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To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Sean Murphy. I hired Sean for an American Conservation Corps (ACC) crew position in 2008. While he was working with his team assigned to Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP), his direct supervisors identified Sean as a potential leader. Sean was mature, demonstrated good problem solving skills, worked well with a variety of personalities, inspired confidence, and had an excellent work ethic.

The following summer Sean led the ACC Rocky Mountain National Park crew and was in charge of 5 college-age students. Sean organized, mentored, and inspired his team to work to a high standard while reinforcing pride in a job well done. He planned a crew orientation, distributed gear, educated the crew on topics such as eating for trail work, hydration, safety, etc., continually modeled and taught trail work skills, and encouraged feedback from crew members to prevent any misunderstandings or problems.

I was impressed with Sean's leadership ability and offered to pay for Wilderness First Responder training to prepare him for a backcountry assignment. The summer of 2010 was filled with unexpected challenges for Sean. He was expecting his crew to build a new trail and work on front and backcountry projects for the US Forest Service in Red Feather, CO. In addition, RMNA chose to place a crew in the Maroon Bells on a two week assignment which meant Sean spent extra time coordinating, planning, and executing travel and projects with a different field supervisor in terrain unfamiliar to him. At the last minute Sean's assistant was needed as a leader on another team and an ill crew member was replaced on short notice. I was impressed with Sean's ability to respond professionally to each challenge. He embraced all the changes and inspired his crew to do the same.

I have worked with the ACC for 8 years and Sean Murphy is one of RMNA's outstanding leaders. His crews had a positive energy and motivation that superior leadership inspires. He is organized, dependable, goes beyond expectations, and is very positive. Sean is finishing a degree in Landscape Architecture which enables him to understand new trail design and make lasting repairs on older trails. He has excellent communication skills and has written comprehensive field reports which RMNA has shared with donors, board members, and partners. Sean is bright, willing to learn, and a team player. It has been a pleasure to work with Sean. I would highly recommend Sean for any position in your organization.

I have recently retired as the ACC Coordinator for RMNA. If you would like to contact me, I would be happy to talk with you about Sean. To learn more about the ACC program and RMNA go to www.rmna.org.

Sincerely,



Joan Nesselroad
Former RMNA ACC Coordinator