

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, D.C.



FILE REFERENCE:

February 26, 1935

The Honorable B.B. Moeur,  
Governor of Arizona,  
Pheonix, Arizona.

Dear Governor Moeur:

Under date of May 5, 1933 I wired your office that the President was willing to extend the operations of the Civilian Conservation Corps to State Forest lands, and to privately-owned lands for protection against fire, tree insect and disease epidemics, provided the States would agree to reimburse the Government in part for the work done on State-owned lands and to assure maintenance of the improvements constructed. Your office accepted the terms of the President's proposal.

I have previously written you regarding provision for repayment. Now, in view of the expected continuance and expansion of the Civilian Conservation Corps, I am writing to ask what provision has been made in your State and what are the State's plans to provide for use and maintenance of the works constructed and for co-operating with us in case camps are continued.

The Civilian Conservation Corps, as you know, was designed by the President to provide useful work for unemployed young men between the ages of 18 and 25, and in order to employ as many as possible with the funds available, expenditures for supervision and overhead were to be held to a minimum. It was the thought that existing forestry and park agencies would be largely able to furnish the necessary administrative, technical and clerical help, other than in the camps themselves, that would be needed to administer the project.

Your State forestry organization has perhaps done all that it could in this connection with the funds at its disposal but the Federal Government has been called upon to pay very considerable sums for salaries and expenses of administrative, technical and clerical help for general supervision of the camps that was not expected when the work was under-taken. It is my feeling that the States should provide the salaries and expenses of necessary general overhead to give competent direction to the work, and should provide for taking over the maintenance of structures, communicating systems and other improvements upon completion of the projects by the Civilian Conservation Corps on State and privately-owned land. I am not at this writing informed as to the amount that would be needed in Arizona to carry out this program but I am sure that your forestry department could readily furnish it to you.

Governor Moeur.

We are now considering allocation of camps to the different States and work agencies, in case the Civilian Conservation Corps is expanded, and the ability of the State organizations to properly supervise the work as defined above, and to maintain and use the improvements, will be an important consideration in making camp allotments. I shall therefore greatly appreciate your immediate attention to this question and a letter from you outlining your plans in connection with this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

*Robt. Fechner.*  
ROBERT FECHNER,  
Director.