



Office of Research and Evaluation

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Environmental Stewardship Programs Provide a Powerful Return on Investment.

Environmental stewardship is critical to how AmeriCorps ‘gets things done for America.’ AmeriCorps offers transformative resources, including funding and AmeriCorps members, to address pressing environmental challenges through national service.

AmeriCorps and its partners focused on environmental stewardship help communities become more resilient by supporting measures that preserve habitats, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve land and water, increase renewable energy use, mitigate against wildfires and flooding, educate the public on sustainability and stewardship, and more. AmeriCorps members engage communities and share valuable resources to support environmental stewardship across the country.

Return on investment (ROI) analyses help quantify a program’s benefits to its costs, assessing program performance and demonstrating value to stakeholders, while building the larger evidence base. Calculating ROI for AmeriCorps programs can entail looking at benefits (relative to costs) experienced by:

- AmeriCorps members, such as increases in their wages and educational attainment.
- Government, such as increases in tax revenue and programmatic savings.
- Society, such as improvements in environmental health and reductions in wildfire-related costs.

Environmental stewardship programs partner with land management and other eco-sustainable and conservation organizations to better steward America’s environmental resources. These programs not only demonstrate positive environmental impacts, they generate value from the funding invested in these programs. In terms of ROI:



Program	ROI (per funder dollar invested)
Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps ¹	\$0.15 to \$5.04
Montana Conservation Corps ¹	\$2.11 to \$35.84
National Civilian Community Corps Weatherization Projects	-\$2.96 to \$7.60
Nevada Conservation Corps ¹	\$2.20 to \$27.55
Washington Conservation Corps ¹	\$0.52 to \$8.36

¹Estimates are based on average ecosystem benefits defined by a review of existing empirical research.

About the Office of Research and Evaluation

The [AmeriCorps Office of Research and Evaluation](#) assists AmeriCorps and its partners in collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data and insights about AmeriCorps programs and civic life in America.

About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation’s most pressing challenges, improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement. Each year, the agency places more than 200,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles; and empowers millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. **Learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov](#).**