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COMPLETE

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Q1 Name of your organization.

Grand Canyon Association

Q2 Grant #

20170144

Q3 Grant Period

04/15/17 – 04/15/18

Q4 Location of your organization

City	Grand Canyon
State	Arizona

Q5 Name and Title of person completing evaluation.

Elizabeth Wilkinson

Q6 Phone Number:

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Q7 Email address.

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Page 2: Key Outcomes and Results

Q8 Total number of clients served through this grant funding:

The trails crew employed eight youth for 16 weeks. Grand Canyon trails are used by hundreds of thousands of hikers, including more than 98,000 backcountry user nights, and more than 20,000 mule trip riders annually.

Q9 Describe the project's key outcomes and results based on the goals and objectives. Use the following format: State the Goal: State Objective 1: Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 1: State Objective 2 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 2: State Objective 3 (if applicable): Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 3:

State the Goal:

The goal was to demonstrate our commitment to providing meaningful educational and work opportunities to young people through the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC), while meeting the critical maintenance needs of one of the country's most beloved national park trails.

State Objective 1:

Objective: Trail repair took place over the course of 16 weeks beginning in January 2018. Crews worked within a three mile segment of trail, at clearly identified sections of the South Kaibab trail where NEPA and NHPA compliance was completed, and routine condition assessment of the trail identified the most critical repair needs.

Describe the Activities, Results and Outcomes for Objective 1:

Activities: Typical trail work includes restoring collapsed retaining walls, recreating tread, cleaning out water bars and ditches, installing rip rap, repairing mule inflicted damage, brushing, installing water checks and rock steps, repairing erosion damage, and securing juniper cribs to trail in preparation for backfill. Tools, equipment and materials are hiked to jobsites, assisted by the NPS mule team. Crews use a range of tools including pionjars, rebar, cross-cut saws and gas-powered chainsaws, rock drills and wood drills, and hand tools. The work meets Grand Canyon National Park's Class IV Stock Trail design standards for grade, pitch, trail width, cross-slope, and material makeup.

Outcomes: Project planning and environmental compliance estimated that this crew would repair between 3,000 and 5,000 linear feet of trail, using approximately 500 juniper logs, 1,000 feet of rebar, 3,500 cu. feet of fill material, and 500 sq. feet of Kaibab Limestone.

Grand Canyon National Park's partnership with Conservation Legacy supports two goals: the park is able to meet critical resource protection needs while investing in young people who will assume the future stewardship for our public lands and natural areas. The mission of Conservation Legacy is to "develop lifetime leaders in the public lands management field." Through the partnership with NPS they are able to meet that mission with a hands-on approach, working side-by-side with dedicated professionals, in the most effective and efficient manner in which to build that leadership.

Q10 Please describe any challenges/obstacles the organization encountered (if any) in attaining goals & objectives.

Challenges encountered while conducting trail maintenance to sections of the South Kaibab were extreme weather, and high visitation.

During the grant period, the Department of Interior instituted new guidelines for Financial Assistance approvals that pertain to all federally matched funding opportunities. This includes all contracting of Youth Corps and funding of those projects service-wide, even if the contract's funding was sourced through philanthropic partners, as was the case of the S.L. Gimbel Foundation grant. While the new guidelines are successful in demonstrating the desired accountability of government spending, an unintended consequence has been an across-the-board delay in processing and expending Financial Assistance awards, thus delaying project implementation.

Q11 How did you overcome and/or address the challenges and obstacles?

Luckily, crews were well-prepared with good outdoor gear to deal with cold, windy weather conditions. As for the high number of hikers on the trail, crews had to keep well organized job sites, and often assist people through these sites to mitigate trips and falls.

The project timeline was adjusted to meet changes in the Department of Interior guidelines. Instead of the project beginning in the fall of 2017, it began in January 2018.

Q12 Describe any unintended positive outcomes as a result of the efforts supported by this grant.

One unintended positive outcome, in regard to high visitor use, was the multiple visitor contacts crew members made throughout the project. Although many passing visitors slowed the ability to get work done, crew members were able to answer questions about Grand Canyon, and essentially act as de-facto interpretive rangers. This enhanced the visitor experience, and many positive comments were received as a result.

Because Grand Canyon National Park has a current Cooperative Agreement with the Kaibab National Forest to provide for juniper harvesting for the trails program, the decision was made to forego a juniper harvest on this project. This allowed us to use a standard trail crew (as opposed to a saw crew) for a lesser fee, which extended the number of weeks worked. The eight-person trail crew worked 16 weeks instead of the 14 weeks that were originally proposed.

Q13 Briefly describe the impact this grant has had on the organization and community served.

This grant allowed for much needed maintenance to the South Kaibab Trail. It improved safety, and it enhanced the experience of thousands of visitors who come to Grand Canyon to hike, or ride mules. It also exposed the Arizona Conservation Corps crew members to educational and career opportunities that they would not have received otherwise.

Q14 Please provide a budget expenditure report of the approved line items. Include a brief narrative on how the funds were used to fulfill grant objectives.

Funds were applied to the following line items:

Personnel Expenditures:

The weekly personnel rate for one crew-week is $\$4,783 \times 16 \text{ weeks} = \$76,528$

Conservation Legacy does not assess a flat hourly rate to hire Crew Leaders and Corpsmembers. Salary costs are assessed by a set weekly rate called "crew-week." The cost of one crew-week includes the weekly living stipends, benefits, and workers compensation for each person of an 8-member crew working in the field 40 hours. In addition, a crew-week includes a pro-rated portion of wages of professional office and support staff working to deploy each crew.

Manual labor is required to complete the activities outlined. The trail crew and support staff are critical to project completion. The crew-week model is the approved cost assessment tool in the nationwide Cooperative Agreement between Conservation Legacy and the National Park Service.

Travel Expenditures:

The weekly travel cost is $\$272/\text{crew-week} \times 16 \text{ weeks} = \$4,352$

Travel costs are assessed through a cost allocation which includes fuel, auto insurance, repairs and maintenance, registration fees, and replacement/depreciation for the fleet of vehicles used by Conservation Legacy. The flat weekly rate covers crew travel to/from work sites, staff transportation for pre-site meetings, project management site-visits and other support travel.

Transportation to and from the work site for crew members ensures that crew members are on site when needed. Travel funds also provide for project management oversight which is necessary for on the ground project evaluation.

Supplies Expenditures:

The weekly cost for supplies to support one 8-person crew-week is $\$1,195 \times 16 \text{ weeks} = \$19,120$

Supply costs are pro-rated percentages of total costs to Conservation Legacy for uniforms, personal protective equipment, facilities, camp food, background searches, camp equipment, education supplies, education/training workshops, field communications, field supplies, first aid supplies, crew and staff incentives, outreach/recruiting, program development, staff training, and tools. Because supplies are purchased in bulk to be shared through a logistics and supply program for all Corpsmembers, the weekly rate is established to support a per-project crew-week.

The supplies listed above provide a wide range of items needed for the work crew. They must have the proper equipment and training so that they are prepared to successfully complete the project.

Q15 Please relate a success story:

The following quotes are from Arizona Conservation Corps (AZCC) Alumni. These young people experience the canyon in a way that few people do. Their time at Grand Canyon is often filled with life changing inspirational moments.

"AZCC has made me a totally different person and a better one if anything. I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life but now I'm slowly starting to figure out what I want to do and become. It's challenging work especially when you're hot, tired, thirsty, and just want to go home but at the end of the day it's all worth it. You'll become stronger not only physically but mentally as well and that's why I keep coming back for more." ~Vtora, AZCC Alumni

Q16 Please relate a success story here:

"It means a lot to me to know I am an active environmental steward now. Repairing trails, removing invasive species and informing people about what we do makes me happy. People see the work we do and a lot of them ask how they can become a part of it too. It impacts my community by offering a rewarding work environment and providing opportunities for continuing education." ~Kyle, AZCC Alumni

Q17 Please relate a success story here:

"I am more adventurous and capable in the back-country, and I'm less afraid of working hard and getting dirty. I feel that I'm less intimidated by starting big tasks or learning new skills, and have been able to apply them even in unfamiliar environments and challenging new work. I'll continue to fill my life with out-of-the-ordinary experiences that excite me, broaden my horizons, and teach me." ~Tracy, AZCC Alumni

Page 5: Organizational Information

Q18 Which category best describes the organization. Please choose only one.	Environmental	
Q19 What is the organization's primary program area of interest?	Environment/Environmental	
Q20 Percentage of clients served through grant in each ethnic group category. Total must equal 100%	Unknown	100
Q21 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each age category.	Young Adults (18-24)	100
Q22 Approximate percentage of clients served with disabilities from grant funds.	No clients served with disabilities	100
Q23 Approximate percentage of clients served in each economic group.	Other	100

S.L. Gimbel Foundation Fund

Q24 Approximate percentage of clients served from grant funds in each population category.

Students

100
