We acknowledge that we are on the traditional homelands of the Methow people and others within the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. These people have been here and cared for the land since time immemorial. We did not ask to be here, but let us take a moment to give thanks to the beautiful land that we are on and to honor the people that have been here and still are here.
About us!

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Environmental Policy
COMM Studies
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Marine & Coastal Science
Spanish
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Katie Boon
Environmental Science
Geology
Introduction

What is a youth corps?
Create opportunities for youth to engage in place-based learning, hands-on community work experience, and sustainability-focused job training.
Methow and Okanogan communities will benefit from wildfire mitigation, food security, water security, and weatherization work.
Methow at Home, Room One, Fire Adapted Methow Valley, Independent Learning Center, Methow Ready, WWU, Sustainability Pathways.
The purpose of this youth corps is to create opportunities for youth to engage in place-based learning, hands-on community work experience, and sustainability-focused job training. In turn, the Methow and Okanogan communities will benefit from social justice work, restoration and ecological health, and other services that increase economic vitality in order to become more resilient against the increasing impacts of climate change. This youth corps is centered in community work as a way to improve quality of life and the natural landscape.
The Four Puzzle Pieces of Sustainability

Equity and Social Justice

Economic Vitality

Human Health

Ecological Health
Identified Community Needs

- Environmental needs
- Economic needs
- Equitable/social needs
The Four Aspects of Work

Fire Mitigation
FAMV, eventually DNR, Methow Ready, and Conservation District.

Weatherization
Methow at Home, Room One, and Fire Adapted Methow Valley.

Food Security
Red Shed, Classroom in Bloom, and the Cove, Room One.

Water security
FAMV, Methow at Home, Methow Ready, WWU.
Barriers to Youth Participation

- Transportation
- Social isolation
- Financial hardship
  - Affordability of programs
  - Compensation
  - General poverty
- Lack of mentorship and jobs in this field

Mile High Youth Corps
<table>
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<th>Funding</th>
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<th>Scaffolded Age Brackets</th>
<th>Local Partnerships to Start?</th>
<th>AmeriCorps Leads</th>
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<th>Educational Opportunities</th>
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Recommendations
OYC Structure

Three age brackets
- 14-15 yr olds
- 16-18 yr olds
- 19+ yr olds
- Financially compensated
- Work hours/type of work vary between age brackets

** Compensation starts at minimum wage for the lowest age bracket and increases as members get older and can complete greater tasks.

AmeriCorps Leaders (20-24 yr olds)
- Sustainability Pathways connections
- WWU students or Methow/Okanogan community
Partnerships

Methow Valley School District

- Working relationship will be mutually beneficial
  - MVSD students have an opportunity to engage in sustainability work, engage with the community, and develop essential job skills.
  - OYC members can source MVSD students, create focus groups, and collaborate with schools in the district.
- Connecting with other school districts
Budget Recommendations

- Wages, housing, food, AmeriCorps living stipends, work materials, office space, class materials, trainings
- Small grants written by stakeholders
- Larger funding from DNR or Conservation District
- Fee for service
The next steps for the OYC

- **Methow Valley School District**: Will help provide youth input, Identify barriers to youth participation, Add future youth benefits (i.e.: service hours and/or credit fulfillment)
- **Methow Ready**: Learn about emergency preparation, Link work to fire mitigation or weatherization
- **Youth Engagement**: Get impressions from participating youth, Learn more about what local youth can best benefit from in the program
- **Water Security**: Research/contact organizations focused on water security, Associate what work can be done by OYC members, Develop practices that can preserve the Methow Watershed
Thank you to all of our stakeholders for taking the time to meet with us and contribute to the OYC!

Many thanks to our project sponsor, Kat Heim, from Fire Adapted Methow Valley for your amazing work!

Questions?