



# NEWS RELEASE

*from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

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Jack Morrison 703-358-2328  
Inez Connor 202-219-3861

**YCC: YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS--  
STILL YOUNG AND GOING STRONG AT 25**

They've installed fences, repaired bird nests, conducted duck nesting surveys, helped in the office, and risen to senior management positions within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"They" are the YCCs, the Youth Conservation Corps, a joint program of the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and USDA Forest Service that marks its Silver Anniversary this year. The agencies will honor the YCC at a celebration July 25 at the Sylvan Theater on the Washington Monument Grounds.

Congress started the YCC program in 1973 to provide summer employment for young people 15 to 18 years old in a healthful, outdoor atmosphere and also to create an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's natural resources.

John Rogers, acting director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said such an understanding is essential. "It is the young people who are the future of wildlife and natural resource conservation in our country."

During the past 25 years, the Service has employed 27,907 YCC enrollees for 8 to 10 weeks at more than 300 field stations.

"The Service is proud of the YCC program and the contributions the enrollees have made to wildlife conservation," said Rogers. "We're also pleased that 76 former YCC enrollees chose a career with the Service and are now working on refuges, fish hatcheries, and ecological services field offices."

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Office of Public Affairs  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
Room 3447

(202) 208-5634  
FAX (202) 219-2428