



SCA New Hampshire AmeriCorps Final Hitch Report

The Student Conservation Association in Partnership with NH State Parks: Hannah Dustin Memorial Site

Crew Leaders – Randal Weamer & Trevor Nelson

Introduction:

From August 9, 2015 to August 14, 2015 a crew of five SCA NH AmeriCorps members worked at the Hannah Dustin Memorial Site in Boscawen to clear a view for the memorial and remove invasive species.

The Crew:

The crew members included:

1. Ethan Duffany
2. Trevor Nelson
3. Erin Foley
4. Joel Coleman
5. Randal Weamer



The crew was led by SCA Crew Leaders Randal Weamer of Mesa, AZ and Trevor Nelson of Exeter, NH.

Randal graduated from Northern Arizona University with a major in Forestry and loves to go on back country treks and rock climb in his spare time. Trevor studied at Southern New Hampshire University and graduated with a degree in Environmental Management and hopes to move out west in the near future.

Accomplishments:

The crew cleared over half an acre of invasive plants and other vegetation from the Hannah Dustin Memorial Site such as Glossy Buckthorn, Japanese Knotweed, Oriental Bittersweet, and Japanese Barberry. Overall, we cleared more than 25,000 square feet of invasive plants, saplings, and undergrowth.

Project Summary:

- 25,000 sq. ft. of vegetation removal
- Total Number of Crew Members: 5
- Total Number of Crew Member Service Hours: 210
- Total Number of SCA Conservation Coordinator Technical Support Hours: 4
- Total Number of SCA Crew Supervisor Technical Support Hours: 8.5
- Total Number of Service Hours: 212.5

Crew Highlights:

A highlight of this project was working at the Hannah Dustin Memorial Site, the first monument dedicated to a woman in America. The site has a lot of history and it was a pleasure to hear stories about Hannah Dustin and the site from the local residents that would stop by. The volunteers who pitched in were a big help and hearing their personal stories about this unique, and almost forgotten landmark, was an added delight.

Project Challenges:

The biggest challenge was the repetitive nature of the work. Although we all took home some poison ivy as a souvenir and were unsure about the potentially controversial context of the monument, it was nice to give back to the history of colonial America.

Thank you:

We'd like to thank Ben Wilson for all of his support with the chipper, trailer, and advice. Thank you to Elaine with the Boscawen Historical Society and to Jack Shields for the watermelon and entertaining stories.

Photos:



The SCA New Hampshire AmeriCorps Program is a partnership between the Student Conservation Association, The New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Since 1994, SCA NH AmeriCorps has provided nearly one million hours of service to the lands and people of New Hampshire. Each year, 30 full time volunteers contribute more than 50,000 service hours, providing environmental education programming to the state's residents and visitors, and completing conservation service projects that improve and protect the state's cultural, recreational, and natural resources.