

## Youth Partnerships Fact Sheet

### Background

The Bureau of Reclamation seeks to expand youth partnerships with the goal to provide support for innovative job opportunities that expose young people, particularly urban and underserved youth who are increasingly disconnected from the outdoors, to the natural world and career opportunities in conservation.

Since delegation of the Public Land Corps Act and Youth Conservation Corps Act in 2010, Reclamation has entered into more than 15 cooperative agreements with several youth organizations in the Reclamation states. Spending \$1,544,542 in federal dollars and matching \$1,354,564 in leveraged partner cost share, almost \$3 million in total projects has been accomplished through youth partnerships. These include interns as well as crew work for habitat restoration, stewardship, monitoring, and other conservation-related activities and provided almost over 800 youth work opportunities in the last five years.

### Youth FOAs

Reclamation will be issuing two funding opportunity announcements, one for youth interns and one for youth conservation crews and seek to award multiple master agreements with all qualified eligible partners. By awarding multiple MCAs and approving a sample budget of the awardee, task agreements and funding will be a more efficient process.

Through those task agreements, youth partners and Reclamation will educate, engage and employ youth in conservation opportunities and provide tools for recruiting young people into conservation jobs and allow many more opportunities for youth conservation experience through both short and long-term crew activities and internships.

Some of the benefits of the utilizing the cooperative agreement to enter into task agreements for youth crews and interns include:

- Youth partner provides a 25% non-Federal cost share and can be involved with training, recruiting and supervising;
- Participants may be converted to permanent positions upon completion of 640 hours of service.