



**American Conservation Experience**  
**Chris Baker, President and CEO**  
 2900 N Fort Valley Rd  
 Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
 (928) 226-6960  
[cbaker@usaconservation.org](mailto:cbaker@usaconservation.org)

# American Conservation Experience

2015-2016

**Flagstaff, Arizona**

**Federal Legislative District(s)**

### PROGRAM FAST FACTS

**Congressional District(s): AZ01**  
**State Legislative District(s): 1**  
**Service Area by County/City:**  
**Coconino/Flagstaff**  
**Project Federal Share: \$141,015.00**  
**Project Local Match: \$88,512.00**  
**Community Volunteers Recruited: 104**  
**Volunteer Hours Served: 508**  
**Value of Volunteer Hours: 11,440.16**  
\*2013 Independent Sector Rate for the Value of a Volunteer Hour in Arizona is \$22.52

### **Community Need**

Arizona Public Lands are our heritage, and a treasure to be cared for thoughtfully. The need to maintain them for future generations is something we strive to achieve on every project. Caring for this land is something that we feel brings people together on not only a Local and National level but Globally. There is a need in our local community for youth job skills training to develop and foster the next generation of land stewards.

### **National Priority Area and Program Performance Goals**

#### **National Priority Area: Environmental Stewardship**

- **Create/Improve 8 miles of trails or waterways.**
- **Improve/restore 75 acres of public lands**

### **Program Activities**

American Conservation Experience is a non-profit conservation corps providing trained, motivated, well-supervised crews of young adults to accomplish ecological restoration projects on America’s public lands. Crews perform a wide range of environmental conservation projects including trail work and maintenance, invasive plant eradication, planting trees, wildlife survey’s, constructing fences, and building rock walls.

### **Program Impact**

American Conservation Experience is exactly as it states... an experience. Giving on-site training and volunteer service project experience to youth and young adults impacts both the service participants and the communities we serve.

Our relationship with AmeriCorps has elevated ACE’s partnerships with National Parks, Forests and Monuments. Through those relationships our Members have been able to work directly under those organizations and their leaders in the field of conservation, learning valuable knowledge and trade skills that will take them far in their personal careers.

In the past three years ACE has successfully transitioned over 50% of our graduating AmeriCorps Members into conservation related jobs, a direct result of the skills and experiences they gained as AmeriCorps members. We are giving these young adults the tools necessary to not only help preserve the natural beauty of Arizona, but we also hope that through these AmeriCorps Members they can pay it forward by training the next generations the importance of Conservation work and Volunteerism in Arizona.

“I have progressed both in my technical skills and leadership abilities. Further, working alongside the NPS for multiple months has shown me exactly what it takes to work for the National Park Service, and how I can best apply myself to the mission of Conservation. “  
 –ACE AmeriCorps member 2013.



# American Conservation Experience

## Mission

American Conservation Experience (ACE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing rewarding environmental service opportunities that harness the idealism and energy of a volunteer labor force to help restore America's public lands. ACE is grounded in the philosophy that cooperative labor on meaningful conservation projects fosters cross-cultural understanding and operates on the belief that challenging volunteer service unites people of all backgrounds in common cause.

## Vision

American Conservation Experience hopes to lead the way in combining Conservation work with an emphasis on Community Volunteerism. We strive to help in maintaining our National Parks and Public Lands, as well as our local community, while guiding the next generation of future Conservationists by giving them the education and hands on training necessary to be successful Leaders in our Community.

## History

ACE was Founded in 2002 under the Nevada Conservation Corps which has been directly involved with National Service, partnering closely with AmeriCorps Members and the state of Arizona.

Located in Flagstaff, Arizona and serving much of Arizona and the 4 corners region. ACE received Non Profit Status in May 2004, and in 2009 was awarded an AmeriCorps State Formula Grant as well as receiving AmeriCorps slots through the Youth in Action AmeriCorps program based in Flagstaff, AZ. ACE has been a proud AmeriCorps grantee ever since.

## Partnerships

**Grand Canyon Natl. Park**  
**Flagstaff Area National Monuments**  
**USFS Coronado National Forest**  
**Natural Channel Designs**  
**Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**USFS Coconino National Forest**  
**Bureau of Indian Affairs**  
**Lake Mead National Recreation Area**  
**Northern Arizona University**  
**Navajo National Monuments**  
**Saguaro National Park**  
**BLM Arizona Strip Office**  
**University of Arizona**  
**US Fish and Wildlife**  
**Navajo Nation Workforce Development Program**

## OTHER

ACE is proud to belong to the highly successful Corps movement. With AmeriCorps support ACE has been able to provide specialized training to young adults who are eager and determined to establish themselves as leaders in the field of conservation. ACE's AmeriCorps members participate in a 6 month development program, specializing in either chainsaw or trail skills, that prepares them for outdoor careers with ACE, with other Conservation Corps, or with land management agencies such as the National Park Service, US Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management.

