

Grant Continuation Assessment and Performance Report

Legal Applicant:	AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY, MAINE DEPARTMENT
Program/Project Name:	Maine Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Program

	Yes	No
Legal Applicant on SAM is active	X	
Legal applicant is not on federal excluded parties list in SAM		X

	From (date)	To (date)
Grant Period (full 3 year time)	01/01/2026	12/31/2028
Continuation period covered by request	01/01/2027	12/31/2027
Performance period under review	01/01/2026	02/20/2026
Grant type	● Fixed amount	

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Maine Conservation Corps will have 105 AmeriCorps members in all sixteen counties of Maine. AmeriCorps members will be the providers and beneficiaries of service, completing vital environmental stewardship and capacity-building activities, while receiving workforce development and bridgebuilding skills training. Team-based placements will focus on recreational trail rehabilitation and habitat restoration; Individual Placement members will be engaged in ecological monitoring, environmental education, shoreline stabilization, community forestry projects, and volunteer management. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for treating or constructing 200 miles of trail and providing capacity-building services to 20 host sites. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage 600 volunteers who will be engaged in environmental stewardship interventions to perpetuate the efforts of members. In addition to the AmeriCorps investment, \$1,019,220 in public funding and \$505,500 in private funding will support the project.

ENROLLMENT/RECRUITMENT/RETENTION:

(Complete each table and then provide analysis of grantee performance in areas of recruitment, enrollment, retention.)

RECRUITMENT/ENROLLMENT – use of positions awarded to program for the program year

Service Term	Awarded slots	Used Slots	% of enrollment
1700	15	13	86.7%
1200	12	0	0%
900	14	1	7.1%
675	32	0	0%
450	0	0	0%
300	32	0	0%
<i>Overall</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>13.3%</i>

RETENTION – keeping members engaged once they are enrolled.

Service Term	Filled slots	Left early	Successfully completed	% retained
1700	13	0	0	100%
1200	0	0	0	0%
900	1	0	0	100%
675	0	0	0	0%

450	0	0	0	0%
300	0	0	0	0%
<i>Overall</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>100%</i>

COMPLIANCE:

» Program operation

There are no issues with their program operation, and no issues have been raised outside of formal monitoring. This assessment is based on a very narrow window of time in their operation.

» Member management

There has been no on-site monitoring of this program, and they are considered low risk.

» Program Finances and Agency Fiscal Issues

Invoices get submitted on time and there have been no financial issues

» Performance Measures:

Their Q1 report isn't due until April

Measure	Year 1 Target	Year 1 Accomplished	Year 2 Target	Year 2 to-date accomplished
Miles of trails or rivers treated	200	135.60	100	0
Miles of trails or rivers improved	180	51.95	80	0
Number of AmeriCorps members demonstrating increased competency in skills or application of knowledge	50	92	50	0
Number of AmeriCorps program training and other formal development activities that result in increased AmeriCorps member skills, knowledge and abilities related to the service assignment	5	18	5	0
Number of organizations that increase their efficiency, effectiveness, and/or program reach	15	15	15	0
Number of organizations that received capacity building services	20	18	20	0

PROPOSED CONTINUATION BUDGET:

No significant changes in the budget

EXPANSION/SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST:

No expansion requested, MSY and slots are the same

OTHER:

MCC has proposed changes to the Performance Measures in order to better align with the program's Theory of Change and reflect targets for outputs and outcomes of projects requested by host site partners for AmeriCorps members to complete for Maine.

Specific changes include the following:

1) Addition of Performance Measure EN4: Number of acres of public parks or other public and tribal lands that are treated (output): and Addition of Performance Measure EN4.1: Number of acres of public parks or other public and tribal lands that are improved (outcome). The addition of these measures reflects the increase of demand, and thus member service, for interventions for invasive

species removal, debris removal, and native plant establishment.

2) Adjustment of targets for Performance Measure EN5: Number of miles of public trails or waterways that are treated and/or constructed (output); and Performance Measure EN5.1: Number of miles of public trails or waterways that are improved and/or put into use. The revised targets better reflect the increased demand from project partners for improved accessibility and sustainability of trails through construction of stonework steps and stairs, bridges, water bars, check steps, and similar features that result in less mileage overall but still aligns with the output and outcome of this performance measure to treat and improve public trails.

3) Removal of Performance Measure: Member Development that incorporated a training in bridge building skills through the Perspectives Curriculum offered by Constructive Dialogue Institute.

No other changes are proposed at this time.

MONITORING:

» Risk Level for this program: Low

» Monitoring required (what and how many records):

Risk Level	Grantee Progress Report Requirements	Fiscal Monitoring	Member Records	Member/Supervis or Interviews	Operation Review
Low	Qtr 1, 2 and 3: Demographics, Performance Indicators, Performance Measures, Q4: All the above plus narratives	Annual desk review of sample of personnel, member support, & travel expenses if no changes in fiscal system or personnel.	See #3 above. Desk review.	Phone or survey	Assess changes in policies or procedures through desk review.

Future Plans.	Completely	Not at all	Partially	Requires correction/ add'l info?
The information is found in the Continuation Application Narrative, Budget, and Performance Measures.				
Grantee articulates lessons learned and uses them to refine plans for the continuation year under review.			X	
Proposed budget complies with current regulations and limits on costs.	X			
Proposed budget has clear explanations of expenses and is free of errors	X			
Performance measure proposes growth targets, strong data collection plan, and accounts for a majority of ACM slots requested			X	
Comments: they need to take out mentions of climate change in their narratives				

Staff Summary Recommendation	Exceeded	Met	Unsuccessful	Conditions
Compliance		X		
Implementation/Operation		X		

Progress on Performance Measures		X		
Grantee Expectations and Sustainability	X			
Future Plans		X		
Comments:				

Task Force Continuation Recommendation	Authorize Proposal	Modify: Increase	Modify: Decrease	Deny Request
Budget	X			
Positions/participant slots	X			
Performance targets	X			
Operating plans	X			
Other:				

Reason for recommendation: Strong grantee.

Conditions or requirements of continuation award: None

Recommendation on Supplemental or Expansion Request: None

Reviewed by Grant Selection and Performance Task Force Members (names):

Bill Guidon, Mary Krebs, Kelly Day

Date: 3/13/2026