Local Southwest Utah Partnership Engages Youth to Mitigate Flood Damage, Control Invasive Species, and Restore Native Habitat

Wesley Pickett*, Ian Torrence, Aaron Wilson, Mackenzie Messing, Susan Jardine.
American Conservation Experience, Hurricane, UT

Introduction

The Southwest Conservation Operations (SWCO, a non-profit conservation group) provides some youth with unique internship opportunities through the Nevada Youth Conservation Corps (NYCC) and the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). The NYCC is a part of the National Park Service Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. The NYCC is a youth conservation program that provides hands-on, outdoor conservation projects for youth in the Southwest United States. The NYCC provides a unique opportunity for youth to gain valuable experience in conservation, environmental education, and leadership skills. The YCC is a national program that provides hands-on, outdoor conservation projects for youth in the United States. The YCC provides a unique opportunity for youth to gain valuable experience in conservation, environmental education, and leadership skills.

Monitoring

The SWCO Conservation Operations (SWCO) was a non-profit organization that engaged youth in the conservation of the Southwest United States. The NYCC is a part of the National Park Service Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. The NYCC is a youth conservation program that provides hands-on, outdoor conservation projects for youth in the Southwest United States. The NYCC provides a unique opportunity for youth to gain valuable experience in conservation, environmental education, and leadership skills.

Willow Harvesting and Revegetation

The SWCO Conservation Operations (SWCO) was a non-profit organization that engaged youth in the conservation of the Southwest United States. The NYCC is a part of the National Park Service Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. The NYCC is a youth conservation program that provides hands-on, outdoor conservation projects for youth in the Southwest United States. The NYCC provides a unique opportunity for youth to gain valuable experience in conservation, environmental education, and leadership skills.

Invasive Species Removal

Since 2012, SWCO has been primarily focused on controlling weeds in the Virgin River. Weeds were primarily controlled using chemical and mechanical means, such as herbicides and mechanical tools. The NYC Conservation Operations (NYCC) was a non-profit organization that engaged youth in the conservation of the Southwest United States. The NYCC is a part of the National Park Service Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. The NYCC is a youth conservation program that provides hands-on, outdoor conservation projects for youth in the Southwest United States. The NYCC provides a unique opportunity for youth to gain valuable experience in conservation, environmental education, and leadership skills.

Conclusion

Through harvesting invasive plant species and planting native species, SWCO’s Youth Conservation Interns played a crucial role in the long-term ecological restoration of Washington County’s Virgin and Escalante Rivers. Completing this work, in partnership with local stakeholders, allowed for meaningful community engagement, leadership, and pride by the local community and stakeholders.

*Wesley Pickett, Ian Torrence, Aaron Wilson, Mackenzie Messing, Susan Jardine are the authors of this document.