



Protecting Wildlife for our children's future



FACT SHEET

Green Education, Green Jobs, Green Schools:

*Essential Elements to an Economic Stimulus Package to
Create Jobs, Save Consumers, and Generate Hope for the Future*

FACT→ Investment in education and training is one of the best investments for short-term job creation and sustained, across-the-board economic growth.

FACT→ Educational services generate 23.1 jobs per \$1 million in spending, nearly five times more jobs created than oil and natural gas sector spending¹.

FACT→ Through an **\$11.3 billion** economic stimulus investment **over two years** in green education, green jobs, and green schools, we will build a workforce to create and implement new solutions for the nation that will strengthen our economy, achieve energy independence, and secure our new clean energy future. Funding these programs will:

- 1) Create approximately **250,000 new jobs over two years** and a ready workforce to fill those jobs, including training over **140,000 workers** for new green jobs,
- 2) **Save millions of dollars for consumers** through better knowledge of how to lower energy bills, and
- 3) Give Americans **hope for the future** through new education and job opportunities.

I. Recommendations for Green Education – Environmental and Sustainability Education:

Investing **\$860 million** in green education through K-12 environmental education and sustainability education at colleges and universities will create more than **18,000 jobs** in two years.

- \$300 million for University Sustainability Program (helps colleges and universities offer environmental science and sustainability courses) – 6,900 jobs
- \$150 million for National Environmental Education Act (promotes lifelong learning and broad public education) – 3,450 jobs
- \$20 million for NASA Climate Change Ed (supports K-12 environmental education on climate change) – 460 jobs
- \$100 million for NOAA Environmental Education Initiatives (addresses K-12 and broad consumer education) – 2,300 jobs
- \$30 million for NOAA climate change education (supports K-12 climate change curriculum development) – 690 jobs
- \$100 million for NSF for its Global Sustainability & Environmental Education Initiative (supports research and training programs in environmental science) – 2,300 jobs
- \$100 million for Bay Watershed Education and Training at NOAA (ensures high school graduates have significant watershed experience before graduation) – 2,300 jobs
- \$40 million for Department Of Energy Public Information Initiative (for consumers on energy efficiency)
- \$20 million for Clean Energy Tomorrow scholarships (for students to pursue undergraduate degrees in science, engineering and math) – 1,000 scholarships

¹ (Robert Pollin, Political Economy Research Institute, Testimony before the House Committee on Education and Labor, "Building an Economic Recovery Package: Creating and Preserving Jobs in America," Oct. 24, 2008, page 3 (Figure 1))



Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory

II. Recommendations for Green Jobs Education & Training:

Investing **\$2.5 billion** in green jobs education and training will create **nearly 100,000 jobs** in two years and train over 140,000 workers through training at community colleges and education and training partnerships. Conservation corps jobs provide young people an opportunity to serve their community and the environment while learning green job skills.

- \$500 million for Green Jobs Act (supports worker training and education on energy efficiency and renewable installation through the Department of Labor) – 11,550 jobs created; over 140,000 workers trained
- \$1 billion for Community College Green Design, Green Tech, Ecosystem Restoration, and Sustainable Agricultural education and training programs (invests in community college education and job training programs) – 23,100 jobs
- \$400 million for a National Parks Conservation Corps (creates jobs for ecosystem restoration and maintenance upgrades at National Parks) — 10,000 jobs
- \$600 million for a Clean Energy Service Corps (provides young people skills to help show public how to retrofit and reduce energy costs) — 50,000 jobs

III. Recommendations for Greener, More Energy Efficient Schools & Universities:

Investing **\$ 7.2 billion** in green schools, community colleges, and universities will create approximately **140,000 jobs** over two years by installing solar panels, implementing green design technologies, and installing energy-efficiency measures.

- \$3.0 billion for Energy Efficiency loans and grants at schools, colleges, universities, and local governments (for energy efficiency upgrades and renovations) – 39,000 jobs
- \$100 million for Healthy High Performing Schools (help school systems do energy audits, assess toxic materials on site, and promote green design) – 1,670 jobs
- \$4.2 billion for the Solar Schools Initiative (support solar energy as experiential lab and alternative energy strategy for public K-12 schools) –50,000 to 100,000 jobs

Contacts:

Heather White, Director of Education Advocacy, 202-657-3681, white@nwf.org

Aileo Weinmann, Communications Manager, 202-797-6801, weinmanna@nwf.org