

CAMPAIGN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

Green Schools, Green Education, and Green Job Training Programs:

Essential Elements of an Economic Stimulus Package to Create Jobs, Educate and Train a Green Workforce, and Generate Hope for the Future

Through an **\$14.9 billion** investment **over two years** along with a **\$12.0 billion loan fund** for green education, green schools, and green jobs in the upcoming economic stimulus package, we will build a workforce ready to create and implement new solutions for the nation that will strengthen our economy, achieve energy independence, further climate change mitigation, and secure our new clean energy future. Funding these programs will:

- 1) Create **582,000 new jobs over two years** and a ready workforce to fill those jobs,
- 2) Equip nearly **20,000,000 members of the next generation** with high caliber education and training, inspire them to tackle the green economy as part of their generational responsibility, and pave the way for new industries and technologies, and,
- 3) Give Americans **hope for the future** through new educational service and job opportunities.

Investment in education and training is an investment in the American people along with an opportunity to inspire innovation. Hands down, this is the best possible investment for short-term job creation as well as sustained, across-the-board economic growth. According to economist Dr. Robert Pollin, spending on educational services generates significantly more jobs (23.1 jobs per \$1 million dollars in spending) than spending on public infrastructure or tax cuts - and nearly five times as many jobs as spending on the oil and gas sector¹. And according to the Subcommittee on Education and Health of the Joint Economic Committee, every dollar invested in the GI Bill generated \$6.90 in returns (the total added value to national economic output was estimated to be \$200 billion).

I. Greener, More Energy Efficient Schools, Community Colleges & Universities:

Investing **\$12.2 billion** in green schools, community colleges, and universities along with **\$12 billion in loans** will create over **471,000 jobs** over two years by installing energy-efficiency and alternative energy measures solar panels as well as implementing green design technologies.

- \$12.0 billion for Energy Sustainability 50/50 matching grants to public k-12 schools, colleges and universities (for obtaining technical assistance and innovation projects) – 312,000 jobs
- \$12.0 billion for Energy Efficiency loans to public k-12 schools, colleges and universities (for energy efficiency upgrades and renovations) – 195,000 jobs

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)

- \$100 million for Healthy High Performing Schools (to states to help local school systems do energy audits, assess toxic materials on site, and promote green design) – 3,340 jobs

II. Green Education – Environmental and Sustainability Education:

Investing **\$730 million** in green education through K-12 environmental education and sustainability education at colleges and universities will create more than **16,800 jobs** in two years.

- \$300 million for University Sustainability Program (helps colleges and universities offer environmental sciences and sustainability courses) – 6,900 jobs
- \$100 million for NOAA Environmental Education Initiatives (addresses broad consumer ed) - 2,300 jobs
- \$100 million for NSF for its Global Sustainability & Environmental Education Initiative (supports education, training, and research programs in environmental science) - 2,300 jobs
- \$100 million for Bay Watershed Education and Training (ensures high school graduates have significant environmental experience before graduation) - 2,300 jobs
- \$100 million for National Environmental Act (promotes lifelong learning, K-12, and broad public education) – 2,300 jobs
- \$30 million for NOAA climate change education (supports K-12 climate change curriculum development) - 690 jobs

III. Green Job Training & Education:

Investing **\$2.0 billion** in green jobs education and training will create nearly **95,000 jobs** in two years through training at community colleges and conservation corps jobs that provide young people an opportunity to serve their community and the environment while learning green job skills.

- \$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
- \$500 million for Green Jobs Act (supports worker training & education on energy efficiency and renewable installation thru the Dept. of Labor) – 11,500 jobs
- \$300 million for the Clean Energy Service Corps (provides young people skills to help show public how to retrofit and reduce energy costs) – 50,000 jobs
- \$200 million for the National Parks Conservation Corps (creates jobs for ecosystem restoration and maintenance upgrades at National Parks) – 10,000 jobs

We, the undersigned, therefore urge the Administration to support the following education and training programs as part of the next stimulus package. For questions about this proposal, please contact James Elder, Director, Campaign for Environmental Literacy (978-526-7768 or Elder@FundEE.org) or one of the contacts below.

American Chemical Society

Contact: J. Carl Maxwell, Office of Public Affairs
202-872-4391 C_Maxwell@acs.org

American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment

Contact: Anthony Cortese, Co-Coordinator and President of Second Nature
617-224-6711 acortese@secondnature.org

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

Contact: Judy Walton, Acting Executive Director
859-940-2909 judy@ashe.org

Council for Environmental Education

Contact: Josetta Hawthorne, Executive Director
713-0520-1936 josettah@aol.com

EarthDay Network

Contact: Sean Miller, Director of Education
202-518-0044 miller@earthday.net

National Audubon Society

Judy Braus, Vice President, Education and Centers
202-861-2242 ext. 3041 jbraus@audubon.org

National Association for Interpretation

Contact: Tim Merriman, Executive Director
970-484-8283 Naiexec@aol.com

National Association of Biology Teachers

Contact: Todd Carter, President
620-417-1600 todd.carter@sccc.edu

National Science Teachers Association

Jodi Peterson, Assistant Executive Director, Legislative and Public Affairs
703-312-9214 jpeterson@nsta.org

National Wildlife Federation

Contact: Heather White, Director of Education Advocacy
202-797-6634 WhiteH@nwf.org

North American Association for Environmental Education

Contact: Brian A. Day, Executive Director
202-419-0414 brian@naaee.org

OTHERS TO BE ADDED

Summary:

List of Project Titles:	Year 1 (in millions)	Year 2 (in millions)	Begin Spending (months)	Jobs Produced	Students Reached
1. Energy Sustainability Grants to Colleges/K-12	\$6,000	\$6,000	6	312,000	n/a
2. Energy Efficiency Loans to Colleges/K-12	\$6,000	\$6,000	6	156,000	n/a
3. <u>Healthy, High Performance Schools Program</u>	\$100	\$100	4-6	3,340	n/a
4. University Sustainability Program	\$150	\$150	4-6	6,930	7,500,000
5. NOAA Environmental Education Initiative	\$50	\$50	4-6	2,310	2,500,000
6. NOAA BWET Education and Training Program	\$50	\$50	4-6	2,310	2,500,000
7. EPA Environmental Education Program	\$50	\$50	4-6	2,310	2,500,000
8. NSF Environmental Education Initiative	\$50	\$50	4-6	2,310	2,500,000
9. <u>NOAA Climate Change Education Program</u>	\$15	\$15	6-8	690	750,000
10. Green Training Program-Community Colleges	\$500	\$500	3-6	23,100	280,000
11. Green Jobs Act	\$250	\$250	12	11,500	140,000
12. Clean Energy Service Corps	\$150	\$150	6-8	50,000	1,200,000
13. National Parks Conservation Corps	\$100	\$100	6	10,000	n/a
TOTALS:	\$13,465	\$13,465	-	582,800	19,870,000

Project Descriptions:

1/2. Implement the Energy Sustainability and Efficiency Grants and Loans Programs for Higher Education Institutions and Public Schools

Cost: **\$12.0 billion** in Energy Sustainability matching grants (\$6.0 billion each for years 1 and 2); **\$12.0 billion** in Energy Efficiency Loans (\$6.0 billion each for Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **468,000 jobs** (312,000 jobs from the grant program based on a 50/50 matching contribution from grantees and 13 jobs for every \$1 million in construction, and 156,000 jobs from the loan program)

Justification: Institutions of higher education and public schools collectively represent nearly 6 percent of the nation's GDP and have a major impact on our nation's energy usage and carbon emissions. Higher education alone spends more than \$6 billion on energy each year and \$11 billion on building construction and renovation. Many college campuses are virtually small cities in their size, environmental impact, and financial influence. If the necessary access to capital and financial support can be provided, the high visibility and strong commitment to green building by the education sector can enable it to provide models for the changes in energy usage that all sectors of society need to adopt. Congress recently created the Energy Sustainability and Efficiency Grants and Loans programs at the Department of Energy, which is authorized to make loans and grants for renewable energy and

energy efficiency projects at institutions of higher education, public school districts, local governments, and municipal utilities. Loans are available for implementing energy efficiency improvements and sustainable energy infrastructure. Grants are available for obtaining technical assistance, energy efficiency improvements to facilities, and innovation projects that test new techniques in energy efficiency and sustainable energy production. This program ideally meets all the objectives of stimulus spending as well as furthering the transition to a green economy, and simply needs to be adequately funded. **A recent survey by the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment identified over \$40 billion of building energy efficiency retrofit projects alone in higher education that are needed and “ready to go” as soon as funding can be secured.**

Authority: Energy Independence and Security Act (PL 110-140) Title 4, Subtitle F, Section 471

3. Implement the **Healthy, High Performance Schools Program**

Cost: **\$200 million** (\$100 million Year 1; \$100 million Year 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **3,340** jobs (16.7 per \$1 million spent²)

Justification: Many of the nation’s 150,000 public school buildings are in desperate need of repair and of updating to ensure a healthy school environment. The Healthy High Performance Schools Program in the No Child Left Behind Act authorized the Department of Education to make grants to state education agencies to facilitate the design, construction, and operation of “healthy, high performance” schools, meaning schools that are not only energy and resource efficient, but also healthy, comfortable, well lit, and containing the amenities for a quality education. States may use the funds to provide information and technical assistance, as well as to help schools monitor and evaluate efforts to create healthy, high performance school buildings. In turn, schools may use the funding to obtain technical assistance, develop plans that address reducing energy, meeting health and safety codes, and conducting energy audits.

Authority: No Child Left Behind Act (PL 107-110) Title 5, Part D, Subtitle 18

4. **University Sustainability Program:** Preparing the next generation of leaders and managers for the green economy

Cost: **\$300 million** (\$150 million each for Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 4-6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **6,930** educational services jobs, based on 23.1 jobs per \$1 million

² 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)

Number of Students Impacted: **7,500,000** (100 students per teacher, 250 teachers per \$1 million spent)

Justification: Since higher education produces almost all of the nation's leaders in all sectors and endeavors, graduating a generation of students who understand the fundamentals of a green economy needs to be a top national priority. Remarkable institutional commitments are being made to reduce carbon footprints and move toward clean energy on campuses across the country. In all, the nation's 4,300 campuses educate about 13 million individuals. However, despite increasing student interest and demand as well as a growing awareness in society and business in particular of the importance of sustainability, a new study indicates that sustainability education programs on college campuses are not growing. Congress recently authorized the University Sustainability Program (USP) at the Department of Education to help address this. This competitive grant program has the potential for high impact and high visibility, and enjoys broad support within higher education. It will provide schools with difficult-to-get seed funding for launching sustainability education programs and support mainstream higher education associations in their efforts to include sustainability in their work with their many member institutions.

Authority: Higher Education Opportunity Act (P.L. 110-315)

5. Expand the NOAA Environmental Education Initiative

Cost: **\$100 million** (\$25 million each in Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 4-6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **2,300** (23.1 jobs per \$1 million spent)

Number of Students Reached: **2,500,000** (100 students per teacher, 250 teachers per \$1 million spent)

Justification: Since 2005, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Education has received funding for "Education Initiatives", which primarily supports the Environmental Literacy Grants (ELG) program. ELG's competitively awarded funds are increasingly used to build capacity at the national and regional levels by establishing and funding new partnerships to deliver educational materials to thousands of educators and students. Expanding NOAA's Environmental Education Initiatives will enable NOAA's Office of Education to implement the education recommendations in the President's U.S. Ocean Action Plan, particularly the goal to strengthen collaboration among public and private sectors, states and regions, scientists and educators, and the federal agencies. Funding would also further leverage the existing capabilities of formal and informal education partners through competitive grants and coordinate regional education efforts, such as the education component of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance. These funds are important to NOAA because they represent the only discretionary funds available to the Office of Education for addressing annual NOAA education goals as called for in the America COMPETES Act. Along with the modest EPA funds below, these are the only national funds *specifically* available from the federal government for environmental education through competitive grants.

Authority: America COMPETES Act (PL 110-69) Sec. 1502, NOAA Authorization Act (PL 102-567) Sec 202

6. Expand NOAA BWET Education and Training Programs

Cost: **\$100 million** (\$50 million each for Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 4-6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **2.310** (23.1 per \$1 million spent)

Number of Students Reached: **2,500,000** (100 students per teacher, 250 teachers per \$1 million spent)

Justification: Administered by NOAA since 2003 with resources identified in Congressional appropriations, the Bay Watershed Education and Training (BWET) program's fundamental goal is to demonstrate how the quality of local watersheds affect the lives of the people who live in them. B-WET programs are implemented by region, which allows the unique environmental and social characteristics of the region to drive the design of targeted activities to improve community understanding, promote teacher competency, and enhance student interest and achievement in science. B-WET programs encourage the development of partnerships among environmental education programs within watershed systems, and offer competitive grants to expand existing environmental education programs and foster the growth of new programs. BWET grants support programs for students as well as professional development for teachers, while sustaining regional education and environmental priorities. To date, BWET awards have provided environmental education opportunities to over 100,000 students and 10,000 teachers. With an increase in FY 08 funds from Congress, BWET expanded its programs in the Chesapeake Bay, California, and Hawaii to also include the Pacific Northwest, Gulf of Mexico, and New England. An increase of funding will enable this successful program to expand to additional watersheds such as the Great Lakes and the Southeast without diminishing funding for existing BWET programs. It would also provide more support to help motivate young people to protect our natural systems, create environmental education job opportunities, and help protect our nation's aquatic ecosystems.

Authority: America COMPETES Act (PL 110-69) Sec. 1502; NOAA Authorization Act (PL 102-567) Sec 202

7. Expand the National Environmental Education Act Programs at EPA

Cost: **\$100 million** (\$50 million each for Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 4-6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **2.310** (23.1 per \$1 million spent)

Number of Students Reached: **2,500,000** (100 students per teacher, 250 teachers per \$1 million spent)

Justification: The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Environmental Education implements nationwide environmental education programs authorized by the National Environmental Education Act, the nation's first and only federal law devoted solely to environmental education. NEEA supports life-long education and environmental stewardship, helping to ensure that citizens are environmentally literate and competitive in increasingly important environmental fields such as

engineering, green building, and environmental assessment and applied biology. NEEA supports national training initiatives, education programming and training, evaluation, and strategic partnerships. The EPA's environmental education programs provide vital tools for teachers, museum staff, business leaders, health care professionals, meteorologists, conservation organizations, and others responsible for educating young people, employees, and the public about the environment. The EPA teacher training and environmental education grant programs should be significantly expanded to begin to be commensurate with the public's degree of environmental illiteracy. This program will provide new teachers and other educators with the support they need, as well as help to build a new generation of leadership to sustain our economic recovery.

Authority: National Environmental Education Act (PL 101-619)

8. NSF Global Sustainability and Environmental Education Initiative

Cost: **\$100 million** (\$50 million Year 1: \$50 million Year 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 4-6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **2,310** (23.1 jobs per \$1 million spent)

Number of Students Reached: **2,500,000** (100 students per teacher, 250 teachers per \$1 million spent)

Justification: The National Science Foundation implements highly-leveraged, successful nationwide education, research, and science programs focused on systems education and key environmental issues, from global warming to biodiversity education. Through its competitive grants programs, NSF has supported public and private partnerships and education initiatives at all levels of society, including opportunities to engage underserved audiences in environmental issues, and tools and training for educators at schools, museums, zoos and aquariums, nature centers, and conservation organizations. NSF emphasizes excellence in science and education, with a focus on STEM initiatives, systems education, and the importance of engaging diverse audiences and supporting creative partnerships and coalitions to create a more environmentally and scientifically literate society. Enhancing support for the Global Sustainability and Environmental Education Initiative, with a focus on the environment, sound science, and public engagement, would provide support to create environmental education job opportunities and a more environmentally literate job force. In the global environment of science and conservation, support for transformative, high-risk, high reward research and education is critical to U.S. competitiveness.

Authority: National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (P.L. 81-507)

9. Implement a NOAA Climate Change Education Grant Program

Cost: **\$30 million** (\$15 million each in Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 4-6 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **690** (23.1 jobs per \$1 million spent)

Number of Students Impacted: **750,000** (100 students per teacher, 250 teachers per \$1 million spent)

Justification: The transition to our new green economy will require coordinated and effective federal efforts to help improve broad public understanding of the core ecological, social, and economic concepts and principles involved in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Funding in FY 10 for a new Climate Change Education Grant Program will enable NOAA to leverage the vast array of climate science being undertaken as part of developing strategies for addressing the gaps identified between the state of climate change education and the state of public climate change literacy. Grants would contribute to improving the climate literacy of the nation's citizens, students, workforce and decision- and policy-makers by systemically and strategically strengthening climate change education in formal and informal education at all age levels. A key goal would be helping all citizens understand how they can help reduce the threat of global warming through individual and collective actions.

Authority: America COMPETES Act (PL 110-69) Sec. 1502; NOAA Authorization Act (PL 102-567) Sec 202

10. Green Training Program: Expand the Department of Labor's **Community-Based Job Training Grants Program** to fund Community Colleges to develop Workforce Training and Education programs in Green Design, Green Technology, Ecosystem Restoration and Protection, and Sustainable Agricultural and Environmental Practices.

Cost: **\$1.0 billion** (\$500 million over two years)

Number of Jobs Produced: **23,100 jobs** (11,500 year 1; 11,500 year 2) based on 23.1 educational services jobs per \$1 million in spending³.

Justification: The green economy will require a dramatic investment in training for many fields of work from construction to design to agriculture. Community colleges reach diverse groups of workers and provide excellent preparation for the green economy. This currently authorized program should be expanded to include green technology and sustainable environmental practices, including ecosystem restoration and sustainable agriculture practices, with an emphasis on community college education and trainings.

Authority: Workforce Investment Act Section 171, (P.L. 105-220)

11. Green Jobs Act: Worker Training and Education for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Installation Program

Cost: **\$500 million** (\$250 over two years)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 3-6 months. The Department of Labor has offered assurances that the current allocation could be moved out into the field within three months.⁴

³ Robert Pollin et al., "Green Growth and Good Jobs: A Unified Program for Employment Creation and a Clean Energy Economy," Political Economy Research Institute and Center for AmericanProgress, 2008 (Table 4.1).

⁴ U.S. Department of Labor, quoted in the CAP Green Recovery Program

Number of Jobs Produced: **11,500** educational services jobs (5,000 Year 1; 6,550 Year 2), based on 23 jobs per \$1 million with ramp up time built into year one.

Workers trained: **70,000** workers each year, representing an investment in needed skills for participating in a rapidly changing and increasingly green economy.

Justification: To transition to the green economy, we need to provide workers with the education and training necessary to complete this work in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. Whether it is solar panel installation or retrofitting for energy efficiency, we need to ensure that our workforce is ready for the new opportunities ahead. This investment would give grants to national and state training programs (including community colleges and union apprenticeship programs) to prepare skilled workers for green-collar jobs. Some portion of these funds must be dedicated specifically to providing “pathways out of poverty” for low-income workers.

This allocation would support on-the-ground apprenticeship and job training programs to meet growing demand for green construction professionals. The need for new job training, and specifically forward-looking green job training, has grown dramatically in the last year. This allocation could easily be increased to support more on-the-ground apprenticeship and job-training programs to meet the growing demand for green construction professionals. Appropriating funds immediately to train workers for jobs in energy efficiency retrofits and renewable energy installation would be a substantial support to expanded weatherization and green building efforts envisioned elsewhere in this green recovery package

Authority: The Green Jobs Act of 2007 (codified in PL 110-140, Title X)

12. Expand the Corporation for National and Community Service programs to create a **Clean Energy Service Corps**, a civilian community service program providing job readiness and a chance to give back to the country through projects primarily focused on making low-income homes more energy efficient through retrofitting, weatherization and other clean energy improvements.

Cost: **\$300 million** (\$150 million each for Years 1 and 2)

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: 8 months

Number of Jobs Produced: **50,000** (25,000 each in years 1 and 2, additional training will be provided through Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America service opportunities). A recent report estimates that the Clean Energy Service Corps will support the participation of **50,000 young adult Corpsmembers** for 6 month positions over 2 years. An additional **400,000 seniors** will mobilize as full- and part-time volunteers, and over **1,200,000 students** per year will engage in community-based service-learning and volunteer projects coordinated by the CESC over two years⁵.

Justification: Many environmental and community service programs currently exist which could easily expand to incorporate Clean Energy Service Corps members. These include the Service and

⁵ Walsh, Jason. *Clean Energy Corps* (Green For All, 2008).

Conservation Corps programs represented by The Corps Network, AmeriCorps programs, Senior Corps, Learn and Serve America, the Student Conservation Association, City Year, and many others. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) will make grants through existing federal grant programs, including AmeriCorps*State and National, Learn and Serve America and Senior Corps, to pay for the Federal share of carrying out full or part-time national service programs that are consistent with current law and that accomplish explicit performance indicators through the service performed by Corpsmembers. Priority will be given to programs that enroll Corpsmembers who are economically disadvantaged and that provide those Corpsmembers with job training for careers in the green economy. The Corps members will improve energy efficiency through large-scale visible and valued greening projects, including construction of and improvements to low-income housing, public buildings, neighborhood parks, and public lands. At the same time, the Clean Energy Service Corps will connect people to career-track jobs through service and service-learning, helping low-income urban and rural residents prepare for good, family-supporting jobs in the clean energy economy, leading to pathways out of poverty while contributing to America's green future. It will also connect disadvantaged youth to transformative experiences in rebuilding their own communities through service. The 50,000 CESC Corpsmembers funded through AmeriCorps will be full-time, 6 month positions.

Authority: National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-82). [This program could be rapidly facilitated through an expansion of existing authority]

13. Create a National Parks Service Corps as part of the Corporation for National and Community Service: a civilian national and community service program providing job readiness and a chance to serve our nation by restoring our national treasures, and to provide learn-and-serve opportunities to a diverse population.

Cost: **\$200 million.** Total includes 5,000 positions based on AmeriCorps NCCC model at \$12,000 per position (\$60 million); 5,000 positions based on AmeriCorps Federal and State Grant model at \$10,000 per position (\$50 million). Education awards for all 10,000 would cost approximately \$5,000 each (\$50 million). Park Service would receive a \$40 million pass-through for placement of full-time volunteer coordinators in parks and other costs of administering the program, possibly including additional NCCC campuses.

How Quickly Spending Can Begin: Spending can begin within 120 days, allowing for recruitment and initial training of moth workforce and NPS management

Number of Jobs Produced: **10,000** Corps plus as many as **1,000** NPS: 5,000 using AmeriCorps NCCC model and 5,000 using Federal and State Grant model. Funding would also facilitate the hiring of as many as 1000 volunteer service-oriented positions in the National Park Service.

Justification: The proposal places 10,000 new paid volunteers in our national parks to dramatically increase the capacity of the parks to resolve backlogged facility and trail maintenance needs, serve visitors, provide educational opportunities to inner-city youth, and begin training the workforce of the future.

National Parks are prime targets of opportunity for leveraging national and community service opportunities that excite and engage Americans - young and old - in serving their country. By dedicating 10,000 new positions to a National Parks Service Corps (NPSC) using the AmeriCorps model, we can maximize efficiencies and build on existing infrastructure while meeting core needs of the national parks that have accumulated from years of underinvestment. The National Park Service and the Corporation for National and Community Service would enter into a cooperative agreement. The National Park Service would administer the Corps and deploy new volunteer coordinators in national parks, with the new positions funded with living stipends and education awards through the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The new NPSC can build on two successful programs at the Corporation for National and Community Service. The Corporation's national service program called AmeriCorps currently operates in two ways. The AmeriCorps State and National program provides financial support through grants to public and nonprofit organizations that sponsor service programs around the country. These groups recruit, train and place AmeriCorps members to meet critical community needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. AmeriCorps State and National members can volunteer part-time or full-time; many receive a modest living stipend based on the minimum wage; and most receive a Segal education award of \$4,725 at the conclusion of their service. The other AmeriCorps model is called the National Civilian Community Corps (AmeriCorps NCCC). In contrast to the State and National grant program, AmeriCorps NCCC is a federally-administered full-time 10-month residential program for young men and women ages 18-24. Members live on one of four regional campuses, receive intensive training, and are deployed as teams for projects that range from disaster response to environmental protection. As with the State and National program, NCCC members receive an education award at the end of their service.

Authority: National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-82). [This program could be rapidly facilitated through an expansion of existing authority]