

## Inmate Labor- Success Stories

### **Federal Civilian Inmate Labor Program**

AR-210-35, January 2005 provides Army policy and guidance for establishing and managing civilian inmate labor programs on Army installations with Federal corrections facilities. Benefits of the program include:

- Provide a source of labor at not direct labor cost to the Corps
- Accomplish tasks that would not be possible due to funding and staffing constraints
- Provide meaningful work for inmates

**Location:** MVS- Carlyle Lake

- **Partners:** US Justice Department, Federal Bureau of Prisons- Greenville, IL Federal Prison Camp
- **Agreement type:** MOA with Federal Bureau of Prisons- Greenville, IL Federal Prison Camp signed by DE
- **Partnership value:** Approximately \$400,000 annually in unfunded labor-intensive work (~14,000 volunteer hours)
- **How it works:**
  - BOP selects crews of 10 inmates to perform work Monday-Friday. Minimum level security. No serious violence, escape, sexual offenses.
  - BOP provides medical care, clothing, safety shoes, meals, inmate ID cards, training for Corps Staff
  - BOP provides appropriate compensation to inmates. No cost to Corps.
  - Corps provides transportation to and from project, technical supervision, safety equipment, tools, refrigeration for inmate's lunches, designated areas for break, lunch and restroom for inmates.
  - Workers used for unfunded work such as repair and maintenance, litter pickup, tree trimming, janitorial, trail work, boundary maintenance, painting, construction, fish habitat, wildlife nesting structure installation, tree and native grass planting, wetland restoration
- **Corps POC:** Bob Wilkins, [Robert.wilkins@usace.army.mil](mailto:Robert.wilkins@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** MVS- Rend Lake

- **Partners:** US Penitentiary, Marion, IL
- **Agreement type:** MOA with US Penitentiary, Marion, IL
- **Partnership value:** Approximately \$500,000 annually in unfunded labor-intensive work (~14,500 volunteer hours)
- **How it works:**
  - BOP selects crews of 10 inmates to perform work Monday-Friday. Minimum level security. No serious violence, escape, sexual offenses.
  - BOP provides medical care, clothing, safety shoes, meals, inmate ID cards, training for Corps Staff
  - BOP provides appropriate compensation to inmates. No cost to Corps.
  - Corps provides transportation to and from project, technical supervision, safety equipment, tools
  - Workers used for unfunded work such as equipment operation and maintenance, boundary, sign and gate maintenance, comfort station rehab, painting, electrical and plumbing, hazard tree removal, janitorial, mowing, brush cutting, trail maintenance, welding and metal fabrication, construction, dam inspections, culvert work, campsite rehab, vehicle/boat cleaning, snow/ice removal, invasive species management, landscaping
- **Corps POC:** Kevin Curran, [Kevin.A.Curran@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kevin.A.Curran@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** NWO- Gavins Point

- **Partners:** Federal Bureau of Prison- Yankton, SD Federal Prison Camp
- **Agreement type:** MOU with Federal Bureau of Prisons- Yankton, SD Federal Prison Camp signed by DE. Labor plan signed by DE
- **Partnership value:** Saves \$350,000 annually
- **How it works:**
  - BOP selects minimum security federal prison inmates
  - Bureau of Prisons (BOP) pays inmates small wage/hr. No cost to Corps.

- Corps provides technical oversight, but not supervision of inmates.
- BOP provides meals and clothing, medical care, safety shoes, training to Corps staff, transport to site
- Inmates selected by Warden, but Corps has right of refusal. No history of serious violence, escape or sexual offenses. Within 2 years of being released.
- 6 inmates employed on average, up to 12 during peak periods
- Types of work: Inmates assist maintenance personnel in plumbing, mechanical, general labor, cleaning, landscaping, carpentry, habitat restoration
- Constructed new project administration building
- **Corps POC:** Dave Becker, [david.a.becker@usace.army.mil](mailto:david.a.becker@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** SWF- Somerville Lake

- **Partners:** Federal Bureau of Prison- Bryan, TX Federal Prison Camp
- **Agreement type:** MOA with Bureau of Prisons signed by DE
- **How it works:**
  - BOP selects 45 inmates to perform work M-Th. No serious violence, escape, sexual offenses.
  - BOP provides medical care, clothing, safety shoes, meals, transportation and driver, training for Corps Staff
  - Corps provides technical supervision, one van for transport on Corps lands to be driven by BOP staff
  - No cost for wages to Corps.
  - Workers used for clearing brush, maintaining trails and roads, construction, mowing, painting, carpentry, janitorial
- **Lessons learned:** Recommend having a porta-john for crews at the office or work station
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**Location:** LRP- East Branch Lake

- **Partners:** Federal correctional facility
- **Agreement type:** MOA between Department of Justice and US Forest Service
- **How it works:**
  - Low risk, low flight participants directly supervised by US Forest Service employees
  - Workers used for construction of picnic pavilion, access walkway, campsite rehab

## **State Programs**

**Location:** MVS- Shelbyville Lake

- **Partners:** Vandalia Correctional Center
- **Agreement type:** Volunteer agreement
- **Partnership value:** Approximately \$50,000 annually in unfunded labor-intensive work
- **How it works:**
  - All work is done at the Correctional Center.
  - Corps transports projects (including all materials and supplies) to and from the Correctional Center.
  - Correctional Center provides appropriate compensation to inmates. No cost to Corps.
  - Workers used for unfunded work such as picnic table rehab, footbridge rehab, barrier construction, courtesy dock rehab, carpentry and metal work
- **Corps POC:** Ricky Raymond, [Ricky.D.Raymond@usace.army.mil](mailto:Ricky.D.Raymond@usace.army.mil)
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**Location:** NWW- Mill Creek

- **Partner:** Washington State Department of Corrections
- **Agreement type:** Contract with WA State DOC
- **How it works:** Not incarcerated inmates. Workers sentenced to community work hours
  - Costs the Corps \$15/day per participant paid by micro-purchase VISA check.
  - DOC selects and supervises workers, provides transportation to work site,
- **Corps POC:** Rich Beauchesne, [Richard.g.Beauchesne@usace.army.mil](mailto:Richard.g.Beauchesne@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** NWW- Dworshak Reservoir

- **Partner:** State of Idaho Department of Corrections
- **Agreement type:** Human Resource Agreement with ID State DOC
- **How it works:**
  - DOC selects and screens inmates for M-F up to 50 hours of work/week.
  - DOC provides supervision and workers with clothing, boots, gloves, hard hats, medical aid, housing, food, transportation
  - Corps provides technical supervision. Pays state for inmate hours worked, equipment reimbursement, cost of transportation
- **Corps POC:** Paul Pence, [paul.j.pence@usace.army.mil](mailto:paul.j.pence@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** NWW- Dworshak Reservoir

- **Partner:** Lewiston Juvenile Correction Center
- **Agreement type:** Challenge Partnership Agreement with State of Idaho LJCC
- **How it works:**
  - LJCC trains work crews as part of their Trail Maintenance Training Program and provides supervision of 1 staff per six juveniles.
  - LJCC provides food, transportation, labor, tools, supplies, and PPE.
  - Crews consist of low risk level 3 and 4 juvenile residents working on trail maintenance. No violent crimes, sex crimes, or crimes with a weapon allowed.
  - Corps provides materials and logistical support. No monetary compensation to LJCC.

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## **County Programs**

**Location:** NWW- Lucky Peak

- **Partner:** Ada County Sheriff's Department (Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP)/Sheriff's Inmate Labor (SIL) Program)
- **How it works:** If a person is sentenced to county jail for 30 days or less, they can choose the ASP/SIL program with the judge's permission. 1 work day = 1 sentence day.
  - Costs the Corps \$500/inmate.
  - Inmate reports to jail, gets on a bus, and heads to project site. Bus is driven by deputy, who also watches the workers.
  - Problem workers are put on the bus in cuffs, lose their work privileges, and finish their sentence in jail.
  - Corps signs workers up as volunteers. County provides Corps with copy of insurance liability policy annually. Workers are covered under the county workers comp policy, so they are not a liability to the Corps like other volunteers.
  - Corps provides 1 ranger per 10-12 workers, minimal tools/materials
  - Inmates keep their regular jobs and family life. Can spread work out over the course of weekends and work M-F at their paying job.
  - County runs the program and does not have to feed/house low risk inmates.
  - Many workers have experience in maintenance, construction, painting
  - Jail provides lunches and porta-john for workers
- **Corps POC:** Joyce Dunning, [joyce.m.dunning@usace.army.mil](mailto:joyce.m.dunning@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** NWW- Mill Creek

- **Partner:** Walla Walla County Juvenile Work Crew
- **How it works:** Not incarcerated inmates. Workers sentenced to community work hours
  - Costs the Corps \$15/day per participant paid by micro-purchase VISA check.

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**Location:** NWP- Willamette Valley Projects

- **Partner:** State and county correctional facilities

- **Agreement type:** Cooperative Agreement
- **How it works:**
  - Corps pays small salary to inmates and provides materials.
  - Crews work on invasive species removal, construction
- **Corps POC:** Tami Schroeder, [tamara.r.schroeder@usace.army.mil](mailto:tamara.r.schroeder@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** NWP- Bonneville Dam

- **Partner:** Skamania County Sheriff's Office
- **Agreement type:** Cooperative Agreement with SCSO
- **How it works:**
  - Corps pays sheriff department for services.
  - SCSO provides housing, meals, clothing, transportation, medical care of inmates
  - Crews work on invasive species removal, litter clean up and trail maintenance

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**Location:** NWK- Smithville Lake

- **Partner:** Northland Alternative Services Organization
- **Agreement type:** Volunteer service agreement **How it works:** Community service non-violent offenders referred by local magistrate courts
- **Corps POC:** Lora Vacca, [lora.e.vacca@usace.army.mil](mailto:lora.e.vacca@usace.army.mil)

**Location:** NAE- Littleville Lake

- **Partner:** County courthouse
- **Agreement type:** Volunteer service agreement
- **How it works:** Not incarcerated inmates. Workers sentenced to community work hours
  - Community service coordinator brings workers to project twice a month and supervises
  - Workers perform painting, boundary maintenance, brush cutting, litter pick-up, campground cleaning
- **Corps POC:** Thomas Wisnauckas, [Thomas.m.wisnauckas@usace.army.mil](mailto:Thomas.m.wisnauckas@usace.army.mil)