

November 5, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my great pleasure to recommend Sean Murphy to you. I worked with Sean for several weeks during the summer of 2008. I was a Volunteer in the Parks Trail Crew Leader in Rocky Mountain National Park and Sean was a member of a six person crew attached to the American Conservation Corps. I facilitated trail crew activities for the group during this period.

Sean worked in adverse conditions. This included weather variability and working conditions that would challenge the heartiest and most motivated student. Sean's most striking attribute is his ability to critically and creatively solve problems. He was expected to install devices that would enhance erosion control using native materials. Sean repeatedly demonstrated his aptitude in assessing these situations and locating the appropriate materials. He used a variety of hand and power tools, including chain saws, rock bars, and pulaskis.

One of Sean's greatest achievements was the reconstruction of the tread on a section of trail that had been built by the Civilian Conversation Corps almost seventy years ago. He repeatedly was expected to pair up with members from his own team and other county agencies and work together to build rock checks and water control devices. This required the ability to collaborate with each other to achieve daily goals. Sean consistently demonstrated his willingness to work closely with his team members and younger individuals to meet these goals.

An important characteristic of a successful trail crew worker is tenacity. Trail crew workers must work through the heat and summer snows as well as greet the public with a smile while simultaneously completing work projects. Sean is one of the most tenacious individuals I've worked with. He was conscientious in the details of his work while finding effective ways to surmount the many obstacles that arose in the backcountry.

Finally, Sean has the necessary skills to be a lifelong learner. He is not reticent in asking for assistance when he needs additional guidance. He is also open to suggestions and redirection.

I wholeheartedly recommend Sean for any position, whether as a student or in the work force, that demands self-motivation, persistence, and a "can do" attitude. Please don't hesitate to contact me at 970/424-0532 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel A. Deslauriers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Daniel A. Deslauriers
Program Coordinator, Gateway Youth and Family Services