

FEBRUARY 2023

# THE COURIER

FOREST SERVICE JOB CORPS CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTERS  
Creating the Next Generation of Conservation Stewards



Anaconda Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center Liaison Specialist Carrie Wolf gives a recruiting presentation at Ronan High School, Ronan, Montana on January 25, 2023. USDA Forest Service photo.

## PROUD TO SERVE



Jason Talbot, Weber Basin Job Corps CCC Center Director.

Here at Weber Basin Job Corps, we're excited to kick-off the second year of our Advanced Emergency Dispatch program. The first year was not without its challenges and learning curve, but overall we had some impressive outcomes. Our inaugural class—graduates Lili Hernandez, Damian King, and Takoda Williams have all have pursued career opportunities in the emergency dispatch and or administration.

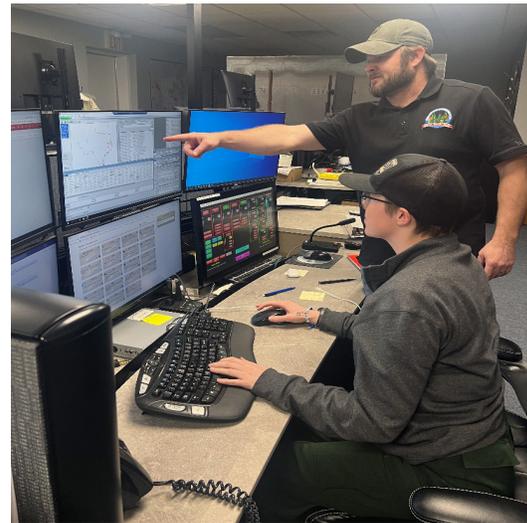
Lili Hernandez is working at U.S. Forest Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Damian King has a position the Nature Conservatory in Kentucky. Takoda Williams has recently accepted a position with the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon. Their hard work and dedication laid the groundwork for future students. It was an amazing experience, and an honor, for all the staff involved in building this program from the ground up to witness.

On January 23rd, 2023 Weber Basin Job Corps welcomed our second cohort of seven students for this groundbreaking vocational program. After a short orientation, they have hit

the ground running. Over the next five months, they will need to work hard to master the necessary skills that will make them valuable assets with the skills to perform at a high-level in dispatch centers around the country. Staff across the Weber Basin Job Corps are excited to be the Civilian Conservation Center allowed to pilot this program and continue to build upon the success of the first year. We are proud to be producing exceptional young graduates who will pursue careers that will contribute to the health of our nation's public lands and support conservation on our national forests and grasslands.



Weber Basin Job Corps CCC Advanced Dispatch Academy Class of 2023 alongside instructors. USDA Forest Service photo.



Weber Basin Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center graduate and new Assistant Trade Instructor for the Fire Dispatch Advanced Training Program Jaylyn Hakes assists Texas Interagency Coordination Center Assistant Dispatch Center Manager Jonathan Nash in Lufkin, Texas. USDA Forest Service photo.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **At-a-glance:** Visit the [OC Editorial Calendar](#) for upcoming agency-wide communication activities.
- **Jacobs Creek Job Corps CCC:** [Job Corps Alumnus finds career through GAOA trails project](#)
- **Visit Us:** Job Corps Fire Program [SharePoint](#) site.



## EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND SERVICE

828 VETS member and former Franklin, North Carolina Mayor Bob Scott, teaches LBJ students carpentry techniques on January 28, 2023. Courtesy photo by Bob Scott.

## LBJ JOB CORPS LENDS A HELPING HAND

On Saturday January 28, 2023, Lyndon B. Johnson CCC Facilities Maintenance students Tre'maine Stevenson, Klu Loh, and Hser Wah and Welding students Sha'Kera Flythe and Christopher Lewis volunteered to assist the 828 VETS in building a wheelchair ramp and landing on a disabled veteran's home. Guidance Counselor and Air Force Veteran Shawna Keyes transported the students and also lent a hand. The mission of 828 VETS is to support veteran careers and businesses. LBJ staff and students have volunteered their skills whenever the group could use extra sets of hands. "I think it's a great partnership between our organizations," says 828 Vets founder, Craig McManus. "The students did well both times and we really appreciated the help." This was the second construction project that LBJ assisted with, both times building wheelchair accessible ramps and landings onto disabled veteran's homes. "Helping the one's in need brings me joy," says Stevenson. "You can always learn something and it was good to get out and do something for the community."



(l-r) Students Hser Wah and Klu Loh construct a wheel chair ramp. Courtesy photot by Bob Scott.



(l-r) C. Lewis learns leveling techniques from Bob Scott. Courtesy photo by Bob Scott.

The mission of the 24 Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers is to train eligible youth ages 16 to 24 with educational, social, and vocational skills while assisting in the conservation of the nation's public natural resources.

## MEET CLARENCE FERGUSON TRAPPER CREEK JOB CORPS CCC



Trapper Creek Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center Recreation Director Clarence Ferguson celebrated his 50 year anniversary at the center in January 2023. He has had a career that many people would envy. It's a career that's

he loves, has never wanted to leave, and which still brings him joy.

Ferguson was a student at Trapper Creek before he was staff. A native of Edison, Georgia, he heard about Job Corps through newspaper articles. He enrolled in Trapper Creek in 1967 and graduated in 1968. Ferguson worked summers at the Powell Ranger Station on the Clearwater National Forest while enrolled at Western Montana College. He graduated in 1973 with a degree in History and Physical Education.

Ferguson went on to enroll in the University of Montana to earn his Master's degree in Education in 1974. He worked weekends at Trapper Creek until in he graduated in 1978 and joined the staff full-time as a Recreation Assistant. Within a few years, he was promoted to being the director.

Ferguson is one of Trapper's most beloved staff. He enjoys the challenge of working with students and he's deeply immersed in their day-to-day lives. Over the years he's had numerous students reach out to him and share how he made a difference in their life. Ferguson shares that having four kids of his own--one girl and three boys--has helped him understand the challenges youth encounter and he designs Trapper Creek's recreation program around activities that empower his students.



## STAY IN THE KNOW!

Follow our hashtags!

- #forestservicejobcorps
- #jobcorpsfire

More exciting news can be found on our [Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers!](#) website!

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.