

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## FY 2016 Youth Programs



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

## *Purpose of This Webinar*

- To highlight the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)'s FY2016 Youth opportunities.
- To review the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) process.
- To provide clarifying information to applicants.

## *The Bureau of Reclamation*

- **Manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.**
- **Is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier, operating 348 reservoirs, provides 1 out of 5 Western farmers with irrigation water.**
- **Is the second largest producer of hydropower**
- **Manages, with partners, 289 recreation areas that have over 90 million visits annually.**

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## *Program Authority*

The Youth Conservation Corps and Internship Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) are issued under the authority of the Public Land Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1721-1730) and the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970 (16 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1707), as amended.

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## **Background**

In 2010, the Bureau of Reclamation was delegated authority under the Public Land Corps Act and competed a Master Cooperative Agreement (MCA) which was awarded to 2 national youth corps-both expired August 2015. With the original MCA Reclamation was able to:

- Partner with more than 15 cooperative agreements with several youth organizations
- Leverage \$1.5 million in federal funding with \$1.4 million in partner cost-share to support almost \$3 million in projects
- Provide over 800 youth opportunities

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## What's new

- This year MCAs may be awarded to all qualified and eligible entities that apply.
- MCAs will allow for task agreements/funding of projects to move through the process more efficiently.

## **Youth Work Goals**

The Youth Conservation Corps and Intern FOAs provide for recruitment and placement of Youth to:

- **Build an understanding and appreciation of natural and cultural resources;**
- **Further the development and maintenance of these resources by America's youth;**
- **Prepare the next generation for the ultimate responsibility of maintaining and managing these resources for the American people; and**
- **Provide relevant work experience in Reclamation's mission-critical occupations.**

## **Youth Corps/Youth Crews Definitions**

**Crew work includes invasive species/fuel removal, habitat building, fence and trail building, etc.**

**Eligible Partners: Qualified youth or conservation corps as defined under 16 U.S.C. 1722(10)**

**“A qualified youth or conservation corps means any program established by a State, or local government, by the governing body of any Federally-recognized Indian tribe, or by a nonprofit organization that is capable of offering meaningful, full-time, productive work for individuals between the ages of 16 and 25, inclusive, in a natural or cultural resource setting...”**

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## **Youth Internships**

**Internships include research or resource protection activities by individuals.**

**Eligible Partners: Non-profit organizations.**

**Any corporation, trust, association, cooperative, or other organization, not including institutions of higher education that:**

- Is operated primarily for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purposes in the public interest;**
- Is not organized primarily for profit; and**
- Uses net proceeds to maintain, improve, or expand the operations of the organization**

## *Other Information*

- Applicant must be capable of recruiting qualified youth for Reclamation offices and facilities (17 Western States).
- Preference may be given to applicants who demonstrate ability to engage youth participants from under-served communities, and women and minorities.

## **Notes on Criteria**

- **Qualifications: Knowledge, Experience and Resources**
- **Benefits to Youth**
- **Past Performance**
- **Administrative Qualifications**

## **Example Project Budget**

The example of project budgets include:

- **Example Project Budget table**
- **Example Project Budget narrative**
- **Budget form-complete an SF-424A,  
Budget Information—Non-construction  
Programs**

# FOA Process

Applications will be reviewed by Reclamation and MCAs will be awarded to qualified and eligible applicants.

## Steps:

- Initial Screening
- Application Review Committee (ARC) Review
- Red Flag Review
- Managerial Review
- Pre-Award Clearances and Approvals

## *If applying to both FOAs*

- **Submit an application for each FOA**
- **If selected for award under each FOA, a single MCA may be awarded for both interns and crew work**

## *What is a Cooperative Agreement?*

A cooperative agreement is Federal assistance, in the form of money or property, authorized by Federal law to support programs with a public purpose that the Government wishes to encourage and includes substantial Federal involvement.

## *How Master Cooperative Agreements Work*

- Recipients will be selected using a competitive process which allows them enter into task agreements with any Reclamation region/office without competing again for the next (5) five years.
- Master Cooperative agreements are not tied to funding and do not obligate Reclamation to enter into task agreements with any recipient.
- Recipients must seek-out and build relationships with Reclamation offices and ultimately enter into a task agreement before any funding may be awarded.

## *What is a Task Agreement?*

- A task agreement is the order for individual tasks for work within the scope of a MCA.
- Projects will be funded, subject to the availability of funds, by issuance of task agreements placed against the MCA. Each task agreement will identify the amount of funding provided by Reclamation, provide a detailed Statement of Work (SOW) for the project, project plan, and project budget.
- Reclamation will be substantially involved in directing the work performed. Reclamation will conduct periodic reviews and ongoing evaluations of key performance parameters.
- A 25% non-Federal cost share is required (this includes non-Federal funds, donations, contributions, and/or in-kind services).

## Points of Contact

### Youth Programs

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**Questions?**

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