



Topic: Public Lands Corps and Resource Assistants Program – FSM 1820

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Issue Summary: FSM 1820 updates expand and revise guidance regarding partnerships that support community and national service, work experience and training to low-income, unemployed, underemployed, or underrepresented persons, including veterans, who may be interested in natural and cultural resource careers or conservation stewardship

Background: Public Lands Corps Act (PLCA) of 1993 (National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, Public Law 103-82, Stat. 107, 848 of 1993) created the Public Lands Corps within the Department of Agriculture and Department of Interior. The PLCA was amended by the PLC Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005, the National Park Service Centennial Act of 2016, and the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps Act of 2019 (S.47 - John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, Title IX. Sec. 9003). Directive revisions incorporate authorizations designated in the latter two amendments to the PLCA and other guidance and requirements regarding program implementation and management.

Key Points: Revises chapter in its entirety, substantial changes are listed:

- Establishes guidance for Resource Assistants Program and direct hire authority implementation.
- Establishes separate guidance for Public Lands Corps and Resource Assistants Program authorities to more clearly delineate between the two authorities.
- Increases awareness and understanding among local units on how to use these authorities to accomplish work goals.
- Promotes workforce development opportunities to fill employment gaps and increase diversity.
- Clarifies requirements of conservation service corps and other partnerships authorized under the Public Lands Corps Act and procedures for participant engagement and hiring eligibility authorities.

Recommendation: OMB concurs with the Forest Service recommendation of non-significant for the policy change in Chapter 1820 in accordance with 36 CFR, Section 216. Chapter 1820 will not adversely affect the economy in a material way, create an inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency, or alter budgetary and policy priorities.

