

Dear NYC Graduates:

As we sit far removed from the sights, sounds and experiences of our field seasons, it is to be expected that we reflect upon all of our summer's undertakings; big and small. What will you remember most about your NYC experience? Was it the long hike paralleling a pristine river; one of the many recreational trips to the Oregon coast; or perhaps the clandestine conversations that took place in the white walls at night. What ever memory holds you to NYC we hope it is a positive memory of great things accomplished.

A field season fails to be complete without a healthy combination of sweat and tears; frustrations and elations. Within these peaks and valley's lies the hard work and physical activities. This year South-2 and BLP-1 built 1,750 feet of trail; maintained 47 miles of trail; created numerous drainage structures and built too many slash piles to count. Within these large victories and accomplishments comes a greater accomplishment: finishing the session with pride.

Happy Trails,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cole A. Southworth".

Cole Southworth
Program Coordinator



Session: BLP 1
Crew Color:
Crew Leader: James Fox
Week: 1
Project Name: Gibson Madness
National Forest: Siskiyou National Forest
Ranger District: Gold Beach

Monday

Due to unfortunate delays at the Base Camp, our entire schedule was shifted on Sunday, the day of our departure. Naturally we also had to contend with faulty directions and ambiguous locals, leading to the postponement of our hike in. When we set off for the work site it was Monday morning. In another bout of confusion, we discovered that the trail to our camp hardly existed and was thoroughly hidden. Eventually we got to our assigned location, and we are now on a small peninsula that reaches out into the Rogue River. The wind topples our tents, the sun leaves no shadows across the rocks of our camp, and life is great.

Name: David Lawrence

Tuesday

The dust moved slowly up the hill, overtaking the trail and climbing the steep rockslide, consuming us within its brown grip. Our tools continued to swing, pulling the mountain down into the waiting river. Struggling to stay up, kicking and lunging for a momentary foothold, we ripped the rockslide from its perch and hurled it down the valley, freeing the trail once more. Finally with our lungs lined with dirt, our eyes crinkled with smiles, we beat our boots down the path to home.

Name: David Lawrence

Wednesday

Hey, it's crazy surprise day today and even I can write today. We've done a lot of work today. My group cleared 2 miles of trail by my estimate and the other group must have moved several tons of rock and dirt today, everyone's a trooper here. I don't know at the time how far we missed the bus by, but I'm sure Fox told us by the time I wrote this. Who knows what other surprises await today? Let's eat soup stuff and cheesecake. Yay!

Name: Anthony Richey

Thursday

Life could not be better at BLP! The sun is shining and the hazels are swingin'! The dirt keeps building on our bodies yet showering is the farthest activity from our minds! Despite another run in with a snake and the absence of solid ground, we pursue what we came to achieve; excellence to the fullest extent. Dumpster could not have consumed a grosser concoction last night: the old run off of a pot of beans. We lovingly call it the bean wine! Hopefully he won't get sick or worse!

Katy Liepold

Friday

Today half of us did 5 French drains, rock bar, 5 drain dips, moved logs mainly kicked butt. The rest of the crew worked overtime to finish the gaboine project. We have 4 more Fridays left, but it feels like we have known each other forever. Some of us saw a bear cub footprint and a scorpion. It was so cool. Some of us saw dirt and rock woo hoo exciting. Well, until tomorrow. See y'all later. -With laughs, dehydration, and sweat BLP 1 out.

Dumpster (AKA Dustin Hull)

Session: BLP 1
Crew Color:
Crew Leader: James Fox
Week: 2
Project Name: Lower Rogue Trail Excellence
National Forest: Siskiyou National Forest
Ranger District: Gold Beach

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2007

BLP Rap

**Yo, I'm here on this crew called BLP
And I'm watching some kid chop down a tree
I'm here to tell you just what it's like
Or maybe I'll just not.....PSYCH!!**

**B is for the brown that our hard hats wear.
L is for the ladle when we serve our soup.
P is for our pulaskis, we like to chop the logs and tear a new trail.**

**C is for the Carhardts our crew likes to wear.
R is for rocks, we can move them real fast
E is for eleven, which is how many our crew, will be without one
person...insufficient
W is for the walking our crew likes to do, hike a mile or maybe 2.**

**F is for Fox, he really likes socks.
A is for Anthony, he's is full of puns
G is for Guthrie, he sings real good
S is for Shannon, she grunts a lot
M is for Maddy, she just might be Xena.
E is for Ericka, her hair is real red.
K is for Kenneth, who will go in the Navy
K is also for Katy, that girl is Gung-ho
N is for Neil, the forest mechanic.
D is for David, he don't hear stuff right
D is for Dumpster, the craziest guy I know.
J is for Jennifer, she is ridiculously entertaining.**

**Now that you know about this choice crew that I feel is very similar to vegetable
stew. We are very intense and we like to work hard. Unfortunately all the food we
make is charred.**

Jennifer Horste

Sunday

After recovering from our excruciatingly relaxing Saturday the BLP Crew drifted into consciousness to begin packing for what will be one of the most hardcore weeks in the NYC history. The plan is to hike a mile each day, set up camp and work the stretch of trail recently passed and while that may seem daunting, we are BLP: we don't need tents and tarps, this week is our chance to shine.

Kenneth Brown

Tuesday

Although living with the same group of people in a high intensity environment or extended periods of time with no break can be frustrating, it is most certainly rewarding. Our crew has started to show what BLP is all about. Sure there is still room for improvement in efficiency every member of this crew though works hard until the work is done. Even after a long work day we're ready to pack up, hike a couple miles, set up camp, sleep and do it all again the next day. I am thoroughly satisfied with the quality of the crew, but with six miles and a major re-route left to do. I and the crew need and are willing to step it up a notch.

Kenneth Brown

Wednesday

It is among us, permeating and smudging our crew one by one. It started out innocent as one of our crew carried it with him in coming to NYC, but it has mutated and spread throughout our numbers as one by one our crew submits to the dreadful disease called the "Mung." It is not defined but is identifiable by the hacking cough and runny noses that it brings to those who serve as its host. Although there are a few people that have not been affected by it, it is only a matter of time before the prevailing factors open the gateway full bore to this pathogen. As we touch hump day on the second week, we are all in hopes that this dreadful ordeal will be shorter rather than longer, but as the majority still has it, those hopes are dim.

Guthrie Straw

Thursday

This being Fox's favorite day, most people would have expected today to be like last Thursday-productively fun. Both were achieved though not as predicted. We finished the trail behind us by 2 pm but by 5 pm, we found ourselves drenched in the rain, only caring about how to set up a trail against a mud slide. Although it was bleak, conditions improved. Soon we were making duties and anticipating iodized hair. Tonight ought to be entertaining with everyone full of sugar and learning about 18th century literature, there will be more than enough laughs to fill a kitchen tents domain.

Unknown

Friday

Today all crew broke into two parts-a group that hiked out for food re-supply and a group that finished working on a sketchy part of trail. The trail group used extra bridge pieces to build a French retaining wall type thing. From there, we hiked to our new campsite to find the other group with food made and sore feet. While sitting around the campfire enjoying a lovely dinner we were surprised by a bag of delicious mallows.

Saturday was spent doing absolutely nothing. We woke up, ate pancakes, then had the entire day to do as we pleased.

Sunday

**If our crew were a zoo
Shannon would be a howler monkey,
David would be a lemur,
Katy would be an impala,
Maddy would be an emu,
Guthrie would be a puffin,
Anthony would be a sloth,
Kenneth would be an elephant,
Neil would be a gorilla,
Dumpster would be a lion,
Fox would be a ...
Erica would be a tiger,
Jen would be a giraffe.**

Session: BLP 1

Crew Color:

Crew Leader: James Fox

Week: 3

Project Name: Lower Rogue River Trail Extravaganza
National Forest: Siskiyou National Forest
Ranger District: Gold Beach

Monday

Neil stood poised, his Pulaski reaching towards the heavens as he hoisted it over his head and hurled it down upon the waiting log. As the fallen tree shattered, the ground below gave way, sending Neil sliding down the trail towards the quickly growing chasm below. With one hand still gripping the Pulaski, he clawed madly at the slope desperately seeking to escape the flames that now leapt out of the earth and wound around his boots. Just as he felt the cuffs of his jeans singe, as he began mumbling his final prayers, one lone dreadlock caught upon a branch, swinging him like a singed forest monkey towards the safety of the trail. Once his feet were stuck firm upon the ground, Neil tipped his hard hat slightly, hoisted the yellow top into the air, and began to chug, a slight smile curling his lips.

David Lawrence

Tuesday

This week we are on the moon! There was an unfortunate alien invasion with those creepy tarantula-monster-pencils. Luckily we were distracted by the blackberry mines we were exploding. The tarantula-monster-pencils galloped right by us. We finished off the day with a water noodle fight on the glacier. It was great fun and I bet that our next project consisting of building a trail connecting Neptune to the moons of Jupiter will be just as choice. We are BLP—we can handle it.

Unknown

Wednesday

Happy Fourth of July! Our crew is really excited because we finished a choice reroute today. There were a lot of loud noises tonight. A spark from the fire landed near me. The sky was also very bright today. I feel as though we all had a very good day.

Jennifer Horste

Thursday

Due to the late night festivities of the 4th, we got a late start to work. After lunch, a rambunctious voice sounded from across the river yelling “Barbara Ann.”

We replied like a youthful group of choir boys the rest of the lyrics. Little did we now that three gunshots would follow while some of us scrambled up the trail, others blamed the shots on Kenneth for his one pound PB&Js. From there, we worked like crazed hyenas, howling into the moonlight.

Shannon Maddox

Friday

**Today we finished our hours so we went to the river and chilled. We then took showers and laundry. It was great. We don't smell bad now... Not!!!
BLP 1 out.**

Dumpster (AKA Dustin Hull)

Session: BLP 1

Crew Color:

Crew Leader: James Fox

Week: 4

Project Name: Illinois River Trail Maintenance

National Forest: Siskiyou National Forest

Ranger District: Wild Rivers/Galice

Monday

How does your crew compare to Chuck Norris?

Well in all honesty, my crew does not compare to Chuck Norris. We are way more infamous and excellent! Chuck Norris may move the world with his push ups, but that is miniscule and unoriginal. This BLP crew created push-ups. We laugh in the face of rampant dehydration and scorching heat. I have to say Chuck Norris and his cunning strength may be in the same caliber as BLP but at the end of the day, he bends his knee to this BLP crew, the purest form of excellence!

Katy Liepold

Tuesday

One word can describe today, hot. Everyone was up before wakeup from the sheer heat if nothing else. Then it was blazing all day. We were so dehydrated that we have sausage fingers and faces the same brown as our helmets. The mosquitoes are horrid, the water is barely enough and I'm wishing to go shoeless, even on the gravel, but I'm having fun. Let's go brown crew. Keep it up and adventure some more.

Anthony Richey

Wednesday

Mmm...trees. They are very burnt and it is great to see the new ones grow amongst the black and gray. Today we hiked a lot and it was very exhausting. Every once in awhile I would look behind myself and I would see a very beautiful valley. There were ridges with fog pouring over into the abyss of trees and burnt. It was a good motivator because I knew that the higher I went the more I could see. Of course things didn't work out that way, but I got to slide down a lot of dirt. This turned out to be a very good thing and it was very fun. I never even knew. Although today was very intense, I think we will all have buns of steel by the end of the session. Hurrah!

Unknown

Although the day started with a fairly time consuming trek, we managed to get through a "Hey nar nar" portion of the trail successfully that included many of logs that needed to be removed to make the trail accessible. Ahhh, dinner soon, then off to bed. Good livin'.

Shannon Maddox

Friday

Today is Friday. Woo ya!! We finished our work and hiked to the next area. Three miles of grueling intensive should be a cinch for this crew. We made it to the next camp and to finish the great day off we had rice and turkey with spices. It was awesome. Week 5, here we come. You better look out. Tomorrow is solos we are all very excited. Well, until Monday, BLP 1 out.

Dumpster (AKA Dustin Hull)

Session: BLP 1

Crew Color:

Crew Leader: James Fox

Week: 5

Project Name: Illinois River Trail Maintenance

National Forest: Siskiyou National Forest

Ranger District: Wild Rivers

Monday

Holy cows; 5th week—3 more days of work! Oh my gosh, I'm gonna cry. I don't know what we will be when we're not close knit: lopping, sawing, trail, and cross cutting: woo baby! Two huge big Berthas. I'm excited. This session would not be complete without some form of torture, besides the hikes that gave us bunnies of steel. We fight next to wild raspberries and blackberries. Wow. Well, it's not over till it's over. Stirentit out with smells, sweat and intensity. BLP1 out.

Dumpster (AKA Dustin Hull)

Tuesday

Today was difficult to say the least. I don't know about you, but I like to talk whenever it's long monotonous work. That's what today was, but it was also silent day all day today. What I liked about it is that instead of silent it went to lie reading, then whispers, then loud whispers. I wonder what Fox's crew did in this respect, because silence really is a virtue, one my side doesn't have.

Anthony Richey

Wednesday

The Things We Carried (with thanks to Mr. O'Brien)

We carried tools-Pulaskis, hazels, grubbers, loppers, cross cuts.

We carried water in five gallons in yellow tops, in water bags, in Nalgens, in the seams of our shirts and gloves, in the stitching of our pants, in between our toes, oozing with each step of our boots.

We carried ourselves, hunched with weight, tall with pride, slow with fatigue, quick with excitement.

We carried the clouds, shouldering the morning rain, pushing them aside for a tentative sun.

We carried trust, continuing 23 years of tradition with each swing, relying on each move of each corpsmember.

And we carried our thoughts. Some passing, some lingering. Some jumping past our lips, forming into words and songs, some holding tight, milling about in the silence of the hours. Some look forward, past last hikes and graduation towards summer and civilization and second sessions. And others stand still, remembering the past weeks, the burdens carried and lifted, and the strength of twelve unified minds and bodies.

David Lawrence

Friday

This is the end... Dum dum dum, the end my friend...

BLP woke this morning to the spirited recitation of the most famous pulp quote.

70 minutes and 4 pancakes later we hit the road to give our dead radio back to the nice lady at the radio station. She promptly filled our bags with goodies for our "hard" work on the Illinois River Trail. The red weeds swayed wistfully as we explored the paths. BLP FTW

Guthrie Straw

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My Most Challenging Day at BLP 1 Was:

My most challenging day was when I hiked to the week two campsite. I fell a couple times and was informed to be a smarter packer, which spoke to me to realize my goals it was changing but it opened my eyes up so much. Dustin Hull (Dumpster)

Everyday has provided separate challenges, each unique. However, my most challenging days were those that were spent in the rain or hiking up mountains. David Lawrence

Silent day...made me realize how important talking was to make the work day more interesting. Shannon Maddox

My most challenging day was doing resupply in the rain. Carrying twice as much didn't help either. It is always a difficult time to work when your pants weigh 8 lbs and your boots are puddles. Maddy Shriver

My most challenging day was silent day, it added a lot of insight as to how language originated. Anthony Richey (Sockeye)

My most challenging day was the silent day, we needed to get the project done but were inhibited by lack of effective communication. Guthrie Straw

The most challenging day for me began with the complete lack of sleep being under the full force of a rainstorm for the entirety of the night. Subsequently, upon awakening I slipped on now drenched work clothing, hiked 6 miles while working 9 hours with the same hike back after work. My feet were in worse condition than before, and I hadn't slept the night before, but if I've learned anything any challenge can be overcome; and it most certainly was. Kenneth Brown

I think the most challenging day for me was this last Tuesday. For some reason I was not very enthusiastic about working (unlike myself, I know) and we

hiked up a really huge ridge at the end of the day. It was not as large as other previous ridges but PMA makes all the difference. I am just glad I have the ability to withhold negativity from spreading if I come across it. Katy Liepold

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My Three Favorite BLP 1 Experiences Were:

**Beat boxing, circles, finishing all projects, seeing the beautiful land everyday.
Dustin Hull (Dumpster)**

The night it rained and Fox read Kidnapped; The days spent hiking to find the Rogue River trailhead; every time the crew laughs so hard that we can't eat, drink, or even breathe. David Lawrence

**Glow in the dark bark, beat box/kidnapped/rain on tarp nigh, "Can you Kick It?"
Shannon Maddox**

Reading Kidnapped, sitting at the campfire having Dumpster singing "Mother" and trying to find to "Supposed Trail" Maddy Shriver

I loved Super Hump Day Surprise, working on Gabions, and showing off Pulaski skills (I don't need to brag.) Anthony Richey (Sockeye)

Camping on the Rogue, hiking to a place I worked last year, eating dinner after an exhausting work day. Guthrie Straw

The parts of the whole are smaller than the whole of the parts; working over 26 miles of trail in one session was unorthodox working condition, qualifies this crew as hard core! Kenneth Brown

Re-supply hike with Erika, nightly campfires, various inside jokes, elkrat, guehas, "doin it", raisin picker... Katy Liepold

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At BLP 1 I Learned...

**I learned to be a better leader, better hiker, better packer... Dustin Hull
(Dumpster)**

How to pack it, hike it, build it, live it, survive it and love it. David Lawrence

**I learned to be a more confident leader, hike more efficiently and work smarter.
Shannon Maddox**

How to build muscles, build gabions and build better relationships. Maddy Shriver

I learned how to navigate in the wilderness, what some edible plants are and a natural cure for Poison Oak. Anthony Richey (Sockeye)

I learned to work hard, play hard; and live hard. Kenneth Brown

I learned to Kick Fanny at all times, there are such things as raisin pickers and kick-farting is the funnest thing in the universe! Katy Liepold

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One Thing I Will Always Remember:

I will remember the times we bonded closer and closer as a crew. Dustin Hull (Dumpster)

The feeling that came when everything halted because the entire crew was laughing too hard to do anything else. David Lawrence

Oh, so many things... “Barbara Ann, take my hand...” Shannon Maddox

Dumpster. Maddy Shriver

I will always remember such activities as the Dutchie of Almond Joys. Anthony Richey (Sockeye)

I will always remember Dumpster’s “Mother” song. Guthrie Straw

...to laugh, love & live... Kenneth Brown

The fun times my crew had and the hard work we put into everything we did... Katy Liepold

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From Now On I Will Always:

Think about my packing. Dustin Hull (Dumpster)

Consider all the possibilities and then consider everything else. David Lawrence

Have the scene at the Ka’miopsis in my mind. Shannon Maddox

Have insoles. Maddy Shriver

Take pictures to remember things by. Anthony Richey (Sockeye)

Remember to pack appropriate rain gear. Guthrie Straw

Hold my head up high; look death in the eye and laugh in his face. Kenneth Brown