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of sec-
9 tion 189D(b) of the National and Community Serv-
10 ice Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12645g(b)) shall apply
11 to each individual age 18 or older seeking—

12 “(A) to become a Corps participant;

13 “(B) to receive funds authorized under this
14 Act; or

15 “(C) to supervise or otherwise have regular
16 contact with Corps participants in activities au-
17 thorized under this Act.

18 “(2) ELIGIBILITY PROHIBITION.—If any of
19 paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 189D(c) of
20 the National and Community Service Act of 1990
21 (42 U.S.C. 12645g(c)) apply to an individual de-
22 scribed in paragraph (1), that individual shall not be
23 eligible for the position or activity described in para-
24 graph (1), unless the Secretary provides an exemp-
25 tion for good cause.”.

1 **SEC. 8. RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION CENTERS AND PRO-**
2 **GRAM SUPPORT.**

3 Section 205 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
4 (16 U.S.C. 1724) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)—

6 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
7 serting the following:

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

9 (B) by adding at the end the following new
10 paragraphs:

11 “(2) TEMPORARY HOUSING.—The Secretary
12 may make arrangements with another Federal agen-
13 cy, State, local government, or private organization
14 to provide temporary housing for Corps participants
15 as needed and available.

16 “(3) TRANSPORTATION.—In project areas
17 where Corps participants reside at their own homes,
18 the Secretary may provide transportation to and
19 from project sites.”;

20 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
21 section (e);

22 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
23 lowing new subsection:

24 “(d) MENTORS.—The Secretary may recruit from
25 programs, such as Federal volunteer and encore service
26 programs, and from veterans groups, military retirees, and

1 active duty personnel, such adults as may be suitable and
2 qualified to provide training, mentoring, and crew-leading
3 services to Corps participants.”; and

4 (4) in subsection (e), as redesignated by para-
5 graph (2), by striking “that are appropriate” and all
6 that follows through the period and inserting “that
7 the Secretary determines to be necessary for a resi-
8 dential conservation center.”.

9 **SEC. 9. RESOURCE ASSISTANTS AND CONSULTING IN-**
10 **TERNS.**

11 Section 206 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
12 (16 U.S.C. 1725) is amended—

13 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**AND**
14 **CONSULTING INTERNS**” before the period;

15 (2) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and in-
16 serting the following new subsections:

17 “(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—

18 “(1) **RESOURCE ASSISTANTS.**—

19 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may
20 provide individual placements of resource assist-
21 ants with any agency under the jurisdiction of
22 the Secretary that carries out appropriate nat-
23 ural and cultural resources conservation
24 projects to carry out research or resource pro-
25 tection activities on behalf of the agency.

1 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for se-
2 lection as a resource assistant, an individual
3 shall be at least 17 years of age.

4 “(C) PREFERENCE.—In selecting resource
5 assistants for placement under this paragraph,
6 the Secretary shall give a preference to individ-
7 uals who are enrolled in an institution of higher
8 education or are recent graduates from an insti-
9 tution of higher education, with particular at-
10 tention given to ensuring full representation of
11 women and participants from Historically Black
12 Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-serving in-
13 stitutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

14 “(2) CONSULTING INTERNS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
16 provide individual placements of consulting in-
17 terns with any agency under the jurisdiction of
18 the Secretary that carries out appropriate nat-
19 ural and cultural resources conservation
20 projects to carry out management analysis ac-
21 tivities on behalf of the agency.

22 “(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for se-
23 lection as a consulting intern, an individual
24 shall be enrolled in, and have completed at least
25 1 full year at, a graduate or professional school

1 that has been accredited by an accrediting body
2 recognized by the Secretary of Education.

3 “(b) USE OF EXISTING NONPROFIT ORGANIZA-
4 TIONS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Whenever 1 or more non-
6 profit organizations can provide appropriate recruit-
7 ment and placement services to fulfill the require-
8 ments of this section, the Secretary may implement
9 this section through such organizations.

10 “(2) EXPENSES.—Participating organizations
11 shall contribute to the expenses of providing and
12 supporting the resource assistants or consulting in-
13 terns from sources of funding other than the Sec-
14 retary, at a level of not less than 25 percent of the
15 total costs (15 percent of which may be from in-kind
16 sources) of each participant in the resource assistant
17 or consulting intern program who has been recruited
18 and placed through that organization.

19 “(3) REPORTING.—Each participating organi-
20 zation shall be required to submit an annual report
21 evaluating the scope, size, and quality of the pro-
22 gram, including the value of work contributed by the
23 resource assistants and consulting interns, to the
24 mission of the agency.”.

1 **SEC. 10. INCLUSION OF INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS**
2 **AND ISSUANCE OF GUIDANCE.**

3 The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating sections 207 through 211
5 (16 U.S.C. 1726 through 1730) as sections 209
6 through 213, respectively; and

7 (2) by inserting after section 206 (16 U.S.C.
8 1725) the following new sections:

9 **“SEC. 207. INDIAN YOUTH SERVICE CORPS.**

10 **“(a) AUTHORIZATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREE-**
11 **MENTS AND COMPETITIVE GRANTS.—**The Secretary is au-
12 thorized to enter into cooperative agreements with, or
13 make competitive grants to, Indian tribes and qualified
14 youth or conservation corps for the establishment and ad-
15 ministration of Indian Youth Service Corps programs to
16 carry out appropriate natural and cultural resources con-
17 servation projects on Indian lands.

18 **“(b) APPLICATION.—**To be eligible to receive assist-
19 ance under this section, an Indian tribe or a qualified
20 youth or conservation corps shall submit to the Secretary
21 an application in such manner and containing such infor-
22 mation as the Secretary may require, including—

23 **“(1) a description of the methods by which In-**
24 **dian youth will be recruited for and retained in the**
25 **Indian Youth Service Corps;**

1 “(2) a description of the projects to be carried
2 out by the Indian Youth Service Corps;

3 “(3) a description of how the projects were
4 identified; and

5 “(4) an explanation of the impact of, and the
6 direct community benefits provided by, the proposed
7 projects.

8 **“SEC. 208. GUIDANCE.**

9 “Not later than 18 months after funds are made
10 available to the Secretary to carry out this Act, the Sec-
11 retary shall issue guidelines for the management of pro-
12 grams under the jurisdiction of the Secretary that are au-
13 thorized under this Act.”.

14 **SEC. 11. LIVING ALLOWANCES AND TERMS OF SERVICE.**

15 Section 209 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
16 (16 U.S.C. 1726), as redesignated by section 10, is
17 amended by striking subsections (a), (b), and (c) and in-
18 serting the following new subsections:

19 “(a) LIVING ALLOWANCES.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
21 each Corps participant with a living allowance in an
22 amount established by the Secretary.

23 “(2) TRAVEL COSTS.—The Secretary may reim-
24 burse Corps participants for travel costs at the be-

1 ginning and end of the term of service of the Corps
2 participants.

3 “(b) TERMS OF SERVICE.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Corps participant
5 shall agree to participate for such term of service as
6 may be established by the Secretary.

7 “(2) CONSULTATIONS.—With respect to the In-
8 dian Youth Service Corps, the term of service shall
9 be established in consultation with the affected In-
10 dian tribe or tribally authorized organization.

11 “(c) HIRING PREFERENCE AND FUTURE EMPLOY-
12 MENT.—The Secretary may—

13 “(1) grant to a Corps participant credit for
14 time served as a Corps participant, which may be
15 used toward future Federal hiring;

16 “(2) provide to a former participant of the
17 Corps or the Indian Youth Service Corps non-
18 competitive hiring status for a period of not more
19 than 2 years after the date on which the service of
20 the candidate in the Corps or the Indian Youth
21 Service Corps was complete, if the candidate—

22 “(A) has served a minimum of 960 hours
23 on an appropriate natural or cultural resources
24 conservation project that included at least 120

1 hours through the Corps or the Indian Youth
2 Service Corps; and

3 “(B) meets Office of Personnel Manage-
4 ment qualification standards for the position for
5 which the candidate is applying;

6 “(3) provide to a former resource assistant or
7 consulting intern noncompetitive hiring status for a
8 period of not more than 2 years after the date on
9 which the individual has completed an under-
10 graduate or graduate degree, respectively, from an
11 accredited institution, if the candidate—

12 “(A) successfully fulfilled the resource as-
13 sistant or consulting intern program require-
14 ments; and

15 “(B) meets Office of Personnel Manage-
16 ment qualification standards for the position for
17 which the candidate is applying; and

18 “(4) provide, or enter into contracts or coopera-
19 tive agreements with qualified employment agencies
20 to provide, alumni services such as job and edu-
21 cation counseling, referrals, verification of service,
22 communications, and other appropriate services to
23 Corps participants who have completed the term of
24 service.”.

1 **SEC. 12. NATIONAL SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.**

2 Section 210 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
3 (16 U.S.C. 1727), as redesignated by section 10 and
4 amended by section 3, is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), in the first sentence—

6 (A) by striking “participant in the Corps
7 or a resource assistant” and inserting “Corps
8 participant”; and

9 (B) by striking “participant or resource as-
10 sistant” and inserting “Corps participant”; and

11 (2) in subsection (b)—

12 (A) by striking “either participants in the
13 Corps or resource assistants” and inserting
14 “Corps participants”; and

15 (B) by striking “or a resource assistant”.

16 **SEC. 13. NONDISPLACEMENT.**

17 Section 211 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
18 (16 U.S.C. 1728), as redesignated by section 10, is
19 amended by striking “activities carried out” and all that
20 follows through the period and inserting “Corps partici-
21 pants.”.

22 **SEC. 14. FUNDING.**

23 Section 212 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
24 (16 U.S.C. 1729), as redesignated by section 10, is
25 amended—

26 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) in the second sentence, by striking
3 “non-federal sources” and inserting
4 “sources other than the Secretary”; and

5 (ii) by inserting after the second sen-
6 tence the following: “The Secretary may
7 pay up to 90 percent of the costs of a
8 project if the Secretary determines that the
9 reduction is necessary to enable participa-
10 tion from a greater range of organizations
11 or individuals.”; and

12 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or In-
13 dian Youth Service Corps” after “Corps” each
14 place it appears;

15 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
16 following new subsection:

17 “(b) FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER NATIONAL AND
18 COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT.—To carry out this title, the
19 Secretary shall be eligible to apply for and receive assist-
20 ance under section 121(b) of the National and Community
21 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)).”; and

22 (3) in subsection (c)—

23 (A) by striking “section 211” and insert-
24 ing “section 213”; and

1 (B) by inserting “or Indian Youth Service
2 Corps” after “Corps”.

3 **SEC. 15. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 Section 213 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993
5 (16 U.S.C. 1730), as redesignated by section 10, is
6 amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “year” and all
8 that follows through the period and inserting
9 “year.”;

10 (2) by striking subsection (b); and

11 (3) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
12 section (b).

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