# <u>Supporting Organizations –</u> National Climate Service Corps and Careers Network Act

# America's Service Commissions

"Addressing climate change and increasing natural disasters requires localized solutions that meet unique needs on the ground and help people get real work skills and put them on a path to good-paying jobs. On behalf of America's Service Commissions, we commend Senator Cortez Masto for doing that by introducing the National Climate Service Corps Act while also recognizing the important work being done already in Nevada through AmeriCorps and the Nevada Volunteers state service commission," said Kaira Esgate, CEO of America's Service Commissions. "We thank Senator Cortez Masto for her attention to these issues and for recognizing the importance of national service and federal, state, and local partnerships in addressing the environmental and economic challenges posed by climate change."

# Backcountry Hunters & Anglers – Nevada Chapter

"The Nevada Chapter of BHA applauds the efforts of Senator Cortez Masto to introduce the National Climate Service Corps and Careers Network Act," **stated Chapter Policy Chairman David Ricker**. "This visionary and timely legislation, like the Great Depression era Civilian Conservation Corps, aims to put young people to work across the nation providing many public benefits, such as needed infrastructure, habitat restoration and improved resiliency of our nation's public lands. This goal has particular importance for Nevada with our abundance of public lands, home to our valued wildlife resources. As one example: while gaining skills that can lead to lifetime outdoor occupations, the Corps can provide needed hands to address the threat and impacts of the increasingly inevitable drought and wildland fires here in Nevada."

# **Conservation Lands Foundation**

"Through our work and that of our Friends Grassroots Network, we protect and steward for the public lands America loves and that are needed for the natural, Indigenous and economic values they hold as well as the mental and physical health benefits they provide for so many. The National Climate Service Corps Act introduced by Senator Cortez Masto invests in building the infrastructure for good-paying jobs and careers that are desperately needed to restore fish and wildlife habitats, reclaim degraded lands and waters and improve outdoor recreation access, which are key to economic recovery and climate change mitigation," said Jocelyn Torres, Nevada-based Senior Field Director at the Conservation Lands Foundation

#### The Corps Network

"National service programs address challenges ranging from food insecurity, to illiteracy, to the backlog of maintenance needs on our public lands. With this bill, we see a path to engage more

national service programs in addressing the very real challenge of climate change and putting participants on the pathway to successful careers," **said Mary Ellen Sprenkel, President and CEO of The Corps Network.** "We thank Sen. Cortez Masto for her leadership on this issue and look forward to working with her and our partners at AmeriCorps to make climate resiliency projects a greater priority for Conservation Corps and other national service programs."

# Friends of Nevada Wilderness

"Friends of Nevada Wilderness is very supportive of Senator Cortez Masto's National Climate Service Corps Act," said Shaaron Netherton, the group's Executive Director. "Giving young people the opportunity to make a difference for their communities and the planet is a wonderful combination. Many of Friends of Nevada Wilderness employees began with us as AmeriCorps Service Volunteers. Expanding this successful program and providing experienced alumni corpsmembers an easier pathway to gain employment in civil service is an effective way to increase both the skills and diversity in our government."

#### **Great Basin Institute**

"Great Basin Institute proudly support's Senator Cortez Masto's National Climate Service Corps legislation and firmly applaud her interest in enacting President Biden's call for a Civilian Climate Corps. As an AmeriCorps host site for more than two decades, GBI fully appreciates the impact that national service can have on participants, as well as the communities they are serving. Calling for the creation of a Climate Careers Network provides a dedicated pathway to help National Climate Service Corps participants to more easily enter the clean energy green jobs economy," said Chris Warner, Director of Development, Great Basin Institute

#### Nevada Conservation League

"Nevada is on the frontlines of the climate crisis - facing unprecedented droughts, out of control wildfires, and home to two of the fastest-warming cities in the country. Climate change continues to threaten public and environmental health, with 82 percent of Nevada citizens recognizing it as a serious problem," **said Nevada Conservation League Executive Director Paul Selberg**. "Nevadans are calling on our legislators to act on climate, and we are grateful for Senator Cortez Masto for introducing legislation to establish the National Climate Service Corps so we can prepare and empower a new workforce to take on the challenges of climate change."

#### Nevada Volunteers

"Senator Cortez Masto has long been a leader in the clean energy and clean environment effort. She knows it will take all of us working together to achieve the progress we need to address the serious challenges we face and the great opportunities that lie ahead. A National Climate Service Corps is a natural outgrowth of the AmeriCorps mission that was founded upon and is fueled by

the "clean energy" of volunteer service – communities working together within their community to help each other make things better for everyone," said Amy Koeckes, Nevada Volunteers Commission Chairperson.

"Expanding a model of national and volunteer service to leverage job skills development into permanent careers will encourage graduates to stay in Nevada and we look forward to working with Sen. Cortez Masto on this new and exciting national service initiative," **Zanny Marsh**, **Nevada Volunteers Executive Director said**.

#### Nevada Wildlife Federation

"We applaud Senator Cortez Masto's legislation that provides young adults with the opportunity to promote environmental sustainability within our country. Especially in areas where climate-driven weather events are on the rise, including communities of color, low-income and tribal communities." **said Russell Kuhlman, Executive Director of the Nevada Wildlife Federation**. "As our country strategizes pathways to address climate change, this legislation is vital to provide our future work force with the skillset, experience and career paths needed to address our climate crisis."

### Service Year Alliance

"We are thrilled to support Senator Cortez Masto's National Climate Service Corps Act," **said Jesse Colvin, CEO of Service Year Alliance**. "At a time when our country must be bold, inventive, and forward-thinking in our response to climate change, this bill would harness the passion of the next generation through national service. It would build more resilient communities while allowing young people to develop the skills that will help them launch future careers in this high-needs sector."