



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area  
401 West Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, California 91360-4223

**Dear SAMO Participant,**

You are receiving this letter because you have recently completed the **SAMO Youth Employment** program at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. We would like to ask you to fill out a survey regarding your experience with the Program.

For your convenience we have an on-line version of the survey that you can access by copying and pasting the following URL into your browser <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QXZBGKM>. This link will take you directly to the survey. If you prefer a paper version of the survey, please contact Antonio Solorio **SAMO Youth Employment** program manager at (805)370-2363 or via [antonio\\_solorio@nps.gov](mailto:antonio_solorio@nps.gov) (e-mail); and one will be mailed to you with a pre-addressed return envelope. It should take you about 20 minutes to complete the survey. We appreciate your participation in this process. As participants in the program your perspectives are important to us.

All information collected will be securely stored. Only researchers working with the study will review the data. This research is conducted under stringent university and U.S. government regulations governing the collection of information.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact: Antonio Solorio at (805)370-2363 or via [antonio\\_solorio@nps.gov](mailto:antonio_solorio@nps.gov) (e-mail).

Sincerely,

Antonio Solorio,

OMB Control Number 1024-XXXX  
Current Expiration Date: XX/XX/XXXX

# SAMO Youth Post-Program Student Survey

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Student,

Thank you for answering these questions about your participation in the SAMO Youth program. We would like to get your feedback about your experience with the SAMO Youth Program. This survey should take about 20 minutes to complete.

1. Is this your first or second year with the SAMO Youth program?

- 1<sup>st</sup> Year                       2<sup>nd</sup> Year

2. How many times have you visited the Santa Monica Mountains for recreation, not work, since attending SAMO Youth?

- 0 times  
 1 time  
 2 or more times

3. Have you and/or your family visited other national parks in California or in other states, since you began your SAMO Youth position?

- Yes  
 No

4. Are you considering an environmental career?

- Yes  
 No

5. Would you like to work for the National Park Service in the future?

- Yes  
 No  
 Maybe

6. Did you feel the Rangers were effective in communicating with you and the other SAMO Youth students?

- Yes  
 No  
 Somewhat – Please explain:

7. Did you feel comfortable expressing your concerns about job situations to the Supervising Rangers?

- Yes  
 No  
 Somewhat – Please explain:

**For each statement below, please tell us how true you feel each statement is**

Through participating in SAMO Youth I learned:	Very True	Sort of True	Neutral	Not Very True	Not True at All
1. How to be an effective team member.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. That environmental protection is important.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. That I like working outdoors.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. That young people can persuade others to do things to improve the environment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. The importance of preserving historical places.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. How to be more comfortable expressing myself to people who are different from me, in terms of age, culture, or interests.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. That humans can have a big influence on the natural environment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Career/work related skills I will use in college and/or my next job.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. That national parks are important for all people.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. That getting good grades in school is important for my career goals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Scientific and environmental concepts.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. How to work with other people on shared projects.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Through participating in SAMO Youth I learned:	Very True	Sort of True	Neutral	Not Very True	Not True at All
13. Communication skills.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. How to lead discussions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. How to write a good résumé.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. About the natural history of the Santa Monica Mountains.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17. About the cultural heritage of the Santa Monica Mountains.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18. How to be an important part of the National Park Service – SAMO staff.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Thinking about your experiences as a SAMO Youth participant, to what extent do you agree with each of the following statements?**

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither Agree or Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
I became more aware of the importance of protecting cultural and historic places.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I felt that the Park Service staff were glad to have my help.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I was able to participate in outdoor recreation activities that I had never or very seldom done before.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
This job provided an important income source for me.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I became more interested in pursuing a career in government or public service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I expect to be more active in conservation activities in the future than I probably would have been without this experience.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I better understand the purpose and responsibilities of the National Park Service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I became more confident in my ability to interact with different kinds of people, including people older than me or with different viewpoints.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I felt like I made an important contribution to the Park Service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I expect to participate more in various outdoor activities in natural areas than I probably would have without this experience.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I feel my SAMO Youth work provided a valuable public service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I learned a lot about job site safety.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I learned a lot about planning for fieldwork.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am now more interested in exploring natural areas and sharing experiences with friends and family.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<b>Strongly</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly</b>

	Agree		Agree or Disagree		Disagree
I would feel comfortable leading a group of students on work/school activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I know about National Park Service natural and cultural Interpretation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I know why it's important to do habitat restoration work at national parks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I enjoyed doing habitat restoration work at the Santa Monica Mountains.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would enjoy doing habitat restoration work in my community.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Postsecondary Education

Do you plan on continuing your education after graduating high school?

Yes / No

Has participating in SAMO Youth influenced your decision? If so, how?

Please check any schools/programs you plan to attend:

- Community College
- University
- Technical/Vocational School
- Certificate Program
- None of the above

If applicable, what do you plan to study or specialize in?

What career(s) are you considering after graduating high school or college?

Has participating in SAMO Youth influenced your decision? If so, how?

**Please check which National Park Service job(s) you are interested in.**

- |                                                                                          |                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Administration                                                     | <input type="radio"/> Maintenance and Facility Management (Roads & Trails; Building & Utilities) |
| <input type="radio"/> Human Resources                                                    | <input type="radio"/> Environmental Education                                                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Natural Resources (Ecologist, Plant Biologist, Wildlife Biologist) | <input type="radio"/> Interpretive Park Ranger (Naturalist, Park Guide, Community Outreach)      |
| <input type="radio"/> Cultural Resources (Museum Management, Anthropologist, Historian)  | <input type="radio"/> Firefighting                                                               |
| <input type="radio"/> Archeology                                                         | <input type="radio"/> Emergency Medical Services                                                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Physical Sciences                                                  | <input type="radio"/> Health and Safety                                                          |
| <input type="radio"/> Biological Sciences                                                | <input type="radio"/> Law Enforcement (Park Police)                                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Architecture / Landscape Architecture                              | <input type="radio"/> Information Technology                                                     |
| <input type="radio"/> Engineering                                                        | <input type="radio"/> Graphic Design                                                             |
| <input type="radio"/> Contracting                                                        | <input type="radio"/> Geographer (Geographic Information Systems)                                |

## SAMO Youth Program Reflections

1. What is the main purpose of the national parks?
2. Why are national parks important, in your opinion?
3. What were the most important work/career related skills you gained during your SAMO Youth experience?
4. To what extent did you feel you were making an important contribution to the National Park Service, your work team, and/or SAMO? Why or why not?



5. What are your most memorable moments from participating in the SAMO Youth program?

6. What did you find most surprising or unexpected about your work in the SAMO Youth program?

7. What recommendations do you have for improving the SAMO Youth program?

8. What advice would you give to a new student beginning their work as a SAMO Youth participant?

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:** This information will be used by park managers to better understand the SAMO Youth program at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Your Response to this request is voluntary and anonymous. Your name will never be associated with your answers, and all your contact information will be destroyed when the data collection is concluded. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

**BURDEN ESTIMATE STATEMENT:** The public reporting for this form is estimated to average 20 minutes per response. Please direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the NPS Information Collection Review Coordinator, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80525.