



## **Summer Conservation Corps – Washington 1**

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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**

### **Roseburg Bureau of Land Management South River Resource Area**

#### Week 1: June 7 - June 15

This weekend my fellow NYC'ers and I arrived between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. for the opening orientation. Saturday we did some awesome activities and also went over all of the safety stuff we will need to know in the field. That night we camped out at the NYC headquarters. Sunday morning we woke up early and had our first NYC breakfast. We found out our crews and where we were going.

Scott W

This week my fellow members of Blue crew started a difficult task. We are going to prune many acres of trees. The number of acres is almost unrealistic to do but we are going to do our best to get it done right and do as much of it as we can before we move. When we first started the project it looked and felt too hard to do, but with us working on teamwork and our work ethics we are going to go through this faster.

Paul A

Our goals are to have a good work ethic and be efficient in our work so that we can finish as many acres as we can. We are also hoping to have fun and get to know each other while still having time for our free time and space and sleep.

Aviva S

We learned that as much as you feel like quitting when you are working, if you push yourself and not quit then the feeling of self-pride is definitely worth it. We also learned how a diverse group of people from totally different backgrounds can have so much in common yet still be so unique and original.

Ben L

Being as it was the very first week, we were faced with a lot of challenges. We had the challenge of being out in the woods with a group of strangers, but eventually got to know each other. We were also challenged by our work assignment. We were assigned to saw branches of trees on a very challenging slope with intense brush on the ground. It was hard for all of us, but we made it through and completed many acres of trees. I have a feeling this week will remain the hardest and the weeks from here on out will get easier. (And if they don't, the Blue crew can handle it, because we rock.)

Shana A

### **Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Fall Creek PayCo East Side**

#### Week 2: June 16 - June 22

Over the weekend the Blue crew dispersed and met up with new corpsmembers to make friends and chill. On Saturday we all went on rec. trips to a lake, waterfall, hike, and a river. We ate mega pancakes all weekend and the dookie was scrumptious as usual. (Ya know I'm talking about brownie mix here). Sunday we spent packing up and traveling to our next site, ours which is Fall Creek in the Willamette Forest.

Aviva S

Our project this week is fixing up a 3 ½ mile trail. We are at the Willamette National Forest. We are expanding the trail by width and doing small projects like building retaining walls. We mostly cut down weeds and smooth out the trail to make it pleasant to walk on. We are doing all of this to make the trail healthy and for it to last longer.

Brenda K

Our crew's goals for the week are to build some retaining walls and also to finish the trail work. We are brushing, removing duff, making changes. So after the week is done we can have a really good groovy time at the weekend site. Also for everybody to get through the week without barking at each other. We all have our differences and we all have advantages and dis-advantages but we all respect each others ways, that's what real team work is and that's what makes us Blue crew.

Randy W

Our crew had to work some things out this week. Not only did we have numerous new learning experiences in trail maintenance, we also learned about ourselves and working as a crew. We had crew strengthening exercises in SEED and learned more about Kyle, Ben, and Nathan through personal histories. It is possible for us to accomplish so much more by working together, whether it is lowering a stick or brushing trail.

Aviva S

On Friday we finished digging our ditch at Hat Rock State Park. We luckily did not have to move for the weekend site which gave us free time that night. So on the 4<sup>th</sup> we went to a fireworks display on the Columbia River, which was pretty cool. We got back to camp and crashed. In all, Friday was pretty cool. !!!  
Happy July 4<sup>th</sup> !!!

Laurence K

## **Ochoco National Forest Paulina Ranger District Removal of Noxious Weeds**

### Week 3: June 23 - June 29

My crew had to drop off another crew member at the base camp and say goodbye. We are down to 9 members again, but that's ok. We all went on different rec. trips this weekend, but we all came back together to cook dinner for the entire NYC group and some visiting family members. We made a really good meal! We successfully got out of the weekend site on time and set up our new campsite with no problem Sunday.

Shana A

Our project this week is noxious weed removal in the Ochoco National Forest. We are removing three stages of the invasive weed known as hounds tongue. We are taking out the first stage (just leaves) and leaving those out. The 2<sup>nd</sup> stage (the flowering stage) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage (dead seeding stage) and putting those in bags to prevent the spreading of the plant. This needs to be done because the plant has no natural predators in the area and it is poisonous to the animals in the area. We are protecting the forest in this job.

Paul A

I and my crew's goals for the week are to finish 4 sections of forest that was infested with hounds tongue. We finished the first section the first day and moved on to the next job which was on the other side of the road. We did about a quarter of that the same day and also spent the next 2 days in that spot. On Thursday we were in the next part and finished that on Friday. We also did extra on the uphill side.

Scott W

What our crew learned this week is as follows. We all learned that we need to work harder as a whole. We need to push ourselves harder to get the job done faster and more efficiently. We also learned how people react to a problem, whether it may be good or bad. We also learned how to be more considerate and more positive towards each other. As a group we have learned how to communicate and work to our advantage in the job field.

Nathan C

It was difficult for our team to complete our tasks due to the fact that we have a crew of nine. Another difficulty we came across this week was that one of our good workers, Scott, was injured. As the week progressed, his knee got worse. By Wednesday at 10:45 he was unable to work. Our crew was weakened once more. We spent our time picking hounds tongue. This proved to be simple until the sun came out. At that point in the day we all became like grass wavering in the wind, unable to control ourselves. I suppose there is a bit of joy in such a loss of control. As always, the biggest things to overcome were lack of motivation and our ability to support one another as a group. We are definitely getting progressively more advanced in our ability to lift one another up through difficulty. Despite the hardship, hump week was upon us and we successfully made it through with ice cream to comfort us at the end. I think we all learned that, no matter what differences of opinion, motivation, backgrounds, or beliefs we have, we must always seek to lift up each other through each trial. Especially since we are stuck with each other for better or worse for a glimpse in time.

Amber B

## **Hat Rock State Park Lewis & Clark Trail**

### Week 4: June 30 - July 6

This weekend all of the crews went back to the same weekend site as the weekend before that. Blue crew was the first crew there so we set up everything and waited for all the other people. On Saturday we woke up early and did chores after breakfast. Then we went out on rec. trips. People went to swim, play b-ball and went fishing. Sunday was cool because we packed up really quick.

Scott W

This week at Hat Rock State Park we are making horse trails. We dug out some rocks from the original trail then we laid down geotextile for matting that keeps down plants. Then we laid down gravel on top of that. The job is really nice and easy going. There is a nice cool breeze and the sun is out all day. This is a great job.

Paul A

Our goals are to go above and beyond the work expectations. We hope to complete the horse trail and do additional work for our contact. We also had a goal of working all our hours and nobody sitting out- but unfortunately we didn't meet that goal. Either way will be one magnificent trail that our crew and the contacts and neighbors can be proud of.

Aviva S

We have learned that we are capable of finishing a project and do an outstanding job. We have learned in SEED about the web of life. Mostly what we got out of that there are tons of different opinions out there. Our team is in the process of learning that each crew needs to give our all and work together. I believe our crew has learned a lot this week. Thanks.

Brenda K

Our crew's major challenges were having two people sit out sick a whole day. I had to sit out for two hours and we had to make up hours. Our accomplishments were finishing our

assigned projects and then starting and completing another project. We made up all required hours. The last hour on Friday, we super power dug and filled the rest of our trench. I think the whole crew felt a sense of pride and accomplishment at the end of the work week.

Ben L

## **Roseburg Bureau of Land Management North Umpqua River Trail**

### Week 5: July 7 - July 13

This weekend was so cool. There was no weekend site and our crew just got to hang out as a crew with Brooke for a full day on Saturday. Friday night there was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Brooke took us to see fireworks. Then Saturday she let us sleep in and made us breakfast and then took us to hang out at a reservoir. It was a very relaxing weekend to have before we went back country.

Shana A

On Tuesday we finished our project which was really early, so we backpacked out to the van and we ate a huge dinner, and we amazingly finished it all. But today was fun. We were in the Umpqua National Forest Trail. We were fixing landslides and widening trails.

Laurence K

Our goals this week were to finish our project and do a really nice job, and then do even more than was required. We wanted to do a superb job and please our contact even though we only have 8 people working.

Aviva S

As a crew I think we learned how to deal with dramatic changes. To deal with the loss of crew members. I think we also learned how much work we could do as a true working team. Definitely we learned many skills and components of a great team.

Paul A

This week we lost 4 crew members and did it during back country. It was hard to see them go. We did some trail work including the digging of some culverts and widening the trail. The scenery was absolutely gorgeous. We camped at two different sites along the Umpqua River. The hikes were relatively short considering we had been expecting an eight mile hike. It was difficult to pack up camp mid week, but nonetheless, we enjoyed a larger propane fueled stove while camping near the van. The work was fairly easy in comparison with past projects which seemed quite fitting considering we were busting our behinds with a crew of eight. Needless to say, we ended the week with sore bodies and precious memories. I can honestly say it is very unlikely that I will ever work in an environment so lovely.

Amber B

## **Salem Bureau of Land Management Horning Seed Orchard**

### Week 6: July 14 - July 19

This weekend our crew traveled from our worksite on the Umpqua River Trail to the Pringle Falls campground near La Pine. This was our final weekend site. We had our usual rec. trips and big weekend dinner and circle. But this weekend we had our raging hormones dance and me and Nathan were the only ones from Blue crew dancing. The next morning we packed up and left to our next project out near Colton. It is so cool because we are about 15 minutes from my house. It's gonna be a great week.

Paul A

This week we are in the Bureau of Land Management's Horning Seed Orchard. We are weeding, building a shade house and potting plants. So far this week was easy.

Lawrence K

We have to finish as many projects as possible. This has been going fairly well thus far. We really wanted to work the most we could seeing as this is the last week. We also wanted to accomplish as much as possible with as little injury as possible. We blew out most of the weeding and now we are trying to pot as many plants as we can.

Amber B

We learned how to pot plants. We learned how to seed plants. We learned how a seed and tree plantation works. We learned how much people waste products.

Nathan C

We had a fantastic last week. We repotted thousands of plants, harvested seeds, and pulled weeds. Everyone worked all of their hours and worked super hard. The only challenge was the contact not giving us enough work to do. There were no big conflicts this week. We all had fun.

Aviva S

For the last 6 weeks it has been a life changing experience for our whole crew. For example; not being able to take a shower for a week. Working the whole time, and coming back to camp and doing chores, then doing it all over again. But that's just the worst part, now for the fun!! The rock wall. We were moving rocks the size of golf ball size to 1,500 lb rocks. One of the rocks took almost our whole crew to move. That week a guy from a radio station came down and interviewed us to find out what NYC was all about. The third week we went to Lake Wenatchee and took some showers. The 5<sup>th</sup> we went back country and made turnpikes and had lots of fun. 6<sup>th</sup> week we went back country.

Anonymous

### ***At NYC I learned....***

...how to save our environment in simple ways. I learned how to do trail work and I learned how to live with a crew for 3 weeks.

Laurence K

...that you can always push yourself farther than you think you can go.

Amber B

...how hard people work to accomplish a goal, then look back and be proud of what they did.

Nathan C

...that I can do so much for everyone else and myself just by putting in some effort.

Paul A

...that I really love trail work.

Aviva S

...that nature has clarifying properties and that I am a strong person!

Shana A

### ***My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...***

...in back country, the first hike out was so far and hard on my back.

Laurence K

...the day I decided to quit and then decided to stay because I realized that I didn't want to miss out on this experience.

Amber B

...the first day of work at NYC. You don't know how hard to work but you try to do your best.

Nathan C

...at Fall Creek. We were carrying logs for retaining walls. About 15 to 20 logs were moved by me and some of the other guys. We were making trips with 80 lb + logs for mile and a half stretches. Probably we traveled close to 15 miles that day.

Paul A

...the first day we were working in this jungle of fallen trees and branches and I was trying to get out after work and I got trapped and it was very frustrating.

Aviva S

...almost every morning was challenging because I would wake up to the reality of the program afraid and I would have to recommit myself to being here everyday.

Shana A

### ***My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...***

...finishing that trail at Hat Rock State Park 1 ½ days early. My second favorite experience would be at back country in the North Umpqua, having those triangle tents when it got cold. My third favorite moment was at the BLM when we were told our last project was to pot plants.

Laurence K

I liked climbing the side of the creek at Umpqua. I liked star gazing at Ochoco. I liked swimming in Fall Creek and having a numb body.

Amber B

...at Fall Creek. We caught many fish. My second was at Hat Rock. We got to swim in the river. My final was at Twin Springs. We had seed on a plateau in the desert. It was sunset and the sky was lit up in different colors.

Nathan C

...working really hard, watching the sun rise and set behind trees and hills and working on all my skills.

Paul A

...swimming in the North Umpqua River, playing guitar and singing with Shana, and smelling sage brush.

Aviva S

I loved living outside, meeting the great people in my crew and watching myself get stronger, Aviva!, Amber!, Brooke!

Shana A

### ***One Thing I Will Always Remember...***

...the amusing stories Kyle, Ben, and Scott made and I will always remember my back country experience.

Laurence K

...the sweet stench after a good long day of work.

Amber B

...is seeing how hard people work.

Nathan C

...is 4 weeks of working and sleeping out in the middle of nowhere to make myself better.

Paul A

...this intense beauty of environment, work, and the crazy, ridiculous change that people can make through this program.

Aviva S

...that challenges are gifts.

Shana A

***From Now On I Will Always...***

...check my socks before I put on boots for a long day.

Laurence K

...remember that I survived six weeks of NYC.

Amber B

...push my mental and physical self harder.

Nathan C

...think about what I am doing before I talk about what others are doing.

Paul A

...speak my mind and feel free to be out there and working my hardest.

Aviva S

...turn to nature to help calm and clarify me. I will always trust in it's power.

Shana A

## Orange Crew

### Roseburg Bureau of Land Management Tye Recreation Area Mainstream Umpqua River Weed Eradication

#### Week 1: June 7 - June 15

This weekend we went to NYC. We started out with the intro then split up into groups, cleaned NYC, played games then slept. We woke up, packed up, and then left for Tye Rec. Site. We set up camp, went through our SEED books, we played games. Then had dinner and bed. We dug a sump and a latrine.

Alise P

We are removing blackberry and Scotch broom- including the roots. We are at Eagle View camp site. We remove blackberry bushes to help the native sticker brushes flourish. We also remove Scotch broom at an area where they cannot spray.

Alise P

Woke up early and did the pancake swallowing without milk and with tiny syrup portions. Before seven we were at the Tye campsite hilling piles of Himalayan Blackberry. Soon were stripping English Ivy from around more likable plants. Somewhere around there Brandon swung and fell from a vine he knew he would break under the pressure. I wasn't there to see it, but I hear it was a knee slapper. After lunch we hit the edge of the highway to battle more berries to be. Brent, who is so spastic snagged the more accurate name of Spazz, walked up a crumbling old growth log over a pool of thorny vines. Predictably enough, he took one step too many and plunged in. It was one of those things that's laugh out loud funny from memory alone. We took down a large chunk of work and spent the rest of the two clownin' on each other with the nickname game. That's where we stand right now.

Brent T

Today we totally conquered our 1<sup>st</sup> hump day! Beatin back those blackberries and cutting down that Scotch Broom, everyone went crazy. A few tensions rose but overall everyone stayed calm. For a while the girls weren't even talking to the guys. But the truth of the matter is that it was all funs and games. Highlights: 1) Richard had a tick. 2) Mat hurt his ankle and also fell off a cliff. 3) Day being over. Good day to you journal!

Mo W

We went to the boat ramp and did war with half a ton of weeds and blackberries. We won but had to pay. Injuries arose as Yogi fell from a high cliff. Spoon swung from a vine in hopes of saving Yogi's life. Bam! That tree came down with a thud. Spoon has a flat face and Yogi's arm is broken. I guess we didn't have enough water. Mo is still telling them to walk the pain off. This is all not true...ah yet..all in all...we had a very long productive day! And all Bob did today was complain and swim.

Spaz and Iggy (mo mo)

This week our crew overcame many challenges and made many accomplishments. One of our biggest challenges was adjusting to the diverse personalities of our fellow crew members. We also had to adjust to the hectic schedule of camp life. We also faced many minor challenges such as identifying and avoiding poke and stinging nettle, and destroying huge patches of blackberries and broom bushes. We also had to scratch for a lost pair of loppers and a hand saw in piles of blackberry bushes. Yesterday we finished pulling the remaining blackberry bushes and broom bushes at the boat ramp and Tye. Then we searched for our two missing tools. We managed to find the loppers but not the hand saw. After searching for the lost tools we headed into town. In town we went to the laundry mat and washed our clothes. Then we went to the YMCA and took showers. After that we traveled to the weekend site. There we helped set up tents and unload trailers. Then we unloaded all of our personal gear and cooked dinner. After we ate dinner we had free time and then went to sleep. The End!

Laura F

**Willamette National Forest  
Middle Fork Ranger District  
Fall Creek**

Week 2: June 16 - June 22

Our crew was the second to arrive at the site in Cougar Reservoir. Everyone set up camp as crews trickled in through the afternoon. A campfire was made and we all had reflections of nightfall. Bedtime was at 10pm and wake up was at 7:30 am, allowing us to sleep in. Then we went on the rec. trips to Blue River Reservoir, Castle Rock, and Koolash Waterfall, and people could stay behind if wanted. For dinner, Red crew made enchi pie and we went to bed again at 10pm. At 7 am everyone woke up, got their sites, packed and headed out.

Jessamyn L

Our project this week is trail maintenance. Though it is not as painful as last weeks, it's still challenging. Monday we hiked a trail that was about 3 ½ miles long, doing maintenance when needed. The maintenance is as follows: bench widening, slope reformation, and assuring proper trail drainage. After the trail was done, we had to cross a creek which was about 30 ft wide and knee deep in our work clothes, boots, and had to carry our tools over too. After crossing, we did a little bit more trail maintenance, then crossed back again and walked back to the van, 3 ½ miles down the road to Bedrock campground. Tuesday: Well, Tuesday went as follows: Today we hiked a lot. I mean a lot. We did some more trail maintenance. We were going to make a retaining wall but we decided tomorrow would be better.

Justin C

Our goals for this week are to get through this week of constant walking with positivity. Last night we lost Alise due to circumstances that change life in camp. Because of the loss of one person, we are trying to get enough hours to make up for the 8 hours we lost. Our goal is to make up these hours with a smile on our face. We locked Jake in his tent today. Today Brandon and Mo taught the pimp walk! And it made everyone laugh!

Brandon and Mo

Today we woke up way too early to do a 10 hour work day. We cleared and walked about 3 ½ miles of trail. We cleared a lot of drainage ditches and culverts. Mo hurt her ribs. We are all tired and ready for bed.

Spaz

This week we built trail at Fall Creek Reservoir. We faced many challenges before eventually overcoming them. The most difficult challenge we faced was dealing daily with a mentally and physically abusive Canadian crew leader (no names!) Just kidding, Thomas, a little inside joke). We overcame this challenge by nailing him in his tent! On a more serious note, we lost a crew member, which was hard for everyone to overcome. Yet, we have all pulled together. We may not get a new crew member, but everyone seems ok with this. We managed to build a decent retaining wall. We had to work as a team to fill wheel barrows with dirt and rocks in order to construct the wall. We also did a lot of brush work and hiking. We also experienced many educational seeds on subjects such as navigation and blister prevention. Now we are headed to the weekend site with clean clothes, full stomachs and clean fresh smelling bodies. We are all looking forward to participating in some relaxing recreational activities with people from other crews. We all plan to resist participating in grade six though.

The Twins (Laura and Mo)

**Malheur National Forest  
Prairie City Ranger District  
Slide Creek Campground Restoration**

Week 3: June 23 - June 29

This weekend we met up with other crews at Ochoco National Forest. It was the first weekend that the parents were allowed to visit. On Saturday night we ate BBQ chicken and Justin's parents brought us all

ice cream and steak. We went on separate recreational trips to various locations, from shopping to hiking to fishing. On Sunday we did camp chores and then found out who our rover was and where we were going for this week. We also found out what type of work we're doing.

Laura F

We stayed at camp today. The first task was to widen a pre-existing horse trail. A couple of people fixed a bridge. After that we started a new horse trail that is supposed to connect to another trail. We got about halfway through it.

Brian W

Our goals for the week were to build a couple of trails and to fix an old one. The old trail needed some touch up work like removing "duff" and building a retaining wall. The first trail we were to make was only a couple hundred feet long, and we had to dig top lines and duff out the middle. For the second trail we had to do the same thing except we had to make it a mile long.

Richard W

We learned a lot on how determination can go far when working together on a large project. Great deeds can always get done when your mind is put to it. Even though we didn't actually fully finish the trail we were working on, we did as much as we could do and as hard as we could. Everyone should really apply this and things can get done.

Jessamyn L

Some of our accomplishments and challenges for the week were getting up early, doing the work, and finishing the day. We met two of our three main goals for the week. The two we met were building a small trail and coral. The one we tried to meet was building a mile long trail.

Richard W

## **Smith Rock State Park Smith Rock West Side River Trail**

### Week 4: June 30 - July 6

This weekend we went back to the site of cow pooh. We went on our rec. trips and we sat around our Saturday circle, talking about where we will be in 10 years. We almost lost 2 crew members, both due to lack of respect. Luckily, the crew members forgave those who were disrespectful and now we have a full crew. We are all happy that everyone is still with us!

Mo W

This week we are at Smith Rock. We are building trails. We are also building rock walls. We are doing this so the trail will be better.

Jessica D

Our goals for the week are to build and maintain trail at Smith Rock. We are to build rock walls, cut new trail, and fix what Yellow crew messed up on. The goals we have will last for the next week and a half.

Richard W

This week we learned about the history and ecosystem of Smith Rock. We learned about social and ecological carrying capacity. We learned about democracy.

Richard W

Our goals for the week were fixing trail that Yellow crew messed up, building retaining walls, and making it passed the twin pines. Some of our goals around camp were getting to work on time, getting our chores done quickly, not burning dinner, and as Jake says, "Taking it to the next level". We accomplished most of our worksite goals.

Richard W

## **Smith Rock State Park Smith Rock West Side River Trail**

### Week 5: July 7 - July 13

This weekend was by far the best! Because we didn't have a weekend trip meeting place – we got to stay at Smith Rock with our crew. On Friday we worked 5 hours and then we went for showers. We had at the pool (place 4 showers) because it was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July – we were allowed to swim for free. Then we went for laundry which had a T.V.! Later, we went in to Bend for fireworks and a live band. All the girls danced when the band was playing. (Exclamation point) On Saturday we went to Lava Cave with Gabe. It was so much fun! We went all the way to the back of the caves and then we crawled out in the dark! Then we went to the library to use the internet. Then we headed back to camp to meet Justin's parents. They brought us steak! It was so good! After we thanked them, we were allowed to stay up until 11:15...there was a good game of rummy going on! On Sunday we had another surprise: Justin's parents allowed us to use their hotel room for showers, tv, phone, and swimming! Ahhh...we all had fun with that! After 3 hours of being in the hotel we headed to Walmart and then to another library for some more internet use. After that we returned to camp and as the sun fell we started a soccer game. Then pranks were pulled and we all fell asleep..ready for the next day! Good day to you journal!

Mo W

We were working with Big Jay today and he arrived early to clean up camp facilities. After hiking in we took apart a defective rock retaining wall and made it stronger. We also began making a larger retaining wall. After lunch, we commenced leveling out a large hill in the trail. While this was happening, an errant hoe swing hit Jessica's finger hurting it to some degree. Jake took her to the hospital or clinic.

Brian W

Our goals are: 1) remain positive, 2) work hard or go home, 3) Deal with each other's crap, 4) Deal with our crew leader's crap, 5) finish the specs, 6) get to work on time!, 7) stay away from Laura (who has injured 6 people this week!), 8) survive the heat, 9) Survive both Jake and Gabe, 10) stay clean. Good day to you journal!

Mo W

Supposedly the crew had a pretty laid back day. I wasn't there as I was sick, yet for the 2 hours I was there, I know we dug a huge ditch and Ian made us do little rock walls on the side, but that's all I know. The rest is in the past! Good day to you journal!

Mo W

Oh my, where should I start? Well, since we had finished most of the stuff we were supposed to do it was pretty laid back. An Outward Bound group came for an hour on Tuesday and the whole day on Wednesday, but of course we had to go back and redo some of it on Thursday. But it was nice working with people other than our crew. Mostly this week we had to widen what the Yellow crew did by digging out and lowering that part by about 4 feet and moved that to a clip in the trail. With all the work and everything we exceeded our quota for what we needed to do. So to make up time we pretty much lined the majority of the trail with rock wall. Overall, it was pretty nice, people doing team work to get giant rocks into a humungous rock wall and some people getting crushed when the rock falls on them (Mo and Laura) and rescued by Brandon. So it was pretty sweet, and we got certificates from Ian and Big Jay!

Jessamyn L

## **Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Waldo Lake Trail, South End**

### Week 6: July 14 - July 19

We left our fire-provoked surprise site early to receive supplies for back country. We went to Waldo Lake, packed up, and walked in about 2 miles on the trail. We reached camp and made a good dinner.

Brian W

Our main tasks of the week were to create turnpike. On top of this we made drainage ditches and culverts. After work we got chances to explore the forest.

Brian W

Complete long turnpikes, got lots of dirt for turnpikes. Put in culverts and got logs from Carrie to build turnpikes and to repair old turnpikes. Got Red crew back for messing with us.

Corey M

We learned about bear hangs and back packing and also how to escape a forest fire. Then we learned about how to pack a backpack equally and later showed us with his backpack.

Corey M

Today we woke early to pack up our camp and we started our day. Half of us went out with Caroline to put more dirt on the tread. The rest of us peeled back bark and then we got more dirt. Then we hiked out in 45 minutes and we got our van packed. We are so ready for the big clean! Good bye journal! (For the last time!)

Mo W

### ***My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...***

...when my patience would run short and I would become irritated. It doesn't help anyone when that happens, that is something that I need to work on. It was very hard for me. When I was sick and not allowed to work. I hated sitting there back at camp when my team was slaving in the sun! Sorry guys!

Mo W

...the days when our crew allowed personal conflicts to cast shadows over everything else. The days when everyone's tempers were short and answers were snappy were pretty horrible too!

Laura F

### ***My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...***

...staking down Jake's tent, Switching Jake/Gabes tent, and switching helmets.

Laura F

...Canadian jokes, fishing, and hanging out with Jake.

Corey M

...falling out of trees, sliding through mud, and ticking Jake off.

Brent T

...pranks, laughter, and steak!

Mo W

...moment of silence in cave (Brandon breaking it...), and drive by clipping.

Jessamyn L

...paper work incident, stakedown, and the people I met.

Justin C

...forest fire, condom prank, and Umpqua River, among many.

Brian W

### ***One Thing I Will Always Remember...***

...is at Waldo Lake. The last week there were mosquitoes everywhere and everybody disliked it and all the horrible hikes.

Jake B

...the level of pride and standard of quality we collectively put into all of our work.

Brian W

...the pranks that were pulled. We nailed our crew leader with so many from them! It was great! Another thing I will always remember saying the exact same thing at the same time as Laura and teaching everyone correct English! I had fun this year guys...it's because of you! Thank You!

Mo W

...all of the melodramas that seemed to arise in our crew. There was never a dull moment! I'll also remember all of the times we just "chillaxed" together, and got to know one another. Running from the fire was also great fun, as were the endless van rides. All of our late night talks were also great, Mo! Always be a maplicard Mo! It was great getting to know everyone! (Yes, even you, Richard!)

Laura F -Mo and Laura! -Brandon G

...is the friends I made at NYC, especially Mo and Laura, Brandon, Brian, and Jake. Mo and Laura kept things interesting and made the days fly by.

Richard W

### ***From Now On I Will Always...***

...live life to the fullest, laughing at all that is funny, and not being up-tight. I will work on being an equal team player and I will always keep "the smile on my beak". I will always try to find the best in people. I will always respect all people. I will always work hard or go home!

Mo W

...try not to judge people based on looks or attitude. I will try a little harder to know people before I judge them. I'll also know that with the PMA (positive mental attitude) anything can be accomplished!

Laura F

### ***At NYC I Learned...***

...Canadians can be cool. What a turnpike was and how to build it. The importance, steps in making, and names of the parts of the trail.

Brent T

...what was in the SEED.

Corey M

...how to get along with all different kinds of people. I also learned that keeping a smile on your face, all the time, makes life so much more enjoyable. I also learned that 10 hrs of singing can really hurt your throat!

Mo W

...the basics of trail building/maintenance, etc. I also learned how to look below the surface images people present, and PMA is always important!

Laura F

## Red Crew

### Willamette National Forest Middle Fork Ranger District Fall Creek Payco

#### Week 1: June 7- June 15

We introduced ourselves to our crew and crew leaders. We also sat around in a circle and made the promise that we would be there all 6 weeks. Everyone made the commitment. On Sunday we cleaned up the site and went to our campsite. We set up camp on a concrete slab in a field because some crazy people left beer cans and piles of poo all up in the woods.

Jesse N

Survival ! Survival was our goal. And we had to work hard for our survival. Let me explain. It was a sunny Sunday afternoon. We strolled into our campsite without a care in the world. We leisurely set up our camp. Morale was high, little did we know that in a few short hours we would be fighting for our lives. We finished setting up camp and sat down to our first meal. Even then, as we fed ourselves the enemy watched and waited. Night fell and we all sat on our stone slab in the middle of the grassy field. We were in the middle of SEED when the forest fell silent. An eerie silence swept over us. “Wha-what’s going on,?” squeaked Adam our sensitive crewmate. He stood up and walked to the edge of the concrete. “It looks like all the grass is moving around”, he said in a shrill voice. He clicked on his flashlight and shined it on the field. “Snakes,!!!! he screamed and fainted. A million slim, slithering snakes withered around in fury in the field. Apparently we had camped in the religious sanctuary, a sin punishable only by death. We all stood face to face with our toes, we looked to our fearless leader for direction. He was crying. “Th-they can’t hurt us,” he sobbed, “Look I will show you.” He took one step into the field and was sucked in like quicksand. We all laughed, because he looked like he did a little dance on the way down. As the laughing subsided we realized we couldn’t work without our leader. No work, means no pay. We decided to sleep and see what would happen in the morning. We fell asleep with questions on our mind. Things always have a way of working out. 6 a.m. a snake-bite covered Luke busted in our tent and said, “Come with me, if you want to work.” “Quickly get into the van.” Apparently, Luke told them we were here for preservation of the forest. Then they let him go. Our goal was survival, and our goal was accomplished.

Jake W

We are near Fall Creek and are working on maintaining a section of trail. We are also making some rock walls. Doing whatever possible to make the trail better. For the most part of this job we will be doing trail maintenance and sluff removal. After our 8 hours of work, we went back to camp and did our chores. Had some good food and took a nice rest.

Travis T

Challenges...there were plenty of them here in the Red crew. Not only did we have to do the taxing work of trail maintenance all week, but we also needed to get along with everyone. The week started out with a very startling discovery. We were missing a corner joint on one of our tents. With a bit of thinking and duct tape, we managed to make a very simple tent. Soon after, we began to realize that if we didn’t try to work together well and put some effort into it, then the crew would be torn apart from within. With this in mind we decided to put aside our differences and work together. Aside from all the food and supplies that were missing from our boxes in camp, there were still other problems that needed to be worked through at the work site. We needed to do the same task, sluff removal, for most of the week. Then, on Friday, we had to work through a heavy rainstorm. Thankfully, we had our rain gear. The crew managed to work efficiently the entire week and our crew accomplished more work and went above and beyond what was asked of us.

Aaron S

## **Ochoco National Forest Paulina Ranger District Noxious Weed Removal**

Week 2: June 16 - June 22

The first weekend site was by Cougar Reservoir. We were the second to last group to show up. On our fabulous rec. trip we went to Blue River Reservoir and went fishing and swimming. Three fish were caught, all 8 inches long. Then a rock was discovered tall enough to jump off of. Then we looked up toward the sky. A light had been shining down on a new shiny bridge. Then we jumped off it.

Adam K

We are in Central Oregon and it is scorchin. Our job for the week is to remove various types of weeds from Ochoco National Forest. The most notorious of these are the hounds tongue weed sent from heck. But we perceive and will break the hounds tongue lines. We did pretty well and will continue the good fight for the rest of the week. Peace Out.

Travis T

Meeting up to NYC's expectations and functioning as a whole to clear the area of hounds tongue were our primary objectives for this week's projects. Another goal was to improve distribution of the work load among the Red crew members while maintaining a level of fairness and discipline. We hope to remove all of the hounds tongue in our designated area. So far we have had some hard times but in the future we hope to overcome them with perseverance and fun.

Jesse M

Our group listened to Luke talk about things that happened when he was younger. He was traumatized. I think everyone in our crew has. Weeds suck really bad. I learned how to make gross soup. My crew also found out that a certain member of our crew will get kicked out if he messes up one more time, he's out. I don't want him to leave because he is really cool to talk to. My crew learned that some other person wants to leave. It's crazy. Our crew also knows how bad the weeds suck. Yes, they suck a lot.

Odie

Our crew learned that the seeds of the old hounds tongue sticks to everything. The first stage of a hounds tongue is a rosetta. Then the hounds tongue turns in to a purple flower, then grows old and drops their seeds. It's harder to pull a rosetta out of the ground, then when it's in its next stage it is much easier to pull out. Same with the old ones. Our crew talked about what you would bring with you to camp. 3 important things.

Odie

Many challenges plagued the mighty Red crew. However like every challenge before, we accepted its call of war and prepared for battle. First, we assessed the situation and came up with a strategic plan. I would say our first foe was hunger. A wise man once said, "Eat to live, don't live to eat." Well, I said forget that because I was starving. We used up a lot of our good food to satisfy the beast within us. Another war was about to come to an end. It had been going on all week. The hounds tongue battle, this ferocious plant had been laughing in our faces the entire week. They had many warriors, we had few. They were strong and determined; most of our crew had laziness issues. The war was going well for them until something significant happened. Some hounds tongue had crept into our camp and harassed some of our less fierce warriors. Now only referred to as "the accident," this one experience was the fuel for their fire. This turned weenie warriors into raging fight-o-holics. We busted out and eradicated the foul demon plant.

Red Crew-1 Stinky Plant-0 Chalk up another victory for RED !!

Jake W

**Oregon Parks & Recreation Department  
Hat Rock State Park  
Lewis & Clark Trail**

Week 3: June 23 - June 29

This weekend our crew went to our weekend site near Prineville, Oregon. Friday we unloaded our trailer and set up our camp. Saturday we did our restocking chores like we do every weekend. After our chores we got mail. After mail we got in to our recreational crews. We did swimming, fishing, and hiking and we even got to go shopping. Sunday we packed up for another week.

Matt B

Well, Red crew is at Hat Rock State Park rebuilding and maintaining the Lewis and Clark Trail. About a mile of the trail is inside the park. We laid gravel over black padding on the ground. The trail had been smoothed the day before. We laid gravel using wheelbarrows and gators, filling in and then dumping them where needed.

Sean V

This week our crew had many many goals. One was to finish our project early so we could build a horse coral. Our job was to build a horse road. Another goal was to keep ourselves occupied on the worksite. Another goal was to NOT get in fights and petty arguments. Ending the week with 10 original crew members. Also another big goal for us was to slow down and stop cussing.

Adam K

Our crew has learned several things. First, we are continually learning how to cooperate productively together. This is an on-going process. Second, we are learning how to represent ourselves in the most professional way possible. We are learning this because we are in a very public area and we need to represent NYC in a positive manner. Lastly, we are learning the specific skills that are necessary for this project.

Aaron S

The main challenge this week was persevering through the heat, which plagued us daily. We built a gravel horse trail along a road in Hat Rock State Park. Another challenge arose when our contact got his truck stuck in the dirt and we had to wait for him to get it out. Overall this project was not incredibly challenging, because every day we got to relax and kick back at our campsite which was in the middle of a green park with trees and shade. We also learned a lot of life lessons from our contact Wayne.

Jesse N

**Wallowa National Forest  
Sumpter Dredge State Park  
Sumpter Trail**

Week 4: June 30 - July 6

This weekend our crew went to the same weekend site as last week! Wow!! Then for our rec. trip we went in to Prineville and played some basketball at a Prineville School. Then we went across the street so some fair/flea market deal, said to be, (by the locals) the biggest event of the year.

Adam K

Our project is making a trail along a pile of rocks for people to walk on to look at Cracker Creek where a dredge was used to look for gold. The other part of our project is to build a bridge and connect two trails. We are near the Walla Walla National Forest, at Sumpter Dredge State Park. There is a huge pond/lake about 400 yards away from camp.

Jesse M

Our main goal for this week is to reach the spot where we're going to put in a bridge on our trail. We are actually really close to reaching this goal already. We only have to put in gravel on one part, and then pack

down the trail with whacker packers, which won't take long. We will probably spend lots of Thursday and Friday doing quality control.

Jesse N

This week we learned how difficult it is to make an all rock trail. Spreading gravel using wheelbarrows across a long distance to fill in a trail. We also learned how to better "cope" with each other and have had about 4 meetings concerning the matter. They have made me incredibly ecstatic. We hope to learn much more about social interactions in the days to come.

Trax'n

This week we shoveled and wheel barrowed pea gravel to the trail that we were building. We had to remove rocks, and smooth out the remaining rocks that were of good size, and then lay the pea gravel over the quality parts of the trail. The challenges of this project was basically to pace yourself, not work too hard, because picking up rocks with your hands can be pretty mind dulling after three to four hours of doing it. We all did our best to accomplish the project with quality and speed, and always maintained ourselves because we were in a high profile place. I did a freak out on the first day because I just wasn't seeing the point of the trail project. However I quickly attempted to gain p.m.a. and the next day I was just fine. We finished the project with good quality and on perfect time.

Sean V

## **Sumpter Dredge State Park Pedestrian Trail Construction**

### Week 5: July 7 - July 13

We went to see the fireworks at the rodeo and hung out at the park for about an hour. Then we did mystery madness and Luke took it upon himself to take us for pizza at Pizza Hut and it was super! We had a great time at the rodeo for about an hour or two and then went and watched an amazing fireworks display. Monday we woke up and went to work for 3 ½ hours. It was pretty easy, which was good for all of us. We are all excited to start the bridge for the week.

Anonymous

Our project for this week was supposed to be building a bridge. But now we are building another rock wall trail. We are in the no where town of Sumpter. We are collecting large round rocks for the edge of the trail. We are building a handicap trail so the handicapped can see large, I repeat, large, piles of rock and a river.

Adam K

The crew's goals for this week are primarily to complete the trail that we are working on and the fence that goes along it. This trail is a "special" trail and we need to pay extra attention to it. The reason that this trail will take more time is because it will get a considerable amount of traffic. That means we'll make sure everything is perfect. The rock linings will be straighter than this line. The trail will be even. The fence will be sturdy. Among these goals that the crew has set, all of us also have our own goals that we are fulfilling finishing NYC.

Aaron S

I think our crew learned this week that our fellow crew members are more than that. We lost a crew member this week and we realized that he was like family to us. Tears were shed when we had to say goodbye to him. We were all willing to give up our position for him to stay on the crew but things just didn't work out the way we planned.

Matt B

Week 5 is always a tough week, never physically tough. Always mentally tough. Physically we are in shape. Two weeks of throwing rocks has expanded my biceps two inches. However my mind has turned to mush. All my thoughts during the day are of home. Then I try to escape them by sleeping and all I get are dreams of my sweet p-town. Eventually I have realized that I've lost the battle, our crew has bonded to the

point of brotherhood. One specific crewmember made a huge mistake. He quit then tried to return, we all decided if NYC didn't rehire him we would all quit. We almost did but in the end we realized the mistake he made was his own and it was an absurd way to make our point. So he was fired like a bowling ball out of a cannon, later a few more corps members quit. They had enough and I respect their decisions, as shall NYC, the man and them.

Jake W

**Willamette National Forest  
Middle Fork Ranger District  
Waldo Lake Trail, South End**

Week 6: July 14 - July 19

This weekend my crew went to the weekend sight. There we learned that 3 of our fellow crew members were quitting. We were all sad. They were like brothers to us. We really didn't want to see them go but nothing we did changed their minds. Our crew of six now, held our heads high and still kept a positive attitude.

Matt B

Our project was to build some turnpikes. We are in Waldo Lake building it so as not to cause erosion on the trail.

Jesse M

We wanted to finish the back country turnpikes and beat the Orange menace from completing them all before we do, though they outnumber us greatly, we still won taking them on doing a good job. We are on to the second full turnpike extension and are beginning to work on them. So that was basically our Wednesday and the turnpikes must continue. Onward to victory!!

Travis T

Our SEED on Wednesday, we learned about the recycle system, to reuse things like water and cans and stuff like that. Mosquitoes are a pain but we ruled them. I killed many. We learned how to make a turnpike. It was chillin.

Odie

This week in back country was full of challenges and accomplishments. Mosquitoes were the biggest challenge. With mosquitoes the size of blimps they could run away with an arm full of blood. But also finishing our project was a big accomplishment. It's over. We are going home now!

Adam K

***My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...***

...waking my stupid self up every day at 6:00, if not before, in the morning to go to work. Or, going back to work after losing 4 crew members and really having to bust out. The heck hound mosquitoes made my most challenging day and week.

Travis T

...when I had to poo really bad when I was working, that really sucked. I kept having to poop bad. Darn

Odie

...the last day just to make it through because of the mosquitoes.

Anonymous

...when we lost 3 of our crew members.

Matt B

### ***My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...***

...meeting new people, or shall I say homies. Working pretty hard felt really good and living in the woods for 5 or 6 weeks, it was pretty chill.

Odie

...making new friends, telling B.S. stories at circle time and just chillin.

Adam K

...chilling with my crew and just hanging out with all of the ladies.

Matt B

### ***One Thing I Will Always Remember...***

...Sean and his last words. I will remember the rest of my crew, my crew leader, the rovers I had. The dirty food, back country was not cool. Getting up early in the morning, that was a pain in the butt and I'm done.

Odie

...are the friends I have made and the rest of the NYC experience.

Adam K

...is my crew. We have stuck together through thick and thin.

Matt B

### ***From Now On I Will Always...***

From now on, I, Mr. Travis John Todd, will always do many things. The most important would be to always work hard. I say this because I know that is exactly what you want me to say. So for expectancy's sake I did. Now on to the real things I will do from now on. They are such things as I will always NOT defecate in the woods from now on. I will always buy ridiculous amounts of bug spray. I will always keep in touch with my C's in the NYC. Always and forever.

Travis T

...live like there is no tomorrow.

Adam K

...remember my G-dogs, the work that we did. The rovers, my crew leader, Luke, and remember Wayne for show.

Anonymous

...remember the good times I had at NYC.

Anonymous

### ***At NYC I Learned...***

...during the 6 week time period I learned that friends can come fast and go fast. The best thing I got from this program was the life time friendship I have made. I will always be all about Red crew. "Let's bounce forezie!" Peace easy every one.

Adam K

...that work is hard and chillin is cool. So on and so forth. NYC for life.

Travis T

...that friends are truly important to us. I also learned how to be more self dependent.

Matt B

...how bad mosquitoes suck. I learned that I can easily chill with people. I learned that back country isn't very cool.

Anonymous

## Yellow Crew

### Eugene Bureau of Land Management Balboa Viewing Deck Construction

#### Week 1: June 7 - June 15

We all met each other and met our rover. Then we found where our job was. We came to Eugene and set up camp next to the public showers & bathrooms. It has to be the roughest job site we will ever have here at NYC! I can't wait till next week for an easier job. Shilo broke his right pinkey.

Kelly L

My crew went to Eugene and half of us built a deck and the rest were building trails. Reservoir of Eugene was where we were working. I busted out some weeks with rocks in it. I also built a deck for the first time. It was really awesome and I would love to do it again.

Mindy C

As I know, speaking for my crew, our goals for finishing are gravel trail and finishing the deck we are helping build with our contact. So far so good. Which is not always easy but we are a team and we got through it.

Mindy C

As the week continued we bonded and had the longest work day so far. Breakin' for 10 hours. Our work consisted of weed pulling, gravel setting, and deck handle refinishing. Tomorrow, being our last day, has got us good and excited for the weekend after our four hour workday. Tonight we are ripping down everything we can for heading off tomorrow. Food has been incredible and I am looking forward to tonight's. Our chefs have taken over and made each meal gourmet. I can't say much for the repeated lunches. But they hold us over perfect. Our setbacks have been our radiator burning out and people's sore muscles. The cooperation of our group is incredible. We've bonded in a matter of days. Communication is improving. It won't take long for us to be unstoppable. I have yet to see any conflicting personalities. I have great hopes for the future and this team. These will be people who will last a lifetime in my memory. Here's a kiss goodbye to the first week of work.

Grace M

My crew just ended the deck and trail. We just ended the first week and everyone is getting along great. After 4 hours of work we hit the road. We stopped to clean our clothes and call home. We found the weekend site and no one was here so we unpacked and started dinner. About 5 hours later the 2<sup>nd</sup> van got here and so did the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. My crew made dinner for the 3 other crews. Today is Friday, the 13<sup>th</sup>. We started a fire and told scary stories. We all had a great time. P.S. I suck at writing.

Paul B

### Oregon State Parks Collier State Park

#### Week 2: June 16 - June 22

We showed up at the weekend sight first. At first we were happy at being first, but when other teams didn't show up we were getting a little worried. But they finally showed up at 6:30. Then for our weekend trip, I, Bryce, Kuit, and J.P. went to Blue River and the rest went to see a lot of waterfalls. We also got a new team member and won 4 of the awards. Now we are in the M.T.

Anonymous

Personally what I did was clear brush, cut a little logs, which was awesome because I was basically the only girl who could do it. Then I racked up some saw stuff and me and Grace put some paint on the

welcome sign for the museum. At the moment, we are at Lane County Park. I had fun, but on a personal note, I don't like brush.

Mindy C

Our crew's goals for the week began with trying to stay busy. Arriving here at Collier State Park, no one was really sure what we would be doing. Today we have accomplished a lot. We've brushed out a lot of area and cleaned up after a logging festival. Our current goal is to complete a riverside trail and learn the fundamentals of trail building.

Jacob R

This week our crew learned how to repel mosquitoes, treat mild and severe hypothermia, as well as the three stages of frostbite. We also learned the symptoms and what the wrong thing to do is in those situations. We learned the basics of trail construction.

Crystal Z

Our crew had many challenges and accomplishments this week. Our challenges included adjusting to a new rover, learning new skills and staying focused at all times. We were all comfortable and adjusted to our first rover, Gabe, and it was difficult to adjust to a new one. We also had to learn some new skills, such as painting, trail building, and demolition. Sometimes it was hard to stay focused, such as when we had to lop an entire patch of weeds. Our accomplishments were learning how to build our first trail. Taking out a fence without the necessary tools, and continuing another week of us getting along and getting things done.

Jacob R

## **Siskiyou National Forest Illinois River Ranger District Smith River West Side River Trail**

### Week 3: June 23 - June 29

We went to the weekend site and had a lot of fun. Then we came to Smith Rock on Sunday and did our seed journals. The park that we are staying at again has public restrooms and showers less than a 5 minute walk away but the scenery is great.

Kelly L

We are at Smith Rock. Our project is pretty much hauling rocks around and making retaining walls. Also we need to widen the trail to 4 feet in every possible place. It is a lot of hard work but it is about time that this crew did some "real" NYC work!

Kelly L

One of our goals is to widen a trail to four feet wide so that mechanized vehicles can get through on the path to better the trails. We hope to finish some big rock retaining walls, which are frustrating at times. We have about 5 or 6 to finish up and possibly more. Some require huge rocks which makes it difficult to get the right fit. We are also re-routing a trail on a pretty steep slope, with lots of nasty rockslides. We also want Shiloh to not hurt himself anymore, and sing Lion King songs so loud so it echoes off the walls of the beautiful canyon. Nutty!

Tara B

We learned how to make rock retaining walls that contain huge boulders. Huge! Massive! Trail maintenance and construction. We worked on a slope at a 45 degree when constructing the trail. (Hard stuff) Some of the crew learned how to unleash the beast (screaming and swinging to the max) Ahh!!!!

Kuit R

I would say our crew's challenges would be the heat, because it was very hot and we had some challenge with the switchback. I thought there were at least 4 of them. We had to motivate ourselves. Our

accomplishments this week were working in the heat and overcoming the big hill, and basically just having to work with each other under some stress of building rock walls. Other than that, it was awesome.

Mindy C

**Wenatchee National Forest  
Leavenworth Ranger District  
White River Trail**

Week 4: June 30 - July 6

Sunday we found out for the second time that we are going back-country. "White-River" Tyson screamed. This is the location that the Yellow crew will be chillin for the next two weeks. Rain, rain, rain, go away come back another day. Throughout the whole day we endured rain, mosquitoes, a little sun shine, mist, forest dew and yellow jackets to finish the day.

Kurt R

The project we are doing consists of lopping & lopping & lopping & lopping. There was no rain. Thank God. The day went by fast with beautiful scenery to keep our eyes searching for more, as we lop down every bush and tree. Sometimes I feel we are destroying the world, like the Lorax did when a monopoly formed. But we are just doing the simple task to keep everyone safe and off the sacred plants. We are stuck here for weeks. The day never ends. At least we are in the company of friends. Some of them may have many faces, may joke a lot, may have been a lot of different places. When I visit them in time to come, I will see how nice they are to their mom's. So we are working all day and feasting at night with Kuit's great talent and will never starve. Although today he was cursed with some problems which made him miss the comforts of home.

Grace M

Our goal for the two weeks is getting four miles of trail done. I guess it can also be having everyone not be sick, because some of the crew members are sick. Also, going without getting stung once.

Mindy C

Thursday we hiked up 2 ½ miles of river with backpacks on. Tyson found this sweet river view camp spot. We all went to the beach to rest. Our crew wanted to stay and rest all day instead of working 9 hours that day. Some of us crew members got in the river to cool off. P.S. Brice, what's 4x5?

John B

This week our crew had to drive all the way up to Washington. Our crew had some disagreements but we accomplished not to go after one another. We had some challenges getting enough clearance from the trail, but we managed. It was challenging enough to keep our minds occupied. We resorted to playing games such as 20 questions to make the day go by faster. On Thursday we hiked just under three miles back country. We made it to our site in about 2.5 hours without any injuries. So far I think our biggest challenge so far is trying not to get sucked dry by the evil swarms of mosquitoes that inhabit our camp. I know we have accomplished the mastery skills of killing them. We've accomplished to clear about ½ - 1 mile of trail but we still have a long way to go.

Crystal Z

**Wenatchee National Forest  
Leavenworth Ranger District  
White River Trail**

Week 5: July 7 - July 13

We are back country this week, so last weekend we spent in camp and exploring a nearby tourist spot. Saturday we all hung out at camp, did a little swimming and relaxed on the beach by White River. We also

all got eaten alive by mosquitoes and Crystal had a record 39 bites on one hand alone. Sunday we headed into Leavenworth, which is a tourist town made to look Bavarian. It was quite an experience.

Tara B

This week we are in the Glacier Peak wilderness in the Cascades, east of Seattle. We are brushing a trail here, which basically entails trimming back vine maple. We are doing this to make the trails nicer to hike on and stop the trails from being totally overgrown.

Jacob R

Our goal was to get all the brushing from the point that we left off of to camp, all in four days! We are only working four days this week, two 9 ½ hour days and two 9 hour days. Then we will leave Friday morning for the weekend site.

Kelly L

We learned that keeping a positive view. We as a crew (mellow yellow) can achieve great work on the trail. A song, game, or just screaming then.....unleashing the Beast!!!! Can pick up the whole crew. Seriously, where has the time gone? We've lived together for 5 weeks & a family atmosphere has been created. I feel we are strong as we will ever be. I will truly miss everyone in my crew, their presence, and wonderful dew that expels from their butt (ahhh goodness). Ahh, only one more week with these fine folk enjoying the adventure of the woods together.

Kuit R

Our crew's challenges are minimal this week. The basic hurdles we had were basically the hot sun and we basically did 9 ½ and 9 hour days. So the days were very draining emotionally and even physically, for me any way. Also, we had a basic job again, continued from last week, and we kind of had a hard time with boredom in our crew. Our accomplishments this week were being helpful to one another and working things out when a problem arose. We accomplished this week about 92 thousand square feet. I thought that was awesome, considering the fact we worked a lot this week. Go Yellow Crew!

Mindy C

## **Molalla River Recreation Corridor Hardy Creek Trail Maintenance**

### Week 6: July 14 - July 19

This weekend we were at Pringle Falls between Lapine and Bend. Some of us went to visit some nearby caves and museums like the High Desert Museum. Some of us visited Paulina Lake. The weekend site was on the Deschutes River, which was beautiful, but the area around it was pretty dusty and dry. Our Sunday night was quite interesting up at Molalla River where we had the constant smell of human feces and lots of loud rowdy party people.

Tara B

Today was a day of great work. As we dug deep ditches, we lopped, cleared brush and dug water tunnels. We are in beautiful mountain country a half mile to a mile in. My body aches from the constant hard work. We made a lot of progress with some lazy workers. Our camp site is nice without human waste and Shilo stepping in it. We now have a "must stir" latrine porta potty. Brice was dubbed the crap-churn boy for delaying work circle.

The end.

Grace M

Tyson woke up and made us bomb breakfast. Then we went to work. All the people I worked with got a lot done. It was a good day. When we got off work, my parents brought us pizza, donuts and pop. It was the bomb, ya!

Bryce D

Our crew learned the joys of drainage dips and out sloping. We made about 31 drainage dips and loped and sawed our way to dirty heaven. We all are caked in dirt. We also learned the joys of looking for lost tools, which literally have disappeared. We learned to cooperate and work together even when we've gotten on each other's last nerve. Now, we love each other just cause we're all nutty.

Tara B

Since it was the last week here working at NYC, we were very antsy and wanted to be done with work. So with that comes with having trouble keeping on track with what we were doing. Some of our challenges were getting along. I thought personally that some of our true color came out. Our accomplishments would be no major accidents and no one quitting, even when it was harder to stay then leaving. Having fun, we were basically dead tired. Overall it was another good experience.

Mindy C

### ***My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...***

...the first week we built a dam at Clay Creek Campground. I was supposed to lift these pieces of wood that were still soaked with water and take them to the people building the dam. The planks were really heavy and I kept on dropping them. I kept on trying, but eventually had to be assigned to something else.

Tara B

...when we were at Smith Rock. It was hot and we had to hike out after a long day of work. At the end of our hike there was this outrageously steep hill we had to hike. Just the thought of that Hill on Thursday almost brought tears to my eyes.

Crystal Z

Smith Rock. Building a rock retaining wall and none of the rocks were working and I got so damned mad that I started throwing rocks every where.

Shilo P

...would have to be carrying a couple hundred pounds rock up and down hills for retaining walls. At Smith Rock pushing big rocks up hill and moving a lot of rock.

John B

...at Smith Rock, lifting up heavy rocks that weigh more than myself. Also when we were very tired after a hard days work, we would have to go up 4 switchbacks. Also listening to country music when other people are disrespecting you. I set my limit on not being the same way on theirs.

Misty C

...the last day because we lost the saw and were ready to leave but couldn't!

Kelly L

...when I was sick but still went to work at White River.

Jacob R

...keeping my cool when building rock walls at Smith Rock.

Grace M

### ***My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...***

I was supremely happy working at Smith Rock. It was so beautiful and different from the wilderness I was used to. Also going back country and eating by the beach every night with a fire until the stars came out. Besides these places, my crew really inspired me on the work site and always encouraged the unleashing of the beast.

Tara B

Smith Rock was very beautiful and the scenery was awesome. Being there was great. One night walking back to our tent, Bryce jumped out to scare Tara and Jacob and fell. I laughed hysterically and proceeded to my tent when Kelly jumped out and scared me. On the way up to Washington we all started singing and dancing in the van.

Crystal Z

...my first rec. trip to Sahalie Falls. I also liked swimming in Spring Creek and the Williamson River during the second week. I also enjoyed the drive up to Washington.

Jacob R

...my nightly conversations with the guys of the group. Unleashing the beast and free time after work.

Shilo P

...learning more about the human body? The astounding beautifulness of Smith Rock and nature and everything that comes with it.

Kuit R

...how to get along with different people, how to leave a camp unnoticed, and having different conversations about weird topics.

Mindy C

Tyson as a leader, my crew as a crew, my worksites.

Anonymous

...campsites, the best crew, and the best crewleader. Tyson Rules!

Kelly L

Tyson as a crewleader and just being wonderful. Dancing in the van. Unleashing the beast with my favorite crew members.

Grace M

### ***One Thing I Will Always Remember...***

Chris made me almost pee my pants when she scared me

Mindy C

...seeing a deer swim.

Bryce D

...carrying a huge rock up a hill.

Jacob R

...how good it felt to sit down after a long hard day of work.

Crystal Z

...the words of Tyson and the crew "Shilo, you got a filthy mouth & mind"

Shilo P

...asking Bryce to make me a MAN!

John B

...how special it is to find a family so far from home.

Grace M

...the van ride to Washington. The longest funnest ride.

Crystal Z

...Smith Rock – jumping off a thirty foot bridge into the water.

Kuit R

***At NYC I Learned...***

...about awesome animals

Mindy C

...that no matter how nice or cool people are as individuals, as a group there is always going to be conflict and head bumping.

Kelly L

...not getting enough sleep sucks.

Bryce D

...how to unleash the beast. How to get along better with other people. A lot of work skills.

Jacob R

...to be more open minded about people and where they are coming from.

Tara B

...how much chipmunks get on my nerves and unleash the beast.

Shilo P

...how much I can really consume! How much I can sweat and muster dirt on my body. I have no limitations!

Kuit R

...how to speak out to others and learn about Oregon.

John B

...that I have more energy and will power than I thought.

Crystal Z

...the importance of love in a group for a worksite, campsite and living to be successful.

Grace M