

CCC News Advisory

California Conservation Corps

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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California Conservation Corps To Celebrate 40th Anniversary

SACRAMENTO—The California Conservation Corps will celebrate 40 years of public service at ceremonies June 30 at the State Capitol in Sacramento and July 7 at Griffith Park in Los Angeles and at the premiere of a new documentary at the Crest Theater in Sacramento on June 30.

Northern California 40th Anniversary celebration with Corps members, community groups and elected officials

WHEN: Thursday, June 30, noon

WHERE: West side of the State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814

Premiere of “The Story of the Corps: Celebrating 40 Years of the CCC,” a documentary film about the 40 years of California Conservation Corps service and including an interview with Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

WHEN: Thursday, June 30, 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Crest Theater, 1013 K. Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Southern California 40th Anniversary Celebration with Corps members, community groups and elected officials

WHEN: Thursday July 7, 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Griffith Park Crystal Springs Picnic Area, 4730 Crystal Springs Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90027

California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., who founded the CCC in 1976, modeled the program after the federal Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s and envisioned "a combination Jesuit seminary, Israeli kibbutz and Marine Corps boot camp."

Since then, 120,000 young men and women have embraced the organization's motto—"hard work, low pay, miserable conditions ... and more!"—and served California by fighting fires, responding to floods and oil spills, building hiking trails and restoring rivers and streams. Workers are stationed at two dozen residential and nonresidential sites in cities and rural areas across California.

"The California Conservation Corps was created to give young men and women a chance to serve their communities and to serve California, embedded in the values of conservation and preservation," said Governor Brown during a recent interview about the importance of the CCC. "It's to transcend the more individualistic sense that we all have, and to embrace service, teamwork, and those longer issues or problems that conservation and ecology imply."

To date, CCC workers have spent approximately 74 million hours improving California's natural resources by constructing 11,621 miles of hiking trails, planting nearly 25 million trees, and improving 2,090 miles of salmon and steelhead habitat along coastal rivers and streams.

Workers have also fought El Niño floods, battled massive wildfires including the King and Rim fires, and helped with recovery efforts after the Loma Prieta and Northridge earthquakes.

In recent years, the Corps has helped complete school energy audits and retrofitting, improve forests, and install water-saving irrigation systems to combat California's drought.

The CCC estimates that in completing its work, crews have worn out 120,000 pairs of boots and filled 3.5 million sandbags during disaster response over the past four decades.



For more information about the California Conservation Corps, visit www.ccc.ca.gov or call 1-800-952-5627.

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