



Conservation Education Selected Accomplishments FY 1999 – FY 2002

Infrastructure:



- In FY 99, established a Conservation Education (CE) national staff and program, including a national strategy and action plan (currently being updated), and submitted a comprehensive report on CE to Congress.
- Strengthened the network of field CE Coordinators and ensured that all Regions, Stations, the Area and IITF had an active CE coordinator.
- Developing an outcome and output based monitoring & evaluation system which will be fully implemented in FY 2003.
- Conducting a national survey of CE customer satisfaction
- Quadrupled funds identified for conservation education (CE) programs.
- Produced and implemented CE standards & guidelines for programs and products.
- Created an agencywide on-line electronic clearinghouse for CE materials and revised the CE website.
- Promoted creation of geo-regional CE councils to coordinate CE delivery.
- Held first national CE meeting with strong State Forester participation; second national CE meeting planned for March 2002.

Program:



- FY 2000-2002, funded over 200 competitively selected CE field projects that addressed agency priorities.
- Initiated water education program with National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (NEETF).

- Provided educational materials to the field including: Burning Issues CD, Forests Forever publication, Ecosystem Matters book/ CD, Woodsy 4R's packet.
- Partnered with Research to make The Natural Inquirer the CE "flagship" product for middle school students.
- Supported and championed the Conservation Connection National Public Radio conservation education spots.
- Supported many field education underserved youth outreach programs such as "Branching Out to the Youth of America and "Ute Lifeways."
- Led Forest Service participation in the 2001 Boy Scout Jamboree and the Girl Scout Linking Girls to the Land program.

Partnerships:



- Implemented MOU's with Project Learning Tree (PLT), Partners in Resource Education, American Camping Association, NEETF.
- Serve on the PLT Operating Committee and National Association of Conservation Districts' Education and Stewardship Committees.
- Worked collaboratively and successfully with NASF and State Foresters.
- Supported Partners in Resource Education, a collaborative effort between DOI and USDA land managing agencies, EPA and NEETF to coordinate and share agency conservation education efforts
- Partnered with the Canon Envirothon, The Environmentors Program, and the USDA CSREES Forestry Institute to provide intensive, hands-on conservation education programs for high school students.

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