



Summer Conservation Corps – Oregon 1

Blue Crew Journal . . . page 3

Orange Crew Journal . . . page 9

Red Crew Journal . . . page 16

Yellow Crew Journal . . . page 21



Dear NYC'er,

Yee-Haw! It's finally here, that crazy journal your crewleaders promised months ago! In your hands you hold the final compilation of all those journal pages you spent hours around the kitchen table and on the long van rides writing! As the winter sets in, the office world at NYC becomes a bit less chaotic, and we can take the time to say, **"Thank you for an amazing season!"** NYC crews could not have accomplished what they did without the effort, commitment, and strength each and everyone of you gave.

After you left graduation, you probably ate some good chow, talked non-stop about the adventures you had and the tough times you endured, and finally—after a long session—got to take a long shower (hopefully a few!). But, as the warmth of your return wore off, I hope everyone was able to spend some time reflecting on what your experience meant. You were part of an extraordinary time! While you were slogging through the woods, huddling around the fire, seeking any type of moisture available, sharpening pulaskis, or finishing the last remnants of a too-large meal; up to twenty-six other crews were doing the same things across Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Northern California. The work completed by NYC crews went farther than ever before, pleased a record number of project sponsors, helped out the natural areas and communities in the Northwest, and, most importantly,..... showed the general public that teens are responsible enough to complete a hard job with style!

We hope you came away with a greater understanding of who you are, how you want to live your life, and what you are going to do with the gifts you possess. Don't forget those early morning sunrises, the feeling after a hard day's work, and the endless mountains and trees. Remember the laughter, the tears, and the exploration. Always know that you are limitless and can accomplish the seemingly impossible, the amazing and the beautiful. All you have to do is believe in yourself!

Don't forget about all those early morning sunrises, the dirt smile after a long day of work, trees the size of skyscrapers, rivers and mountains without end, and a place away from highways, radios and Burger Kings. The big outdoors is a place for everyone to visit, explore, and enjoy. Make sure you get out there as often as you can and figure out how you can help to keep these places around for future generations to experience. Sit down, grab some gorp, and relax as you take a trip down memory lane. Keep NYC in mind for next summer and drop us a line. Remember: "Use Good Judgement!" but don't forget to rub a little sunshine on your face.

Take Care,

Ethan Nelson
Program Director

Blue Crew

Fremont National Forest Lakeview Ranger District Fremont National Recreation Trail

Week 1: June 14 - June 21

After finally getting one light to function on the trailer the Blue group took off on our seven hour drive. We stopped for gas a few miles later. We realized the Yellow crew was broken down a little ways back. Turning around to check on them was the first of our back tracking expeditions. By the end of that trip Jamie should be an expert at turning around. We probably turned around eight times. The stop was the least of our problems. When we arrived somewhere outside of Lakeview our bodies instantly became covered with mosquitoes. Sean had bites the size of pennies, so we set up camp and started making dinner. That is the most excitement we have had so far, despite Sean freaking out every now and again.

Kaylee S

This weekend we found out who was going to be in our crew at orientation which was very exciting. The next day we headed out on our long journey to Lakeview which is almost to California. We setup camp in mosquito alley and then went to sleep. The next day we went for our first day of work. We cleared some trail and diverted a creek. It was fun.

Justin S

Umm... So far we've done a lot of hiking, some flagging of trails, some building, redefining of trail work, and unfortunately some creek work! Work hasn't been that hard, but the heat and the mosquitoes are the things that make it tough. The work seems strenuous and it makes us all tired but it's obvious that the trail needs it!

Jenelle D

Our goal is to work only four hours on Friday. We also want to keep all ten crew members on our team. Our next goal is to not break down or turn around on our way to the weekend site.

Star P

Well we have all learned to drink lots of fluids. We need to eat. I think we should respect each other. We also learned the good and the bad.

Anonymous

On Friday we got up extra early to pack the trailer, which was both an accomplishment and a challenge. Earlier this week we built a rock retaining wall, which was a large accomplishment. The entire trail looked a lot better. With only planning to work five hours on Friday we found a large challenge in completing the work we had planned. After walking back to our work site we realized it was worth the challenge. The beginning trail had logs thrown across it, both dead and alive and the finished trail was cleared and functional.

Kaylee S

Fremont National Forest Lakeview Ranger District Fremont National Recreation Trail

Week 2: June 22 - June 28

We went to the base camp in the Deschutes. It was cool. Our crew was the first to get here on Friday. Then we ate at like ten and conked out. On Saturday we went on our rec. trips. I went to Fort Rock. It was fun. On Sunday we packed up real quick like and left.

Justin S

This week our crew is working on another trail. We are doing lots of tread work and have built a few rock stop-acrosses. Lakeview is not far from us, we could probably see it at certain points. We are also extremely close to California. This project needed to be done so people could utilize these trails and enjoy the scenery.

Kaylee S

Our crew's goals for this week are to finish the week in high spirits. Another goal for our crew is not to kill each other and try to work as a team. Also to make it to the weekend site without turning around once if possible. Also to wake up on time in the morning and get things done so we can get to work earlier because that would be fun to work earlier cause its fun.

Billy B

Along with each hardship comes a well learned lesson, and we definitely had our fair share of hardships this week in dealing with sickness, disagreement, and overall stress though we have all come closer as a team. We have learned to accept our differing ideas in an attempt to work more efficiently and as a result we are now able to get along well again.

Elizabeth S

The best part about Fremont was its awesome views. Everywhere we went we could see grand mountain ranges and vast valleys. The hills were covered with sage brushes, pine trees, and other various vegetation. When we climbed up mountains we could look around and see valleys and mountains. The view was so wide and vast that you couldn't see the whole sight. When you're standing on top of a mountain you feel like you're small.

Jungho N

Roseburg Bureau of Land Management Pruning

Week 3: June 29 - July 5

This weekend we went to the weekend site and lost Matt to red crew. We are doing ok without him but everyone wishes he was here except Sean. This weekend Angie from red crew got really sick so a group of people went to a clinic in Roseburg. Meanwhile people sat around and took trips to Lemolo Lake.

Justin S

Our project this week is building slash piles! We are doing this to cut down the chance of wild fires/forest fires.

Anonymous

Our goals this week include building slash piles to prevent forest fires on the west shore of Diamond Lake, because the Diamond Lake Resort is considered a high risk wild fire area. We also have a goal for everyone in our group to continue to get along. We also hope to get to our weekend site without turning around once (it hasn't happened yet!). We also hope no one quits and that everyone continues to work hard!

Anonymous

Our crew learned how to construct proper slash piles this week. Our contact has explained to us how important it is to clear the earth's floor of all the extra debris and pine cones. We are preventing fire by removing all the burnables from the earth's floor.

Lukas M

Our challenges this week were to work hard and keep mentally tough on our tedious project of slash piling. As for camp stuff we worked hard on chores and made life easier for our super awesome totally rad crewleader Jamie. Our highlights for the week were the butt Oranges and the young buck walking through break. Gordon was cool, he taught us about trees. There were trees over 300 years old, some around 353 years old, they were magnificent. Thanks and good night you evil crewmembers.

Jamie F

**Willamette National Forest
Middle Fork Ranger District
Cloverpatch Trail**

Week 4: July 6 - July 12

Well, we did a crew skit about Monty Python's bridge scene which totally rocked! And we heard a weird story from Terrance about how he got a glass of water and in the mean time he told Hitler, "Yo that is whack!" over all the talent show was hilarious and we saw some pretty good acts.

Jenelle D

We're at some place called Cloverpatch Trail. We are making a new trail. It's better than slash piling. The monster has a very large appetite and has very messy eating habits just ask for a demonstration if you have any more questions.

Kaylee S

The color Blue is a wonderful color, it is full of life and it is the color of the sky, the flower, and the color of water. The color Blue is also the coolest color and you're not cool until you wear blue. Blue is the color of the Gods and the CRIP, red is the color of the BLOODS I mean, never mind. Umm, yeah, Blue is umm, Blue and its all we got to defeat the rebels man.

Billy B

This week our crew has learned to make perfect trails that look good and feel good to walk on. We also learned how to work as a big happy group. We also learned that Alice is actually a 300 lb. woman with a mean temper and a bad case of body odor. We also learned that not to screw with Jamie or she will actually write us up. We also learned that the Breakfast Club sucks a bologna sandwich.

Billy B

By the time Friday rolls around we're all ready for a break. The weekend site is fun for all of us because we not only get our well deserved break, but also because we get to spend time with the other crews. Saturdays are especially special because of the ultra cool rec. trips. We want you!

Elizabeth S

**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Elijah Bristow State Park**

Week 5: July 15 - July 19

This weekend we went rafting and it was great! We also became pirates of the high seas of Blue Lake, Arrrg! We went swimming with life jackets! After a day of pirating and swimming we went back, hung out, and tried to avoid work and just laid around. After a great dinner (of being tricked by anonymous people by tofu.) we played capture the flag, that was really fun. So this is my last journal for this session so eat well and die happy!

Billy B

We're back at Elijah Bristow where we had orientation and will have graduation. This week we've been doing maintenance on a popular horse trail. We've also taken out a lot of Japanese Knot weed, which is a noxious weed.

Elizabeth S

So far we have torn through a many a blackberry bushes. We have pruned back some horse trail, and unfortunately weeded the front entrance to the park. We no longer have the goal to get to our next weekend site without turning around, because we are already here. But we do hope to make it through to the big clean and have no quitters in the meantime. Goodbye Blue crew! Just think, there won't be any more blackberry bushes ever again after Friday

Jenelle D

We have come to the end without losing anyone. Blue crew has persevered through the heat, mosquitoes, Jamie's crazy driving and nobody has fled the team. Through it all we've stuck together. We've learned to tolerate each others quirks and our crazy stinky smell after five days without a shower.

Anonymous

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

...when Matt went crazy and we had to keep up with his swift pace. He is insane! I couldn't feel my body but I continued working. I lived.

Billy B

...week number three at Umpqua. Slash piling is long and boring. I thought I was going to die.

Patricia C

...the very last full day of work. Thursday drag on forever until Jungho saved us all from hell! Yeah for him! The last day was also very long. We worked lots of hours.

Kaylee S

...the Wednesday of week five. I had spider bites the size of pancakes. It was really hard to concentrate on working when I felt like a human balloon.

Jenelle D

...the last week when I was forced to use loppers instead of real tools. It felt like I was in the garden club or something. I definitely prefer the pick mattock or the Pulaski.

Lukas M

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

My experience at NYC was full of surprises and unexpected situations. Three of my favorite experiences were getting to know my crew so well, visiting Crater Lake, and seeing a wide variety of insects and small animals along the trail.

Jenelle D

...being able to keep up with Matt on his first day as our rover. I am glad I got a chance to improve my cooking skill this session because I cooked a lot. Mostly I just like being a hard worker.

Justin S

I was really happy to make new friends at NYC. We shared so many memories that it's hard to pick only three. I suppose three of the best memories are making it through the longer days of work, even if it felt like they would never end. Finally, I enjoyed rafting at one of the weekend sites.

Elizabeth S

...getting to know everyone, learning how to rough it in the woods, and learning to be a harder worker.

Star P

I enjoyed working hard at NYC. After the work day, I liked hearing the ups and downs of everyone's personal histories. I also gained an appreciation for different types of music during this session. I really started to enjoy the banjos.

Lukas M

...jumping into the river with my clothes on at the end of a work day. I also got to know my crew well. I mostly enjoyed being away from home, and being more independent.

Jungho N

...meeting new people and getting to know them well. I was glad to be out here working hard. I became stronger both mentally and physically.

Sean B

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

...the people I met and how well I bonded with everyone. I now consider many people family that were like strangers.

Billy B

Challenging myself to step into a leadership role will always be remembered. I may not have been a vocal leader but I felt that I lead in actions.

Lukas M

...the prank played on Jamie F. Bahahaha! Where did that toilet paper come from? And I will always remember Mr. Wiggles and the giant stick ball that tricked Billy!

Kaylee S

...how hard and big my Tummy was after Kaylee and I ate all the left over potatoes.

Elizabeth S

...talking to Luke and Billy during the work day. Our talks about movies and Billy's jokes are something I'll never forget.

Justin S

...the great friends I made at NYC. People who were once strangers are now some of my closest friends, people I could never forget.

Patricia C

From Now On I Will Always...

...be more sociable and outgoing. I will not sit back and watch but be a part of the action.

Patricia C

...keep in touch with my fellow crew mates and love them all forever. I will wash my hair everyday because I am pretty.

Sean B

...be more concerned about the work I will try to take better care of it and use less water.

Star P

NYC has taught me many lessons about community, working hard, and the environment, and I will always remember that.

Jungho N

...appreciate daily luxuries that I have taken advantage of in the past.

Kaylee S

...look up at the sky because I've decided not to wear my hat anymore.

Billy B

At NYC I Learned...

...to be more responsible and work hard. I also learned what phloem was.

Sean B

...what some tools were and I learned how to use them the right way. During SEED I learned lots from Jamie.

Star P

...how to focus and better manage my time. Often times little things distracted me but I learned to keep at the task at hand.

Elizabeth S

...weed whips are not very strong. Jamie taught me many new things during SEED such as Dr. Seuss stories that I had never heard before.

Lukas M

...to live in the woods for longer periods of time. I also learned many new things about the environment that may help me during college. Go Orediggers!

Jenelle D

...that it's not always easy to get along well with everyone and that sometimes things don't turn out how you'd expect them to.

Justin S

Orange Crew

Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Chuckle Springs

Week 1: June 14 - June 21

On the way there, to NYC, I could not believe how time flew by so fast. When I got to the camp, I saw everyone standing around with their parents. I wanted to turn round and go home. I didn't know anybody, but my dad said, "You've got to get to know people". So I kept on walking. I first met the head leader Ryan, then Nick. And more and more I felt overwhelmed. I didn't remember everyone's names, but I did remember faces. We got in groups and met in our own age group. I met a lot of people that reminded me of friends back home. My first friend here would have to be Jenelle. We had everything in common (almost), but my friends right now would have to be my group and the leaders. Right now I hope this will be the most fun summer ever and some good for others. I can't say anything else but hoping that we will remember these moments that we had together. This program is not over yet but we will all grow closer. Our group contains 10 people from ages 16-19 years old. At the end of the program I want to say my favorite poem ever for you: Friends forever, written with a pen, sealed with a kiss, if you're my friend please answer this, you told me once but I forgot, So tell me now, and tell me true, so I can say I am here for you, and if I die before you do I can say I am here for you.

Alyssa K

Wow, we have a great crew, and it is so relaxing working under the shade next to a river. We built a rock ford today. Moving rocks is harder than I assumed. I went "errrghh" a lot. Others built elaborate "drainage systems" on the trail and large wooden retaining walls. The energy was slow but steady and nobody complained from over exertion *phew*! We got to play in the river after work too, it was nice.

Fawn B

Hi this is Rachel K. Today we started work bugged bitten and hoped filled. When I say we, I'm referring to Emily, Alyssa, Stan, Jacob, Will, Fawn, Emmy, Tom, Jay, Sarah, and myself. We are missing Ray, who left yesterday, due to a stomach ache. We did a quick safety circle, picked up tools, and headed down the trail. As we hiked down the trail we split into groups. I got in the bottom group, uprooting a root about the size of a refrigerator. Fawn and I walked up to the camp at the end of the day painted in mud and salt water. We are all sitting down to eat, so good night. "Remember the good times, and make a bad time great at all times."

Rachel K

Today was a day when sleep deprivation shined through. And some said go Orange! Go Orange crew! Re-doing broken projects to make them elite and delete the flaws in our working cause. The day was so-so on a 3 day working scale. We have yet to see if any of us will fail to complete our projects in normal logics and not let failure fade the goal of the 2 standing whole. But to finish what we start within 5 weeks before we part.

Jacob M

Remember: Laugh until you feel a tear; cry, because you can love; Love...whatever it is' know that to smile into eyes without reservation is a great deed. Life is so amazing. Every morning I wake up sometimes slowly---and I get giddy like a 6 year old, and a smile comes upon me. I smile because there is an infinite possibility in everyday. It enralls me; it draws me from my cocoon of down comfort. Life never ceases to amaze me. Animals, if all creatures are beautiful. Beautiful epiphanies of flowers. It is difficult for me to comprehend how there can be individuals... groups that don't fulfill each day with what they are capable of. That there are individuals that separate themselves so that they can belittle, chastise or harm others. It makes me ill. There is so much peace and genuine laughter in this life that is our world. At home I am reading this happiness book by Dali Lama hat at one point says that to live is to find happiness...and that brings peace. The Buddha believes that laughter brings solitude. I try my hardest each day. I literally stop to smell flowers, walk barefoot; feeling the pads of my toes become one with roots of the earth. I am realizing that I am joyful here. Laughter illuminates our

group. Dedication and perseverance; friendships forming for life. For we all have memories alone that we can go back to anytime we want, we can recall them like sweet honey pulled from the tree. I fear that I am an individual along with a select few that enjoy life. I only want sweet laughter and ending a day with the knowledge, with the thought that you lived it to the fullest.

Emily F

This week our crew leaders came together for the first time and experienced many of the troubles that are to be expected. When 9 people start living together 24-7 there is bickering and shuffling of minds and annoyance from all parties. But somehow it still came through as a positive experience. We started work by building two huge fords which involved hard labor like some of us had never experienced before. We grew closer as the week progressed, as we sweated and pushed and pulled our way towards the completion of each project. We accomplished the obvious, completing our assigned tasks and sticking it through. More impressive than this however, is that we made it through without hurting each other.

Anonymous

Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Chuckle Springs

Week 2: June 22 - June 28

We went to caves and to Fort Rock. We mingled as well with other crew members. We also had the first shower in a week, wow that was a pleasure. We lost another crew member, but should soon gain back an old friend, Ray. We had our weekend circle, and ate some great food. Now we are onto a new project.

Stanley O

We are at Timpanogas Lake Trail, also the Four Forks of the Willamette Trail. Today was an awesome nine hours! It was so much warmer than yesterday; the sky being that of painting, although tired (worn-out), it was quite surreal. Beautiful. I can't help but be excited for the coming days and weeks; to be introduced to the new beauties of Oregon. The mosquitoes are rather ravenous lately. Tom saying that they're the busiest this week, it's rather obnoxious!

Emily F

Tom loves Jamie. Well it makes for some laughs; Emily is the player...according to everyone else. Terrance is random...well that's the truth. Stan the man...well he is a man. Fawn loves techno. Rachel, the quite one---well, she is sleeping...Sometimes Jacob is evil. But he is rather sweet at heart. Alyssa laughs a lot, but that is an understatement. And then there is Emma... Well maybe not, but she loves me! In all, we are all freaks and geeks.

Emily F

Today was the day when the little muscle spasms wound down and over dry brains ate away at the clean water free from still birth insect eggs. It was almost a pass in fifth gear while we faded into a non thought, non-justified speaking zone that murdered all real conversation then as quickly as we could say "work" the utopian placebo rang forth and the quotations of "tool count" took their stand in the verbal aerial above. The minions served the queen today in the dirt. Once was a strong will to break rocks of the earth soon became a lost cause regarding their breaking. All the while an ancient tree being lays dead on a lonely trail, while the assumed demons jump on its body as they rip off its crusty like flesh. All working so hard yet so soft to fulfill this cause of money, worth, friendship, and what else the newcomers want and what they want to remember. For the first time the weeks flew by into the NYC gene pool. I have nothing else to say except for that what I had just said and I quote "I have nothing else to say." I was wrong there in constant mental mind rambling which destroy mature exposure that needs to be weeded out of our society to form some sort of peace from hectic yelling and screaming that dominates all who fall into the wood work. I serve the queen, the children are friends. Who wants to leave this place? Who wants to think for

themselves, we want to be weak. I want my brain to leak, just for another week; I grow weary of beautiful sunlight. It puts me into a fright, burned on the surface of the sun. Some of them are so regressed, while the world stays depressed.

Jacob M

Working in the dusk, fussing as we must, on the surface of the sun, dreading big fun. Working on chuckle springs, I silently sing, songs of hate, while five weeks decide my fate. On and on this story goes on, so we leave for the weekend site, to fight a fight I must fight. Another week goes by, and still self pity makes me want to cry.

Mark W

**Fremont National Forest
Lakeview Ranger District
Fremont National Recreational Trail**

Week 3: June 29 - July 5

I see the leaves of the trees slice and reflect the waning sunlight in the distance. I'm listening to Rachel's file "sheet-sheet-sheet" across the Pulaski blade. In the background people keep a constant stream of verbal connection, relaying bits of trivial nothingness that fade into the silence of the breeze-filled tree whispers. In the evening shade Emma smugly spreads cheap artificial peanut-butter over bread with the occasional smattering of jelly. Alyssa bounces around from task to task, cleaning the van of perpetual sloppiness. Terrance makes off-color quips in quizi-ebonies near the sizzling of ground turkey flesh. Jacob tends to meet in his beautifully overplayed narcissistic rage. Witty remarks jump from mouth to mouth like vocal gymnastics. Werd-yo; G-dog; snizzle-nizzle...freak-out man! Justin keeps a sly grin as he prevents his madness minions, boy do we got him whipped. Tom sorta faded off into the background somewhere; most like prancing in the woods with his friends. Stan looks "chiseled" spinning a club aimlessly wondering from place to place. Emily quibbles amongst the masses and occasionally a spurt of high-pitched giggles can be heard. Now members have joined the clan, Ray returns triumphant from his appendix operation and contently reads animal cartoons, and the weekly banter and gossip from various mazes. Tracy's silent, listening to the gibberish of the mighty, Orange-crew, obviously entrained by our grandness display of lightning quick retorts such as "silent heathen, lest you grow a boil on your neck", and other great conversation pieces. At last, another day passes gently by leaving us all one day stranger. I know we all look forward to selflessly putting forth our bodies in the service of our country for hiking pleasure of our fellow Americans tomorrow. We will do such things tomorrow such as "bust-out" and inevitably we will do a "bomber-job" and we will get that troublesome trail "dialed out". I sigh as I look up at our ship of fools. What an odd fate I have to know these characters for 5 weeks. I shudder slowly and turn around; hoping that the next three weeks will pass soon. I pray for sweet slumber.

Fawn B

Okay, I don't really remember really, so I am just going to write about it instead. Look for inspiration. Go megaton nukes.

Terrance S

We have arrived at our new site. Dusk turns our skin black and the sun floats overhead. The discretion of the flowers in the desert peppers the sage. Our shoulders will release it, and we wait.

Emma B

For this week our crew's goals were working harder, finishing our trail and surviving the rest of the week. My personal goals were getting to know my crew. Sometimes I feel as though I don't fit in. I never knew being new could be so hard & frustrating. Another goal for me was getting into shape. Climbing trails is still hard for me.

Tracey M

Well this week we all learned how to evacuate fast enough to go back to camp to let Ryan take Rachel to the doctors. Tom told me to be creative and I have got nothing in this brain of mine. While Emily is playing the flute and Tom is trying to sing and also betting upon Jacob while also Terrance is telling us how Ryan can eat all these types of foods.

Mark W

Okay, yeah sure Rachel got sick and the sun was hot, and there was no shade from the sage brush. And you know handguns are silly. The only reason that people have them is to kill other people. And when the constitution was written, it took up three minutes, and the guns weighed ten pounds.

Terrance S

Fremont National Forest Lakeview Ranger District Fremont National Recreational Trail

Week 4: July 6 -July 12

We did "R" parading at the talent show. Terrance did a point less along with Fawn and Jacob. I sang rose and improvised along with Emily and Fawn. Most of the crew and Ethan went to the natural bridges "big let down" and Crater Lake which was packed but still beautiful. It was the best weekend. There are 2 left. We lost one but gained another, named Mark. He looks like my fathers best friend, and he is nice.

Rachel K

Times are on the up swing...with the knowledge that the last of our arm brings us closer to us; to our roots. Work is a quick tick surrounded by persistence, beauty that when caught off guard it can take your breathe away. It is interesting how one can grow in such a short amount of time. Although silent to the ones around you--you can feel it within yourself. I went for a run today...about three miles. The entire first half of it...the moon, the earth's gift the heavens was upon my face. I couldn't think of a better way to start and end my day.

Emily F

Well I don't know as a crew other than just to get the trail down as much as possible as far as possible we can go in the next 1 ½ day. An individual goal for all of us would have to be; Jacob spends as much time with his girlfriend. Emma will go see her family members and friends. Fawn, well he is going camping with Jacob and I may do the same!

Alyssa K

Work starts by monstrous whistles occurring; and yet now I sit in the meadow near our campsite. I feel fake. Could the warmth of the sun drain the tensions? Mark can't wait for the next section. Terrance is waiting until he can go home and dig more holes, while I go home and sleep. Minutes erase hours--this meadow opens my soul and I can feel the world is brilliant and soft and perfect on a minute level. I rest my soul upon the safety of this beauty that takes away the minutes that are truly beautiful.

Emma B

I'm American which means I'm selfish, big, obnoxious, arrogant, fat, and clueless, and less efficient than the Japanese. So I am going to talk about my challenges. I fully intend to finish reading that book today. This is easy for my superior mind. Ha, ha. Random political moment. The "uhh" is pitiful. They have the military...what's the point if they can't uphold there own rules. The UN has to depend on the voluntary army. And I think that is ridiculous, but someone needs to obtain the laws.

Terrance S

**Fremont National Forest
Lakeview Ranger District
Fremont National Recreational Trail**

Week 5: July 13 - July 19

I don't know whether to be humorous or deep. So in the spirit of true self, I opted for neither. Work is now a ritual. I no longer think any day differs much from the next. I still enjoy reflecting at the end of the day. Aching backs and hands leave their signature stamp on the working bodies in a sign of blue collar labor. The only white things I see all day are the flushing teeth that come when someone smiles. Dinner sits in my stomach and I turn my attention to bed while the trails of after-dinner chores march on. SEED passes like a big lump of medicine in my throat and finally I slip into my warm bubble of nothingness. Another day, whee!

Fawn B

Well, we all know what we are doing this week, so I am not going to talk about it. But I am going to talk about what we are all going to do when we get home. Take a nice warm shower or bath; well that is what I am going to do. I don't really have anything else to say other than this is going to be my last journal entry. I am going to say nice things about all of the people in my crew: Emily: You have had more experiences than me, and I love hearing the stories about you and your family. Terrance: You have opened my eyes and showed me that people are not that crazy. You make me laugh until I cry. Emma: We have a lot in common and you're one of the people that I am looking forward to writing. Jacque: You have put a different perspective on how I think about other kids that are gothic. Rachel: You're the person that I can get along with anytime. Fawn: Thank you for all of the warm hugs before I go to bed and all the nice back massages. Stan: We have had our ups and downs, but thank you for giving me the time to talk and get to know you better. And yes, keep up your singing. Mark: I have yet to get to know you but you seem pretty nice. I know you will have a great time. Tony: I have only had you here for three days but what I know; I like, and would like to have some more nibbles. Tom: You've changed my thoughts on jobs, people, things, and places. Out of all the jobs that I would have had, I don't want to say I hate this, but it was fun.

Alyssa K

This is the week in which I hesitated to the fades. The week in which all of the dread and strife of endlessness is smoothed away by sweet anticipation. The week in which my soul is let out and I let myself be paged. I allow cleanliness in because now in the light of completion ugliness is over.

Emma B

Our crew learned that we are stronger than we thought. We've pushed through to the end and worked harder than ever. We worked in the wind, heat, sun, dust, and constantly in the presence of Terrance's bizarre ramblings without going insane. Our crew is tight. We are the Orange crew. Tommy 2x4 rules !!

Anonymous

Today is dead and finished; now we shall eat freedom spoon fed. Our lives will march on into the future only to remember our time here as a flash notch under the belt, fun, or wonderful emotions felt. Maybe it was boring like puddle water pouring or fun and exciting like flying kites then seeking and hiding whatever it may be your time here is over till next time. Lets look back and forward, up and down while we keep an upside down frown. Emma: Here is your recognition and 15 minutes of fame. Drink your coffee, sip and let it slip down your throat while you laugh a positive gloat. Alyssa: Do whatever you do with pride and joy. Coos Bay will lose you out of the blue one day, but when they do they shall surely be screwed. Tom: I'll probably see you again running around with Jaime F., your twin, sorry for the trouble I gave you, just let me add New York is better than Lakeview. Fawn: Good luck to you in whatever you choose. Terrance: Sharp things will go cut so watch out and be safe. And if you ever need a ride to the hospital give me a call. Toney bologna: stay sane for another session, and teach those kids some lessons. Mark: Lace your boots tighter. Good luck, maybe I'll see you around sometime. Stan: The man I loved working with. Good luck and remember that you are my bro. Rachel: Game, game, game all night you will be the one to when the ultimate card fight. Emily: I want to do the time warp with you. I wish you luck in school and back country. Don't face the planet and

you'll be fine. Me: Well, I will be okay. I am headed off to write poetry and come back next week next time. The best time you have is the time you can remember so please be significant in your own history.

Mark W

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

...the first week! Waking up so early and working so hard and trying to get along with everybody! Working with the new tools too.

Alyssa K

...a dusty one. A dry one in which we worked and worked, and worked.

Emma B

"RSK" my hardest day was the day I had to go to the ER for a ruptured cyst, my nose bled for 45 min. And I was in terrible pain. I told Emily I would come back so here I am writing.

Anonymous

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

...meeting new people form around the work, getting to know them, and seeing some of the best scenery in Oregon, and working with my crew. Thank you all!

Alyssa K

...walking in the field, absorbing the sunlight through every pore on my body and as I step upon the crumpling bodies of flowers; every pore opens and stretches against the world and into me pours that which is good and pure. Walking back over the trail we had already made, something crystalline and clean about normal labor after the sweat has dried.

Emma B

...making music with my friends, playing capture the flag, and going rafting on Cougar Reservoir.

Fawn B

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

...is the senses. Senses are such gifts. One never comes to fully appreciate what they have until it is harmed or taken away completely. Why? So that is what I will remember. The views, the laughter... Or lack there of... Playing in/with the soil of Mother Nature, the taste of a PB&J, of real food from a store stop. Remember them!

Emily F

...watching a three-hundred pound rock roll down a hill.

Anonymous

From Now On I Will Always...

I think I won't take things for granted as much. The value of a shower for example had gone up. Life is short so live while you have the time.

Anonymous

At NYC I Learned...

...that I am not like other people around here. That we might have a lot in common. But how to live with complete strangers with trust that they won't hit you with any tool.

Alyssa K

...the skill of living in peace even when all about me there was calamity and turmoil. I learned to live inside myself, to hold myself in until the moment unfolds in which I can trust, in which I can emerge and come into full-on contact with the world.

Anonymous

Leadership, love, and how to drop a load on the woods. Ahh, what a relief after a week without it. A cool gentle breeze, by the time I was done the hole was completely full.

Anonymous

...that I shouldn't hide who I am because its fun to be yourself. Be happy with yourself before trying to make others around you feel comfortable.

Anonymous

Red Crew

Eugene Bureau of Land Management Whitaker Creek Recreation Area

Week 1: June 14 - June 21

On Sunday we set up camp. The guys took an obscenely long time setting up their tent. I can already tell that people miss the luxuries of home. 1,400 feet of trail was completed on Monday. I feel tired and starving, but I kind of like it in a weird painful way. I hate mosquitoes!

Anonymous

Today was a day of heavy hard labor. Yeah, sure, yesterday and the day before were hard but today we covered a lot of trail and worked more with heavy logs and heavy rocks. Today we were separated into three groups however; this gave us a chance to bond with our fellow individuals. From what I heard, Molly and Angie and Marshal had a blast busting out trail, and in my group I got to know Lauren who is the bomb diggidy. We found we have a lot of the same viewpoints about the world, which is awesome! In the third group we had new and temporary members of our crew, Carrie and Murphy (or affectionately "Murf"). Carrie is totally awesome and she works like a machine and yet at the same time doesn't freak out about all the stupid teenager stuff we do. In fact she laughs right along with us. Even though today was hard and heavy, it was good. O yeah, and I hate mosquitoes!

Brittany K

Starting off, I found the work very exhausting and difficult and that was when I realized that this work was calling for much determination. However, as the days of work extended I found my work and my teammates work to be much improved. We learned how to work together better, take constructive criticism, how to use the tools to our advantage, how to pace your work, how to widen the trail by using logs and stakes, and most importantly how much work goes into the development of trails. I already have learned to appreciate the trails in my neighborhood. I hate mosquitoes!

Molly H

Friday we worked for four hours and my crew finished our trail. We left our mosquito infested campground to go find a laundromat and showers which felt great. Our drive to the weekend site was a long one and we thought we would be the last crew there but we were close to the first to arrive. My crew is the best crew here; we haven't fought or had too many problems. Shawn cut his leg on some barbed wire Friday night and Marshal had to clean it out, it looked horrible and I hate mosquitoes! P.S. we said bye to Lauren at the office.

Anonymous

Fremont National Forest Lakeview Ranger District Fremont National Recreation Trail

Week 2: June 22 - June 28

We are in Lake County, Oregon and we're building a trailhead in the Fremont Forest for horse back riding and motor biking. We dig rocks out of trail and cut bushes down along with building new trail. We started where we left off from yesterday and built new trail. There was lots of hard work included but in the end it was worth it. We have been working nine hour days since yesterday and tomorrow is our last nine hour day. I've learned to keep myself motivated at all times, and the harder/faster you work the better your trail looks and it gets done quicker and also to help pass time it helps to laugh and have fun with your friends of your sub statute family.

Gennie M

For this week our goal is to re-route a part of the trail. We removed rocks and sagebrush and a lot of dirt but more rocks and sagebrush. Today we tried to make it to the van by the end of our nine hour day, but we didn't make our goal for the day. We are supposed to go I think three more miles by the end of the week. The van broke down today and Marshal, Angie, and I hiked three miles and got the other van and

drove back up and the other van still would not start. We ended up leaving the van up on the mountain until the weekend.

Jeff S

I know that everyday pretty much I am learning something new because I have never done work like this before. On the trails we worked on last week was a lot like the kind of work we are doing this week so things are going well. Although we have all learned that things around camp don't work out if not everyone does their chores. We have all talked it over and realized that we need to be more efficient with our daily duties.

Angie D

As far as challenges this week we had many. All of the girls got a little irritable due to things out of our control. On top of that we worked long, hard hours, nine hours a day was normal, totaling 41 hours for the week. After a nine hour day, people were irritable, hungry, hot, sweaty, grimy, sticky, dehydrated, and generally in a bad mood and exhausted! Chores slacked and a lot often times it took all evening to complete them. On the work site, out in the hot sun, we all got on each others nerves for slacking, and to get more motivated, and for better work ethic, the crew decided to give ten pushups for who ever wasn't working. We did a lot of pushups. As far as our accomplishments I think the biggest thing is we survived! We survived each other's different moods and "sides", and we learned to be honest with each other. Overall I think we will be a stronger group because of this week.

Brittany K

Roseburg Bureau of Land Management Pruning

Week 3: June 29 - July 5

This weekend you say? Hmm... There's not nearly as much hiking around as compared to last week. As a matter of fact there was almost no hiking. I am not saying that is a good thing because the caves were awesome! All we really did was go swimming at a lake then go and hang out at a lodge. It was fun because it was relaxing. I hate mosquitoes!

Alexander L

Well, I know that this week's work is a heck of a lot easier than last week. Pruning, oh yes, sweet pruning of cedars, from what I understand we are doing this because of the disease carried by the cedars. Matt hurt himself which really sucks. Oh yeah... I hate ticks and mosquitoes!

Brittany K

Hey this is Zach the new guy, this is my first week at NYC and I love it. The crewleaders are great; food is good and just having a great time. Our goals for the week are to cut all the cedars down that have the sickness to stop the spreading of it. We got all of that done today, now we have to cut the low branches of the tree farm so they will grow bigger, well all of us crew are having fun and getting our projects done.

Zachary K

This week our crew was faced with the challenge of teamwork once again and once again chores were not completed as a team and we all seemed to be a bit edgy. All in all though I think our work was completed average but we still all seem to really like each other and get along. This week's work involved much pruning, weeding, and less physical work than previous weeks. It was hard for our crew to stay on task at times after hours and hours of whacking and or sawing for continuous hours as a result many pushups were assigned. Overall this week our crew was faced with some challenges but nothing that could tear us apart.

Molly H

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Willamette Mission State Park

Week 4: July 6 - July 12

It's not that I don't remember but I really don't know so I guess I'll have to try so I'll let this flow. We sat around with family friends some of us waited for the day to end while others wished they had time to spend

with family or with friends. Some of us laughed, some cried, while others also where mad, some nice some bad I don't know what to write any more I'm finding out this is a real bore I wonder what's going to be my chore. We had a talent show Saturday night I have to say that it was tight. My crew did well; well indeed being with them was something I needed. I left for awhile but then I came back we have a new kid his name is Zack. So many things that have happened this week I'm finding this hard my brain is so weak. Well I guess I'm done so I better go I can't believe I let this flow.

Gennie M

This last week we re-graveled a one and a half mile trail and bushed two smaller ones, we also worked with two bobcats and an electric mower; both were neat. We worked on the Willamette River and also swam every day which was awesome for not getting showers for the past two weeks.

Audree L

This week my crew's goals were to keep camp clean. Matt, our rover for the week kept the camp clean for us while we were working. By the time break came he told us to keep camp clean after breakfast. We tried to do our best on cleaning the camp. By the next day we did a little better keeping the camp cleaner than it was before. I think we had an ok week. Peace out.

Shawn M

This week we learned a lot, we know that Angie is the grossest girl in the whole world. We learned that you can survive by eating three day old food. We also now know how to run big, loud, smelly, environmentally unsafe machines. I hope we never do that again! We also learned that you can still be a princess even though your hands are dirty, callused, and blistered. And we all know that Leo's parents are the coolest people in the whole wide world.com Thank you princess Jasmine.

Anonymous

We had to finish the gravel and get it done. The bobcats would get stuck and over heat, so it made it slower but we did very well and got it all done; now we are going to our weekend site. Just got laundry done and took our showers at YMCA.

Zachary K

Willamette National Forest Middle Ford Ranger District Cloverpatch Trail

Week 5: July 13 - July 19

This weekend was definitely chill because we got to go rafting on Cougar Lake or something like that and that's it. But today was definitely wrong, Monday's suck! Angie hurt her back really bad so Audree, Marshal, and I had to go to the hospital. Then on our way back to camp we got a flat tire so today we were jinxed. But all in all it was also cool well not cool but exciting, sorta.

Gennie M

We are in "Cloverpatch" Willamette National Park. Things may happen when we least expect it but we need to be prepared. We need to smile when we can, cry when we have to, but always remember to remain strong through whatever may go wrong. To keep our balance and stay focused through the roughest of paths. We can go so far so fast as long as we stay focused. We are who we are so never forget that we are the red and I can guarantee we'll mess with other's heads. We stick together through the toughest of things, we stay strong even though some things sting. We are the Red crew.

Anonymous

Today was hump day, the very last hump day. You can tell we all dragged our feet on Monday and Tuesday. You can definitely tell it is the last week, but after Ryan visited us on Tuesday and told us to get ourselves in gear, and so today we we're a little more focused and motivated. This morning was probably the hardest morning to get up in the history of mornings. It took every last aching muscle in our bodies to pry away from our sweet warm sleeping bags. We worked on blazing new trail in the forest with a false tread from heck. Every time we would try to widen the trail by either raising the cutbank or digging deeper, it was to no avail. This has definitely been our most challenging week but we are always up to the challenge. There's nothing the Super Crew can't handle!

Brittany K

This week we learned how to build trail from scratch, we also learned that we should be building 500-600 feet a day. We only have 800 feet. I can't think of anything else to write.

Alexander L

Now that I look back, the weeks seem short but I remember the days were long! Every day was a building block to my last. Every week my building blocks were towering with additions to a changed person. I became a person aware of whom I really am, why I like what I like, I discovered my determination, friendship, confidence, independence, and happiness. I have shared five weeks of my life with people I will never forget, smells always to remember, and pictures never to escape my mind. I feel as if I can really include something in my memory that will never escape. And I know this memory will be positive. I have learned so much about myself and other people. I know now that first impressions are usually wrong and true friendships really can be found in five weeks. As I sit on this stump gazing into a breathtaking mountainous view, I wonder what returning to civilization will be like and I hope that like this stump that I sit on, my growth and change is never be demolished or destructed. I hope to be as strong as the tall pines shadowing my body and I hope that I can grow to be as strong as they are. I hope that upon my return home I can bring back those positive changes I see in myself. I know that I have created a positive experience for myself and I couldn't ask for anything more. All I can do now is sit back and smile and take in the view.

Molly H

Here at NYC I had a lot of interesting and fun times. I have seen many beautiful views and I have been to five different camp sites. The trail work here was awesome and I enjoyed almost everyday here. There were a few very tiring and hard days but other than that I have been having a ton of fun. I learned a little bit about myself, I learned that I can be a strong hard worker and I am able to complete tasks when told. I did not know how much maintenance a trail could be and I never thought I would build a trail from scratch. I think I grew mentally and physically stronger. Overall I would definitely like to come back.

Jeff S

If you were to ask the question, what has NYC given you? I would have many answers. Well, I guess NYC hasn't directly given me anything. I've had to work for every cent, but NYC has awakened feelings, emotions, confidence, independence, leadership, bravery, strength, and affection that were inside me the whole time just never has a chance to show itself. NYC has taught me that I have a hunger for things and experiences new and exciting; that I didn't think were there before. I've learned from NYC that my independence is something worth fighting for and that to be afraid of life would be a boring life indeed. I have friends that will always be close to my heart forever, something I couldn't get anywhere else. Thanks!

Brittany K

I came as an alternate and I was kind of scared because I would be two weeks behind the other people. I'm so glad I decided to go to NYC. I met the coolest people like, Stan, Kevin, Alex, Brittany, Angie, and a whole bunch of other people. They made me feel comfortable out in the wilderness. The outdoors was great and the food was okay (best when Audree cooked) fishing was fun (thanks Stan). I loved Crater Lake, but the worst thing of all is that I missed my girlfriend. I got to see many animals like lizards, snakes, and others. I'm going to miss everybody like... Leo's waking up in the morning, Alex's computer stories, Jeff's craziness, Shawn's weirdness, Brittany's kindness, Molly's laughter, and Angies flirting, Gennies smile, and Marshal the best crew leader ever. I'm going to miss you all, and all the other crews. Thanks for some of the best times of my life.

Zachary K
(The big Teddy Bear)

I made lots of friends especially Angie and Zach, and I hope to never lose contact with them. Although I didn't really enjoy the work, I suppose it was good for me. There were many memorable moments that I will always remember. I didn't really like my food much, otherwise I had a blast. Adios, au revoir, goodbye!

Alexander L

Some friendships last forever, and some last a day. Most memories are strong but there are some that fade away. Hiking up a mountain or cutting down a tree, jumping off a raft or falling on your knee. Inhaling lots of dirt and never washing your shirt. Calling home to say hello being so far away and letting go.

Growing up is hard to do but if you haven't, I wish you knew, a big step that I just took, a new chapter, a different look, my summer has been great, lots of cherished memories that I take. Go Red crew!

Angela D

My experiences at NYC would be that I learned how to become an independent worker, a true friend to others, and a good helper. My weeks have been great. I met a lot of people like my crew. Jeff, his hyperness; Molly, her giggles; Alex, his loud snoring; Brittany, her crazy looks; Zach, his good friendly feelings; Audree, her great cooking; Leo, his great attitude; Angie, her cute smile; Myself, my sexiness; Gennie, her great friendship. And that's all I have to say. And last, but not least, my crew leader, Marshall, his crazy looks, funniness, and awesome crew leader. Good bye.

Shawn M

That my crew was the best, you couldn't ask for a better crew. I do wish that we didn't lose Travis. It was awesome but did cool more crew members, Zach and can't forget Gennie with her beautiful poetry. Now to talk more about them. The great Andie, her leadership and the willingness to believe in my greatness. Audree, her good cooking and wacky stories. Molly, her attribute to be here for rock climbing. Jeff is cool because we have the same interests. Alex, his interesting life. He's lived all over and pleased to meet. Brittany, sweet, takes the time to see what is wrong, if anything. Shawn, laugh small town and there isn't anything wrong with it. Zach, our last crew member to complete the puzzle. And me, their leering and oh dole they're much too, but the sweet awesome person that I am. How much I am going to miss all. Can't wait to see once again when we're all old, even dear old friend, Marshall. Love all and good night.

Leonard M

From Now On I Will Always...

...learn to work for myself and other people as a team. I've learned not to follow or listen to gossip and how easy it can be to make friends if you open up. I've also learned a lot about the environment and the way it works and how it should be treated. I feel really close to my crew because they taught me and the other kids a lot. I will definitely miss the times I've had here at NYC but I will be really glad to be home.

Gennie M

...how much fun my crew was and what great people were on my crew. My crew was slow on the trail and on our last week, but we have never fought or had any problems with each other. There were some problems with one of our rovers but we as a group overcame them. I will miss this wonderful crew so much they were one of my best crews I have ever had.

Audree L

Yellow Crew

Fremont National Forest Lakeview Ranger District Fremont National Recreation Trail

Week 1: June 14 - June 21

This weekend our crew took off for our first work site but on the way there our van broke down in the middle of nowhere. We were stuck there for an hour or so and then we finally got a ride. The only problem was that we had to rearrange the trailer to make room. When we got back on the road we traveled a long ways and unfortunately it happened again and just died on us in the middle of nowhere again. So we stayed on the side of the road waiting for a ride to the camp and of course there was no ride for us so we had to sleep on the side of the road and listen to the guitar. That next day Ryan came and took half the crew while the other half of us went to a want to be lake. After that Ryan picked up the second half of the crew and took us to camp where we ate and started chores.

Kevin N

The crew woke up this morning and got dressed for our first work day. When we got at the site, we did our stretches so we wouldn't get hurt on the job. All we really did through the rest of the day was cleaning and redoing the trails of a previous NYC project in 2001, although most of our efforts were put to killing mosquitoes.

Anonymous

Today was a very big day for the Yellow team. We worked together and showed that we could tough out a nine hour day. When we got to our work site we worked hard on the path that was assigned to us. When Larry came to the site our work showed him that he can trust us with any trail restoration in Oregon and the thing that topped the day off was when we were given a site that needed a trail put in from scratch and when our team heard this we immediately went into Rambo mode and made the most perfect trail. This means there will be more great trails restored by the Yellow team.

Cameron H

We have been working overtime for the last two days in an attempt to makeup for work lost on Monday. Nine hour days have begun to feel routine. I hope that we won't get lazy when we settle back into our regular schedule. Today was a day of long hikes. I think that walking the trail itself really helps me to get into the work. I had walked that mile back and forth four times by the end of the day and I got to know it like a friend, through the soles of my feet. I think this was the first day that people really began to come together as a team. I kept seeing people considering the needs of the team over their own needs. I was working the rockbar with Garrett back at the beginning of the trail and since the lunch site was so far up the mountain we arrived at lunch just as the rest of the crew was leaving back to work. Garrett had seen that the work crew was almost out of water and cut his lunch short so he could walk more than half a mile down to the full g-gallon jug and refill their yellow tops. I saw things like this happening all day! We are learning some lessons on personal hygiene as two of our crew have come down with the flu and everybody is being extra careful with water jugs and such. We are all hoping that we are not next on this flu's hit list. I am hoping we get some free time tonight. As I write this everybody is busting through their chores like bats out of heck. People are figuring out what to do and how to cooperate in order to get everything done as quickly as possible. Were not there yet but we're starting to get there. I think we're all figuring out how this whole group thing works. Things are different when we're a unit of twelve rather than of one. We have to sort of become part of a larger organism in order to get things done and function.

Ethan S

What a crazy week, our van broke down twice on the first day. How lame is that. So we sat by the side of the road and roasted in the hot sun. Our woodsboss Ryan came with his van and we tried to switch our seats but they didn't fly. So we went for a hike while he drove our trailer to camp. We thought we saw a beach but it was a mud trap instead and it was stinky. We hiked back and then slept in the hot van. It was a bonding experience, go Yellow crew!

Anonymous

**Umpqua National Forest
Diamond Lake Ranger District
Hazardous Fuels Reduction**

Week 2: June 22 - June 28

Today we all woke up at eight in the mornings. We started to eat breakfast and afterwards we began to pack our trailers. Eventually we left around 11:00. The only bad part about today is that Matt switched from our crew to the Blue. But we did get a new rover, Justin and he is at least as cool as Matt. So we left around 11:00 and were on the road. We were headed towards Diamond Lake. We were told the mosquitoes were going to be bad but I have only seen about three or so. I have only seen a little confrontation today between Jesse and Andy but other than that the crew is getting along pretty well.

Chaseton P

This week the crew learned about slash piles. We learned how to stack them, how and when they are burnt and how to put plastic on. The work is not really hard physical work but it is hard to get into. The work is boring and I think that is why we don't work super fast this week. I am looking forward to next week.

Garrett C

Today is Thursday and a rather good day. This morning the crew woke up to a great breakfast provided by Nick and Jay. That was a good start. The day started off well but there was room for more improvement and motivation. The motivation came at lunch about having to work extra today as well as tomorrow. The crew didn't like that idea so we stepped it up at least seven notches. After work we had a killer time at the lake swimming and just laying on the dock. All around this day was a really excellent one. Go Yellow crew!

Anonymous

This week we stacked sticks in piles, not ordinary piles but specially designed piles that are made to burn. They must be perfect or they won't all burn up or maybe they'll burn too much and burn down the forest. Gordon came out to supervise our crew; he is a big guy with a big saw. If he chased me I'm sure I could run faster than him but he wouldn't because he's a good guy.

Jonathan A

**Fremont National Forest
Lakeview Ranger District
Fremont National Recreation Trail**

Week 3: June 29 - July 5

This weekend our crew pulled into the weekend site and Orange crew had already been there but left to do laundry. So we unpacked their trailer. On Saturday we went to some rec. sites. Some went swimming and some went to Roseburg which I did.

Andy F

This week we are maintaining and re-routing trail in the Fremont National Forest. We had to flag before actually making the new trail. This makes it possible to put the trail where we want it and makes it nicer. We are doing this job to make the trail easier and nicer for its users. We are also making it compatible for mountain bikers and horses.

Garrett C

Today started as a usual day, but instead we got up at seven instead of five which really helped. It was still eight hours of sleep but it still felt great. When we got to our work site, we were all still waking up. But once we the day started and everyone had some food in them, even Ethan got some energy that helped us cruise through the trail. Even though there were a lot of stumps we were able to chop those down with a lot of help from Adrian. Kyle and Garrett made a sharp topline which helped direct us through the trail, but nothing could have been done with the help of Kevin, John, Chase, Andy, Ethan, and me. Our team work proved that we don't even need a

chainsaw but that's always a plus. We ended our eight and a half hour day by cleaning off all of the dirt that formed on us through hard work by taking a dip into a creek which was great.

Cameron H

When we woke up at five in the morning on Monday the crew and I thought it was going to be a little more hectic then the previous week but weren't sure if it would be as different as the devilish hike and trail making we did. It wasn't that hard, not at all up hill today. We are learning how to do a great quality top line, maybe four to five times over the exact same area. What I learned this week is that my best isn't good enough the first time. Even though after going over it another four times it looks exactly the same in most places and the difference was a half an inch.

Kyle A

This week seemed to fly by. It was really a good week. Our crew experienced our first ten hour day this week and it seemed to go over well with everyone. That allowed us to get a five hour day on Thursday where we got some time to visit the Lakeview swimming pool. As far as trail work goes a challenge we faced was getting the correct thing done to a perfect standard the first time. We busted through that hurdle by forming a very intense twelve man bump line. The next day everyone felt more efficient and productive. This week didn't really awaken any sleeping giant challenges and that means we were avoiding them by doing good things.

Jonathan A

Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Chuckle Springs

Week 4: July 6 - July 12

This weekend we went to Crater Lake. We drove around the rim and stopped at a few places to see the view. It would have been a lot nicer if there weren't so many people. There didn't seem to be as much free time as on other weekends. Some parents came to visit but not as many as last week. I think just about everybody talked about what their family was doing on the fourth of July. Only two weeks left and I think most people are looking forward to going home even if it's just a little.

Garrett C

Today was eventful... I got up early to prepare breakfast to kick off the day with cold cereal and granola. This week will be the first that our crew gets to walk to work, I mean hike. After breakfast we gathered the many tools (new and old). This week we also get to play with some rather amusing toys, for example the grip hoist ingenious little devil, certainly can make things go round. We strolled gleeful strides passed our lovely nectar (chuckles) as we headed to work with all our hands jammed with equipment. Ryan came along today to give us helpful advice. We stopped at the beast, (our largest project for this week) it's a 50 foot Douglas Fir, partially stripped of its bark and waiting its arrival 400 feet away to become a hiking bridge. At the beast we dropped our tools (which would serve for our tool count chillin place) and we hiked a little more after that to check out our other projects, another tree bridge, less then 20 feet though (so meant for good practice) and a broken hand rail or another bridge. The basis of today consisted of many hours of gravel relocation and a small switchback task. Overall today was very back breaking but entertaining and fun. Certainly can't forget the long tedious hike back to camp after work-uphill! My opinion on the largest project is "Jolly good ole chap, let's hoist that bugger and get a move on". The switchback came along nicely and hauling all the rocks was a snap. NYC has taught me among other things how to reside among many people who come form all different backgrounds and how to find equilibrium between the stinky tents and the heavy lifting. At very least NYC has taught me how to hold a tool correctly.

Jesse L

We are at Chuckles Springs by the Middle Fork of the Willamette. We have been here for the past two days building rock walls and some of us have been putting together the foundations for the

lovely bridge out of common junk. The work is more fun than last week just a tad better. By the end of the week we should hopefully have had the tree in place, maybe putting in stairs later into the week. I don't know though we might not have the time.

Kyle A

Today we brought down a few more tools for the bridge. When we got to the tools we all were assigned to our jobs. Garrett and I went back up to the top of the trail and had to haul a few things down while everybody else was either working on the beast or working on the bridge area. After we were done working we decided to go to the lake, what a mistake that was, the mosquitoes were really bad and when we were in the water they would attack our heads. They forced us out of the water and attacked us on land as if they were aliens trying to take over the world. That was also when we decided to eat dinner at camp. When we got to camp we all did our chores.

Anonymous

Our crew learned that Nick was formerly a drummer in a rock and roll band, and actually it was a heavy metal band and they only did Kiss covers and he wore lots of makeup. But the hair was real, actually we learned how to install culverts and do a retaining wall but that isn't as exciting as being a rock star. Walls are awesome! We are the rock stars! Rock on Yellow crew!

Anonymous

I have found that no one is normal at NYC. Everyone is always saying, "normally at NYC" but none of our jobs have been in any way normal.

Adrian T

Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Chuckle Springs

Week 5: July 13 - July 19

Today our crew started work back at Chuckle Springs. I think this work site is the best one we've had all session. I think moving that giant log is the coolest thing you could do at NYC. There is only one inconvenience which is the tons and tons of rocks we had to carry up to place around the sills. Well last week when I was collecting rocks a bucket accidentally fell into the river, I ran down after it but I didn't catch it and today I was chucking wood chips into the river and what do you know the bucket slipped out of my hands and went into the middle of the river. This time I lunged into the river after it. I only got soaked from the waist down but the good thing is I caught the bucket and I think I speak for all my crew mates when I say I'm looking forward to going home.

Andy F

There are lots of projects this week, but the main one is moving the big log and making a bridge out of it. We also have to make culverts and retaining walls. We are in the same place as last week, Chuckle Springs. There are only a few days left until we can go home. Carrie also came today and helped us work. John was digging for a step and a spring popped up where he dug. A culvert had to be put in as well as steps made of rock and some wood. We got the log a good distance today and I expect to get the log to the sills. We had cereal for breakfast and some people got real milk. Carrie's dog's name is Murphy. He is a chocolate lab.

Garrett C

Our main weekly goal is to place a seven to ten ton tree on some sills. Since it's Wednesday, that means we have two more days to get this tree on the sills, but today we moved the tree faster in one hour than we did in some days and we have the tree almost on the sills so I think we could have it done by tomorrow if we really work at it. There are also other little projects like culverts and they're almost done.

Chaseton P

This week was a major project that was very important for our crew to finish. Building a \$20,000 bridge was our goal and we completed it along with lots of other projects to make the trail at Chuckle Springs more enjoyable to hike. Another challenge was facing a lot of work hours but I believe if given the chance most people would have put in even more hours meaning that they would volunteer hours. Our crew is very dedicated to each other which is a great accomplishment. Together I think we could take any challenge thrown our direction.

Jonathan A