



## **Youth Forest Camps – 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

OutDoor School • YouthCorps Programs • YouthWorks • 2621 Augusta Street • Eugene, OR 97403  
PH: (541) 349-5055 • FAX: (541) 349-5060 • Email: [nyc@nwyouthcorps.org](mailto:nyc@nwyouthcorps.org) • Website <http://www.nwyouthcorps.org>

## **Blue Crew**

### **Six Rivers National Forest Orleans Ranger District Somes Peak Trail**

#### Week 1: June 14 - June 21

We started out early Sunday morning splitting into our crews. Once our crew was assigned, Blue crew, we quickly packed our belongings and loaded the van. We were ready for our first mission! Yeah! So after we were all loaded we headed for Somes Peak in California. It was a long and windy ride, but we were ready to work. On Sunday evening we rolled into Oak Bottom Campground and set up camp for the night. Everyone got to go swimming in the freezing Salmon River. Monday morning we all piled into the van and went to the trail and we're ready for the four mile hike. It was a somewhat tough and long hike, but we made it. We reviewed a little about our tools and got to work. It was an overall long day. We ate the best dinner and went to bed! That was our weekend!

Jessica C

This week's challenges consisted of only a few obstacles and problems. First of all, the trail walking up was horrible! Then being the first week everyone had blisters and we weren't used to the work right yet. We did accomplish a lot this week though. We cleared one trail as far as we could go and saw some amazing sights. Most of all Blue crew learned how to work as a group (somewhat). But either way it goes from here, we have all made some new friends.

Bryan B

Our crew's goals for this week are to work together. We all want to finish our project. We all want the trail to be finished and look great! Also we just wanted to get along. I think another goal would be to take a shower every week. One other would be to have a fun time.

Colby R

Our project this week is maintaining and rebuilding trails. We are camping off the main trail of Somes Peak and maintaining a side trail that is four miles long. We are on our second day, (Tuesday) and are over half way up the trail and will start the main trail when we finish.

Daniel A

We learned how to clear trails and how to tread trail. We also learned how to smack mosquitoes and how to build a latrine. We learned how to set up a tent and the rest of the crew learned if they messed with me I will pee on their gear.

Shamah B

### **Siskiyou National Forest Illinois Valley Ranger District North Fork Smith River Trail**

#### Week 2: June 22 - June 28

Adrian and I hung out together. On Sunday we got packed up and hiked to our campsite. I tried calling my parents and left a message. I'm looking forward to this week.

Amanda B

We're working on Biscuit Hill to cut down burnt trees and plants. Because Joe forces us here. (Joking)

Brian B

This week we want to finish this trail so we can go into front country instead of back country and live.

Tyson F

This week we learned about survival in the backcountry. We learned about maps, hypothermia, dehydration, and wilderness survival skills. We have finished the upper section of our trail, it felt so good. The hike down from our worksite sucked. I just think to myself, I don't have to hike six miles to get to my worksite!

Renee D

Today our crew only had to work for five hours. Our goal was to begin the other half of our trail so we could finish the project a day early and have Friday off. We accomplished our six mile trail a day early so we could start a day early on our other half of trail. At the beginning of each of our trails, it was horrible beyond brushy, so that went very slow. But after we finished the brushy stuff, we cruised through. Everyone is getting along for the most part. There's a little bit of bickering going on but we're surviving! Yeah Blue crew! That's about all we did. Never mind, I lied, over the weekend we got Saturday off and we mostly sat around, slept, and played cards all day. It was a swell time, and nobody got cheeky. That's all.

Jessica C

### **Siskiyou National Forest Illinois Valley Ranger District North Fork Smith River Trail**

#### Week 3: June 29 - July 5

We got to sleep in and the rest of the day we just chilled and played cards cause there wasn't to do for your day off in the backcountry.

Shamah B

Our project was River Trail, Siskiyou National Forest and it's not that bad. We're next to a river so waters not a problem but the walking we do every day, I can live without.

Tyson F

Getting done with our work this week and more free time to rest are our goals for the week. But it's different with people, with me I want to do my best at doing my job and being a good friend.

Brian H

I think we learned how to get better at communication and our group work ethic. Another thing is our leaders; I think they learned how to control their tempers and better leadership skills. For me I think I learned how to use my time wisely.

Colby R

It's hard for us to work in hot weather; for some of us it's hard to hike up high hills and walk up and down hills or work more than two miles a day.

Brian H

### **Klamath National Forest Scott River Ranger District Wooley Creek Trail**

#### Week 4: July 6 - July 12

Let's see... Blue crew this week did lopping, lopping, and more lopping. Blue crew is positioned by Big Creek Lake and we are assigned to cover four miles of trail on the Wooley Creek Trail.

Joe stayed with us for a while and the experience was exciting. Ginger, he taught the crew how to play mafia. A week and a half left to go till graduation.

Renee D

Blue crew's mission for our two week back country project is to clear four miles of the Wooley Creek Trail. Peace of cake! I think not! There is massive brush and trees to clear. But not to worry, Blue crew is rippin it up! Without a doubt we'll finish our job and have a beautiful trail to show for it too. Go Blue crew! Back country rocks!

Jessica C

Our crew's goal for this week is to cut back all the brush and still make the trail look as natural as possible. Others include keeping food safe from deers and bears and also keeping all the crew members safe. Oh yeah, and the most important goal is to please the contacts. Another goal is to keep the quality of our work while still moving fast and on schedule. On a personal note I would like to add I really love this program.

Shamah B

We learned that two more weeks of back country isn't as bad as we thought it would be and our contact is all cool about our work so far which is nice and it also gives us motivation.

Tyson F

This week we camped at lower camp. We hiked nine miles up to Anamias camp and this our fourth week in the back country. We as a crew will spend all five weeks in back country. Our last project is four miles of trail work. We've done two miles of building water bars, removing bushes and trees, and making the trail 8 foot wide, with good tread on it. We finished our hike in good time, and no one got hurt. Our first day we did a mile of trail and we have been doing a great job of our work and everyone has had a good PMA. We have accomplished four week's of back country, and our contact is happy with our work.

Hiedi M

## **Klamath National Forest Scott River Ranger District Wooley Creek Trail**

### Week 5: July 13 - July 19

On Friday we had a half day of work. We then went back to our camp and hung out. We stayed up late on Friday. Snails did his P.H. Friday night. He had a good P.H., it was funny. He told about his crazy neighbors. On Saturday I woke up at 9:00 a.m. We took our time with breakfast. On Friday and Saturday we went to Big Elk Lake. I dipped in the water on Saturday. Colby did his P.H., it was cool, I went to sleep early on Friday night, and my weekend wasn't too bad. It couldn't have been better.

Amanda B

This week the project (once again) was brushing! The area we are in is totally beautiful. Every once and a while we come across a little stream or spring. We see deer every day and have seen a black bear just outside camp. Mainly we are clearing brush back away from the trail. We're all having fun out here.

Snails

I think the biggest goal this week was to reach the stage performing. Another one would be in complete the final job because we felt so good when we finished the trail in the burn. I would have to say the most definite goals would be to learn leadership skills and communication skills.

Colby R

This crew learned how to make water bars, maintain water bars and clean water bars! Stay hydrated, to put up with the annoying crew members, and have good p.m.a. (positive mental attitude), make trails for animals, and places for humans to cross streams and small rivers (my personal favorite). I'm happy to be working with NYC and I'm glad to be on the Blue crew. I learned that five weeks of backcountry is a lot of fun.

Daniel A

Our crew's only challenges this week were holding together as a team and the long hikes back from work. Our accomplishments were holding together strongly and busting out our trail in the exact time we had. Also, we accomplished finishing five weeks of back country without any major injuries and we still have our original ten crew members.

Brian B

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

...when we learned we would have backcountry all five weeks.

Renee D

...when we hiked six miles and we ran out of water.

Colby R

...when we were at Somes Peak the first week and all those mosquitoes and poison oak, it looked like I had chicken pox.

Jessica C

...the four mile hike the first week and making Joe carry my stuff the rest of the way.

Brian H

...the first week with having to get used to hiking a long ways.

Amanda B

...the first hike at Somes Peak and the five weeks of backcountry.

Shamah B

...the first day.

Daniel A

...is the first day at NYC saying goodbye.

Heidi M

...the last day in the actual burn when we ran out of water and had to hike six miles.

Bryan B

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

...when Shamah had monkey butt and he was walking like an old man. Another was when Joe said Somes Peak was the most beautiful site and we never saw it.

Colby R

...big fun with our group (especially murder), our crew was the only crew to start with ten people and end with ten, also camping at the Oasis.

Jessica C

...one of my favorite experiences was when we went swimming and fishing and Bryan fell into Big Elk Lake, when Scott took away Colby's hot cocoa privilege, and my last experience is kicking Scott's butt at the beach.

Bryan H

...they would have to be coming together and meeting each other for the first time. My (BIG) toot while push- up square and camping at Wooley Creek.

Renee D

...watching Shamah drink tomato soup, meeting Adrian, and also having fun with my crew.

Amanda B

...were fishing for brook trout at Big Elk Lake with Colby. My second fav. Experience (not in chronological order) was learning who my crew was. My third fav. Experience was making it down to the oasis after a week of working in de burn!

Bryan B

...swimming, going to the beach, seeing the ocean, and getting water with a bowl.

Heidi M

...clearing trail, rolling rocks, and meeting new people.

Daniel A

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

...how we all stuck together even when Steve was in charge and how funny it was when Renee tooted during a push-up square.

Jessica C

...how funny Jessica was when she tooted when she least expected it. And Jessica and my belching wars.

Renee D

...kicking Scott's butt at a log toss.

Brian H

...doing bof fighting with wooden sticks. I totally got bruised, it hurt a bit but it was really fun!

Amanda B

...getting to know my crew.

Daniel A

...how funny the crew is.

Heidi M

...the hikes that we took every day.

Tyson F

...this crew. Every person out here makes up this crew and nothing but graduation can split us up!

Bryan B

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

...treasure the softness and quality of toilet paper. Push myself even when I feel I can't do it. Listen to everyone's opinions and take their ideas into consideration.

Jessica C

...I would have to say I will always eat what I take.  
Colby R

... will always wait for judgment of others until I get to know them and to use lots of padding during rolly polly.  
Renee D

...being myself and letting Colby win.  
Brian H

...eat all the food I take and work better as a teammate.  
Amanda B

...think about my effect on the wilderness before I make choices.  
Shamah B

...music and freedom.  
Heidi M

...never take any thing for granted.  
Daniel A

...enjoy technology more.  
Tyson F

... think back to five weeks of backcountry every time I'm enjoying the simple luxuries of front country life.  
Bryan B

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

... was patience! Sometimes my crew could be obnoxious and difficult at times and it was tough to stay positive towards everyone.  
Jessica C

... how each person has their own unique quality (yet some may be annoying).  
Renee D

...to help each teammate, have good PMA! And hydration no matter what the weather.  
Amanda B

...patience, how to work with others, and PMA.  
Daniel A

...patience, how to work with others, and everyone is different.  
Heidi M

...patience is key, even when you wanna choke people. Iodine water causes bad gas and you have to get along with everyone to make the team work.  
Shamah B

...do not take the little luxuries of life for granted, be more social! There are a lot of nice people in the world, and with a tough task at hand, PMA is key!  
Bryan B

...you have to work hard for what you want. Every obstacle is an opportunity, and leadership is a hard responsibility.  
Colby R

...be yourself, take what's at hand, and be there when someone needs you.  
Brian H

## Orange Crew

### Oregon Caves National Park Siskiyou National Forest Cliff Nature Trail

#### Week 1: June 14 - June 21

We started out with orientation. Learned how to set everything up and how to use tools and stoves etc... Sunday we got our crew, went through our stuff to make sure we had everything, did our chores. Then we headed into town. We came back to camp and did our SEED, then did dinner and played a game of baseball, and then we went to bed.

Jeremy S

This week we are staying at base camp with my crew of all guys. We are doing trail maintenance at the Oregon Caves. Yesterday we started our first day of work we went up with our contact and he showed us what needed to be done. We started on two separate rock walls. One of them was finished pretty quickly but the other one was quite a challenge. We finished at 4:30 with an eight and a half hour work day. After work we went for a swim. Then we did our chores, ate dinner, played wiffle ball and went to sleep. Today we woke up fairly early, ate breakfast went to work with Joe. We worked hard all day and now here we are tired as hell.

Ted G

Our goal for this week has been to finish fixing up the trail at the Oregon Caves. Today we finished our goal by running our dirt filled helmets down to the bottom of the trail to finish it off. Since we finished today our reward is working in the Caves for half of the day now for the rest of the day. Now for the rest of the week we get to relax more.

Paul B

We learned to work as a team. We pleased our contact and got all our work done and got more work, we lost a Pulaski. We learned to yell Rock !!! We learned that Joe is not really a hard worker. We learned the Matrix stretch by a matrix junkie named Ionica. We learned stuff about Oregon Caves. We learned what it is like to be a caver or miner.

Justin S

Our crew's fist challenge was for our crew to be able to work together. We had some rivals, but overall we over came our differences. Another challenge was to overcome dehydration. We had to challenge each other to work hard to get our work done. We accomplished everything our contact person asked us to do for them. Ben was a player for real. He guided us through the cave. We took buckets of rocks that were already in the cave. It was a waste of wonderful time but we liked it. We hiked to the biggest Douglas fir in Oregon. Then we got a tour of the cave. Our crew is tight!

Ionica H

We also had a heated confrontation in camp tonight between two tent parties. Those responsible for the pranks confessed to the group. The order is as follows: Justin poured shaving cream on Jeremy's head. Jeremy retaliated by unfilling Justin's air mattress. Justin then (not knowing who unfilled his air mattress) poured water on all of the other tent group's sleeping bags. We worked through it as a group and I talked to both Justin and Jeremy personally, they shook hands and squashed the situation. We will see what happens.

Don R

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Gold Beach Ranger District  
Illinois River Trail**

Week 2: June 22 - June 28

This weekend our crew went on different rec. trips. Don had the day off. I went with Tamara to a park. There was a hippy fest at Baby Foot Lake. We had a circle that night describing our role models, or someone we looked up to. Then we had a bunch of free time which most of the crew played basketball, or just hung out. Some went to the Oregon Caves, but I can't tell you much about it because I am running out of room.

Jeremy S

We are on the Illinois River Trail. Basically we are maintaining an old trail. We built a few rock walls, rock bars, and making forty-five degree angle trenches. It's beautiful, with thousands of trees burned. It's so wonderful it's like a picture torn out of a fantasy book. Our goal is to make nine miles of trail maintenance. It's so fun.

Ionica H

Our goal for the week is to get camp or as close to it as we can while we are working on the trail. Another goal for our group is to get all of our hours in by the end of the two weeks.

Jeremy C

We learned that heat makes you slightly irritable. Brand new files make for good sharpening. How to hike 5 miles with an 80 pound pack, and how to catch crawdads.

Anonymous

This week we had a lot of challenges to overcome and a lot of accomplishments like to start out we lost a crew member so it was a challenge to get all of our hours which we got. Then someone or some people didn't do inventory so we didn't have our tubbies, one broken scrubby, one small pot and we were missing lots of other things but we overcame that. Then the heat and dehydration was big. We were working in the burn so we had to drink lots of water and we ran out a few times but we managed through. We did get a huge portion of trail work done, we worked two nine hour days that were tough and we all worked as a team and pushed through it. The sun irritated some people and got the best of them and there was some yelling and stuff like that nothing major though. Then to fix that, we had a kind of counseling circle kinda thing I think all of our crew members are bonding and really getting to know and work with on another. All work as a team together.

Jeremy S

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Gold Beach Ranger District  
Illinois River Trail**

Week 3: June 29 - July 5

This weekend was very short. On Saturday we went on a hike to Fan's Ranch. It had a small house/barn type structure which was in use at the time. While we were there Don found a couple of old cross cuts. He wanted to take them, but couldn't. Then we had Sunday SEED because we worked on Sunday. Also we went swimming. That was our weekend pretty much.

Chris B

This week we were fixing some old trails. We are in the backcountry. We woke up about 4:00 a.m. to beat the sun. Our crew is doing really good. We are lopping and axing trees in the way. The trails we made are good, now we're making them great.

Ionica H

Our crew's goals for the week were to get as far as we can past our camp, fixing trail. Another goal was to use up most of our food, and to use the iodized water carefully because it was limited. One other crew goal that we have accomplished was to please the contact.

Paul B

Our crew learned the meaning of backcountry work. We packed all of our tools, food, and other gear in and out for miles. We also learned to stay away from snakes thanks to Ionica.

Anonymous

Our crew's challenge this week was saving food. We did not have enough. Another challenge was working on a Sunday so we could hike out Thursday. We worked very hard for five days. Then we hiked out on Thursday. Some other challenges were getting along with each other. There were a lot of hot days and heat can cause anger. One of our biggest challenges were catching crawdads, they pinched you if they got mad. Also one of our crew members was bitten by a snake. People had thought it was a rattle snake, but it wasn't. We overcame the hike to our campsite that was really hard. Peace out.

Ionica H

## **Six Rivers National Forest Orleans Ranger District Horse Ridge Trail**

### Week 4: July 6 - July 12

Our crew went to base camp. We got our mail on Friday. Saturday we went on a rec. trip. Then crew member's family's came to see them. Sunday we left for our campsite. We did Sunday SEED. Then we went to bed.

Ionica H

Lots of brush work including some tread work, more back country than front. Even basecamp is in Egypt. What were you thinking Joe? We are beautifying the trail for 3 hikers, it sees each century. Thanks for the front country project.

Derek S

Our goal for this week is to get to Lipp's Camp which is 3-4 miles up in the hills. Tomorrow is our last day since we have been working nine hour days so that we don't have to work on Friday, so that we can get back to basecamp earlier. So far we are on top of our goal.

Paul W

It was hard work, half the crew started working back at lunch with Tamara, the other half, and me, Ionica, Paul W, Paul B, and Joey worked on this huge log and did trail work. We almost got it out and the forest service will get it out. We cut through it with the cross cut pretty easy and we broke the Pulaski Joe gave us. I think we all busted our butts and worked hard. We have seen lots of deer this week and on Thursday we worked like a ten hour day and with the hike it equaled like a twelve and a half hour day, that's nuts! We all missed Joe this week too.

Jeremy S

Our crew faced a lot of challenges. One was the hike; it was a two hour hike almost. It was very long. Then there were the logs that had fallen. We crossed cut about five to six logs, which for the most part were huge, but we overcame the tasks with great pride. Also we went over what our contacts wanted us to work by approx. ten to twelve hours and we did it in four days. Some of us

worked a ten hour day while others worked an eleven hour day on Thursday. So in all we kick some serious butt this week!

Chris B

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Illinois Valley Ranger District  
Limestone/Mt. Elijah Trail**

Week 5: July 13 - July 19

This weekend our crew pretty much just kicked back and relaxed. On Friday night, the Red crew tried to act all big and started doing push-ups, so we decided to go and show them how real push-ups are done, in a "push-up circle". On Sunday morning we helped the Red crew pack up and then went to Lake Selmac and relaxed.

Paul B

This week we are doing basically all trail maintenance. What we are doing is working on the Mt. Elijah Trail. We are doing this because we want to bust out our last week. We want to show everyone what Orange crew is made of.

Ionica H

Our goal for this week was to make sure that we maintained trail up to the top of Mount Elijah. We completed our goal by lunch time today. We thought this was going to be a week long project but we have finished what we were supposed to do by the end of today. Luckily there are some trails that branch off from the main trail that need work so for tomorrow. Friday we will be working on those trails and finishing strongly, because we are all excited to have completed these rigorous past five weeks.

Ted G

Today we finished the main trail so we branched off to a different trail. After lunch we back tracked back to make sure the trail is perfect. We will continue to work on the trail tomorrow but after lunch we will start repairing the roads that lead up the trail.

Ace M

One challenge this week was finding enough trails to work on. It was also a challenge to get along with one another. One of the biggest challenges was to get through the last week and to not kick it into cruise control. Also it was hard to find work that would be challenging enough for all of us.

Jeremy S

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

...one of the first days on the job when I had to build a rock retaining wall that was pretty big and it was extremely frustrating because it didn't fit (the rocks).

Jeremy S

...when I and my crew had to hike in all of our gear and work for four more hours after carrying 70-80 lb backpacks.

Ted G

...on our two week project where we had to hike in our food and supplies. Backpacks were terrible.

Ionica H

...when we all had to work together on the same bump line on the hottest day of the year.

Joey C

...the first day. I had no idea what to expect. It was kinda weird.  
Chris B

...when we had to hike six miles with our packs out in the wilderness.  
Paul B

...hiking out in the burn at the Siskiyou burn about five miles in the heat with a crappy wheelbarrow.  
Paul W

...the first day was the most difficult because I was out of shape and unprepared.  
Zachary Z

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

...building a rock wall, using a cross-cut, and weekend site.  
Chris B

...using cross-cut. Taking a shower, hanging at the lake.  
Ace M

...using the cross-cut, weekend trips, and cooking in the back country.  
Paul B

...catching crawdads. Hiking over seven miles a day, and weekend sites.  
Ionica H

...meeting new people, working hard hiking and at work site especially using the cross-cut, and seeing all the beautiful sites I've seen.  
Anonymous

...seeing beautiful sites all around or feeling like we accomplished something after a hard day and walking away with my fatty check on the last day.  
Paul W

...working with a team seeing Mount Shasta from Mount Elijah, and seeing the beautiful sight of Biglow Lake.  
Jeremy C

...the Oregon Caves, the Trinity Alps, and swimming in the rivers.  
Anonymous

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

...the beautiful views while hiking to our worksites.  
Paul B

...the hard day's work we put in everyday.  
Ionica H

...is the dirt line at the Oregon Caves. I ran for about thirty minute's non-stop. It sucked.  
Chris B

...the whole experience. I think it helped me very much and had a blast through the whole thing (and can't wait to come back).  
Jeremy S

...is actually getting through this program and all the hard work we put in and the work we accomplished.	Paul W
...I'll remember all of the beautiful scenery and nature.	Zachary Z
...the last week where I am extremely excited to go home.	Ted G
...we never got everyone to get along.	Derrick S

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

...not judge people before I get to know him/her.	Ace M
...have more respect for nature.	Jeremy C
...try and be more low impact and have more respect for nature.	Jeremy S
...believe that I can and not doubt myself.	Zachary Z
...respect nature and work to my fullest.	Paul W
...accept others views and opinions even if they do not agree with mine.	Ted G
...appreciate food and showers more.	Paul B
...do push-ups every day.	Paul S
...work my hardest on every job.	Ionica H
...be more considerate and patient of others. Also have more self-discipline.	Chris B

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

...it's good to listen to people's views. I'm a hard worker. You get one shower per week.	Ionica H
...it's good to sleep. I get along with most people. How to listen to people.	Paul B
...how to use cross-cut, how to iodize water, my limits.	Ace M

...how to push my limits and all the skills to be low impact and also how to do hard work.  
Jeremy S

...how hard I could work and how much a crew of ten can get done if they work hard.  
Paul W

...to be patient with others, to pace myself when hiking and working. To appreciate the people and things I take for granted at home.  
Ted G

...that I am capable of more than I thought, and should be more confident.  
Zachary Z

...that limits are meant to be broken, that people can be different than they seem, and that being homesick can make you stronger.  
Chris B

...how to bust it at the end of the day. How to get all my chores done to have more free time. How to work hard with people I had never met or known before.  
Jeremy C

## Red Crew

### **Bureau of Land Management Roseburg Bureau of Land Management Broken Leg Pruning**

#### Week 1: June 14 - June 21

If I could describe our work site in words it would be beautiful because the air is fresh and trees are green and everything is pure.

Bobby O

The van ride was way long and by the time everyone crawled out of the van everyone just wanted to crawl in a sleeping bag. But we all stayed strong and got everything done. Word!

Krystle Z

Our project, our first project, is just outside of Roseburg, a Bureau of Land Management site called Broken Leg. We're sawing off all the limbs of trees in this sort of tree farm so that the Bureau of Land Management can find out more about how they grow so hopefully there will be less cutting down of old growth forests some day.

Chrystal B

Our crew is trying to finish these trees that we have to trim.

Neal D

I learned a lot about safety on the worksite and the crew learned a lot about how to prune. We have been getting along very well and have become a family.

Katherine F

We had many challenges but we got all our work done and made friends with the trees. I think and feel that the Red crew is coming together well and we will march on to be great.

Anonymous

### **Siskiyou National Forest Illinois Valley Ranger District Kalmiopsis Rim Trail**

#### Week 2: June 22 - June 29

Our crew worked four hours on Friday pruning trees, then picked up camp and headed for showers and laundry. After we finished that we went to basecamp. We were the first crew back at basecamp. Oh, Saturday we had rec. trips. Most of the Red crew went to the River Festival; others went swimming and some to a park. On Sunday we packed up, also Red crew was first back and out. We got to camp, set up, and went swimming at Baby Foot Lake.

Krystle Z

I met onion camp and we are building a trail, we learned how to do water bars and dig out water trenches that ruined the trail then we have to start another trail for the horse's packers to come through.

Katherine F

What we did this weekend. The things we did this weekend were that we first went on a recreation trip. They went to Baby Foot Lake, the Illinois River Fest, and Griffin Park. That was all on Saturday. Then on Sunday all the crews got back together and packed our trailer and headed to onion campsite. Then we came back from swimming in the two lakes.

Adrian B

Our goals for this week are a tad peculiar. First we're doing some bomber trail improvement on four miles of treacherous terrain and then we're clearing another four or five miles of another trail.  
Chrystal B

Our crew learned how to build trail, we also learned how to make rock water bars.  
Adrian B

This week being our first week of backcountry was full of challenges. The first day of work was probably the most difficult, it was freezing cold and the hike to work was long and very trying. Through our exhaustion and other obstacles (like Sparky the giant tree) we finished all of the trail and worked all of our hours.  
Chrystal B

**Siskiyou National Forest**  
**Illinois Valley Ranger District**  
**Kalmiopsis Rim Trail**

Week 3: June 29 - July 5

This weekend wasn't a normal weekend for our crew. We worked a half a day on Friday and then hiked about a mile to Baby Foot Lake for some relaxation time. Saturday we woke up early and hiked eight miles to our new camp. Then we had all day off on Sunday!  
Chrystal B

Our project this week is a challenge and amazing. We are located at Cold Springs. We are working on trail. The reason we are working on the trail is because it needs to be repaired.  
Anonymous

This week the Red crew is going to be busting out some serious trail improvements. Our goal is to transform a somewhat rugged six miles of trail into a beautiful ribbon of trail running through the forest.  
Chrystal B

Everyone was up early and broke down camp. Had a wonderful breakfast and a great campfire then off to work to finish the trail. We only have to work five hours then we go for our great hike back to the van. Stop for a possible swim at Baby Foot Lake.  
Krystle Z

Oops, we had a day off today and the crewleader forgot to get someone to fill out the journal. Friday rocked. Had today off to run about and shower and launder and spend money frivolously. It was super and hot. Sam barfed cuz he ate too much bad stuff. Krystle was cordial with laundry folk, Adrian hung out with Bobby. Simone gave me a cell phone, Neal skateboarded as did Heidi and Steve and I basically just made our laundry dirtier in those washers. Great day. We're the best RED!  
Anonymous

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Illinois Valley Ranger District  
Sucker Creek Trail**

Week 4: July 6 - July 12

This weekend Red crew spent their time at base camp and went on recreational trips to Griffin Park and Stout Grove. We also participated in Saturday night circle and answered two different questions. One question was how did your impression of NYC change in the last few weeks from the beginning? The other question was if you could change one thing about the world what would it be and why? We also had free time to take a break from our last week of hard work.

Heidi F

The Red crew's project for the fourth week is bucking logs and maintaining the trail of Sucker Creek. The purpose of this project is to provide a sufficient trail for hikers and horseback riders.

Heidi F

Our crew has set a goal to do more trees than the Yellow crew and get the project done! Everyone was very tired but definitely working their butts off. Also, a lot of tension about slowly making it through, everyone looking forward to weekend LDT is coming to stay with the two crews at base camp! Yeah!

Krystle Z

We bucked logs and had fun laughing but we also came together as a crew and Zimmer had twenty-four hours of PMA and I hurt myself forty-two times (yeah) but all and all we had fun and busted our butts.

Bobby O

Our crew challenge was that we had to move a really large tree named "Bertha"; we also had to remove a pinched saw from a log. Neal and Sam were especially troublesome today. They harassed the staff and corps members alike while extorting the woods boss. The crew removed a lot of really big logs this week with the power they derived from eating seaweed and vanilla pudding casserole made in bowls with spoons. The evil swamp sprite showed up and tied Molly to the porta-potty. The name of the evil swamp thing is Chrystal B who has been gunning for the top since the beginning.

Adrian B

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Galice Ranger District  
Waters Creek Riparian Thinning**

Week 5: July 13 - July 19

Basecamp with Orange crew and LDT it was a lot of fun. LDT was in charge of the rec. trips. It was awesome, Red crew found out that we get to work with LDT for a week. They are so uplifting and cool! We left for camp on Sunday and now we're here!

Krystle Z

The LDT and Red crew are clearing out drainage ditches, reducing fuel load and building slash piles. With the chainsaw, we go through and cut anything 25 foot away from the middle of the drainage ditch, it includes anything 4 inches in diameter to 6 inch pieces and piling.

Krystle Z

Our goals were to bust butt and get as much piling as we could and impress our contact and stomp LDT, to have lots of PMA.

Katherine F

Basically our crew learned to recognize and stay away from poison oak, but most of us contracted it anyway.

Sam L

Our challenges were to do twelve acres of drainage and getting up in the morning early and tolerate our great selves. We succeed all that with high honors and more. We actually had fun with LDT and we still are. It's all good.

Sorin H

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

...our eight mile hike into the backcountry and it was horrible. We were out of water for three hours.

Anonymous

...the week we cross-cut, it was the first time for me.

Anonymous

...Molly picked four of us to go back on a big walk, I was beyond my limit!

Anonymous

...working on an eight mile trail and not having any food, only water.

Anonymous

...the eight mile hike to our third week worksite was eight miles instead of only five miles and during the middle of the hike we ran out of water.

Katherine F

...when we walked a four and a half mile hike and I got the worst blisters on my feet and had to keep working and walking no matter what.

Heidi F

...the first day at basecamp it was different all the way! Lots of expectations

Sorin H

...the first day of the second week when it was freezing cold and we had to go up Eagle Mountain.

Chrystal B

...the first moment I got out of the truck and met my crew. I was so scared!

Anonymous

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

...when me, Zimmer, and Kat hung out chillin with Jose at basecamp and Steve, Molly, and I around the campfire.

Sam L

...the car rides, laundry, and showers.

Krystle Z

...taking showers and dumping the trash and the van ride to basecamp.

Anonymous

...the van rides with my crew, while listening to the radio, working hard, and having a great crosscutting partner.

Anonymous

...working with Steve on the Smile Trail and bucking 6 logs. Meeting Simone and becoming better at rappin.

Anonymous

..the first day that Simone came and we were all lopping and having a great time. Meeting everyone and finding out how awesome they were. Krystle and I were picking on Sam chasing him and I tripped and Krystle and Sam both almost fell after.

Kat F

...listening to music during the van rides. Laughing with my crew, and working really hard.

Heidi F

...bumping Kat at work. Singing with Molly and early morning rides to work in the minibus.

Chrystal B

...the feeling of a hard day at work. Warm and light mornings with no pain.

Sorin H

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

...running from Kat and Zimmer when they were throwing sticks at me.

Sam L

...throwing the sticks at Sam and laughing my but off!

Krystle Z

...what poison oak looks like!

Chrystal B

...the beautiful hike after we finish working on Sucker Creek and my bouquet of wild flowers.

Anonymous

...what work is.

Adrian B

...most of the great laughs I had with the Red crew.

Heidi F

Krystle and I picking on Sam in the backcountry and throwing sticks at him as he was running to his tent.

Anonymous

...how much I still hate my blood being sucked out by the mosquitos.

Sorin H

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

...respect nature as a beautiful thing and appreciate the complexity of it all.

Sam L

...work like there is no other chance to do it. Sharpen tools better and work faster and harder.

Anonymous

...pay better attention to how to lead people as individuals.  
Chrystal B

...not judge people and being happy.  
Anonymous

...be more productive and work harder.  
Anonymous

...have lots of PMA thanks to my crew, respect people and be the strongest leader I can.  
Katherine F

...think of nature in a different way. Whenever I take a walk in the woods I will think of my NYC experience.  
Heidi F

...how to use the tools we use at NYC.  
Anonymous

...respect and get to know and give the people I meet more of a chance.  
Sorin H

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

...to respect nature and treat others with respect.  
Sam L

...how to work hard and do everything the first time. I learned more about life in general.  
Anonymous

...a lot about myself and the environment.  
Anonymous

...how to take on more responsibility, get the most enjoyment out of the smallest things and how to learn something meaningful from everyone I come from everyone I came in contact with.  
Chrystal B

...more about my natural environment that I could work harder than I thought I could, and life has many great opportunities to take hold of.  
Heidi F

...to let go and patience when it comes to annoying people. About myself and my limits. Appreciating others for how they are.  
Sorin H

...how to talk to people more and to build trails and other things.  
Anonymous

...how to use the Pulaski, cross-cut, hog and hazel hoes, and all the other tools as well as doing trail maintenance.  
Anonymous

A lot about myself and how I interact with others and a lot about how much love I have for nature.  
Katherine F

## Yellow Crew

### **Siskiyou National Forest Illinois Valley Ranger District Sucker Creek Trail**

#### Week 1: June 14 - June 21

Well today was our first day at work, and I hardly have the power to write this. Yesterday we saw a puppy, Dalmatian get hit, that was rather disturbing but I hate to dwell on the crappy stuff. Today Tamara, Brandon, Kurt, and I moved a 400-500lb rock, which was intense. We got off to a relatively slow start, but that can be expected on the first day. We went down to the creek to swim today, but only one person actually got wet. I felt sorry for Nolita, she spent a ton of time inflating her swim float, just to sit on the bank. Most of my sympathy goes out to Yvonne, however; she got some lotion in her eyes, and in a panic tried washing her eyes out with pink lemonade. Well I gotta scrub out the cooler.

Jack G

My crew's project this week is to buck logs and build trails, or re-fix up the trail. We are almost a mile in; we need to build two and a half miles of trails. We are at Sucker Creek and it is excellent! We sometimes get to swim, A.K.A, wade. It is really nice considering only showers on weekends. We are clearing the trails for people, so they can actually see them and hike them. Also we are cutting back the bushes so horses can walk through.

Yvonne P & Amanda H

Today we started work but had to go to the hospital cuz Kelly had two bloody noses, spit-up blood, and had some intestinal bleeding which ended up being a false alarm. We were very scared for her and were very relieved to find out she was okay. We went back to work and busted out! It was a great day.

Christopher D

We all learned our limits and limitations mentally as well as physically. We learned a lot about each other and how we work together. We also learned that the Pulaski is everyone's favorite tool and crosscuts suck. We also learned a lot of good stuff from our OSHA as well as our SEEDS. It was a great week even though it was a hard core experience for all of us.

Kelley G

Our crew's challenge was to just stay alive and make all of our hours. Our accomplishments were that we covered 1.6 miles of trail and bucked logs and by staying alive, means not killed by bears. Our crew came together like butter on bread. We went from not knowing each other to being like family in a matter of days. Some of us grew a lot this past week persevering through many personal obstacles. We all were mentally and physically challenged by the end of the week. I'm very proud of my crew for busting it out and sticking to it, go Yellow crew!

Anonymous

### **Josephine County Parks and Recreation Department Lake Selmac Park Trails**

#### Week 2: June 22 - June 29

This weekend our crew split up and went on recreational trips. I went to Griffin Park. That was cool. We played ultimate Frisbee, which was very competitive. Then we came back and ate BBQ chicken, which compared to PBJ, was superb. This whole next two weeks we will be at basecamp. That is cool because we get toilets and cots. Things are presently a little tense between crew members, but I think it will all blow over.

Kurt W

We are at Lake Selmac in Selma and we are doing trail maintenance so that people can walk the trails and safely enjoy the park.

Anonymous

Well it seems that we have already busted a lot of trail. The trail that was given to us we finished this morning and moved to the other side of the river to continue maintenance. Tension in our crew is noticeable. Our crew's goals for the week are to reduce the general drama so we can just concentrate on work and fun.

Anonymous

Yellow crew learned about how unnecessarily sucky it is to fight and gossip and be dramatic. We also learned about discrimination, sexism, homophobia, and racism, and the issues surrounding the USA Patriot Act. We also learned how to tie some knots like the rabbit in the hole with the tree knot, the bowline.

Anonymous

The crew's greatest challenge for week two was definitely getting along. Numerous conflicts between corpsmembers made tension run high. At the same time, despite this tension we were able to succeed in doing tremendous work for our contact and putting a proud NYC stamp on our work there. Poison oak also became a challenge this week. Jeremy's farts were a major set back for the group, but we were all able to rally. Kelley and Chris also played some quality tennis.

Russ B

## **Siskiyou National Forest Illinois Valley Ranger District Pruning**

### Week 3: June 29 - July 5

Met contact at 7:30. We followed him to our worksite where we were given detailed instructions on how to complete our job. We spent the rest of the day pruning the trees in a twenty foot triangle to nine feet high. We made great progress the first day. Hope to keep up the good work.

Jeremy B

About 300 plus trees today... Intense! No drama thank god. Got to spend some quality time with Nolita. I feel a lot smarter; hope the rest of the week is as productive as today. If it is we got another contract for sure.

Jack G

The crew's goals have been to complete the full twenty acres by the end of the week. Our arms are pretty tired but morale has been rockin. Brandon and Jeremy started a country duet, busting out "Honkey Tonk Bar Association" and "Rodeo" and other county favorites twangy enough to make Kurt's skin crawl. The PMA made me feel great and work harder and it is the first time I've seen the group perform with this great of an attitude. Nolita reclaimed her fame as the Jukebox on the crew and started accepting requests. Jeremy and Brandon and I struggled to put together the words to Baton Rouge. No success yet. Overall, my goals for the crew this week are to work hard, get tired, and maintain PMA, have lots of fun pruning.

Russ B

Dear yellow crew, when you get this journal it will hopefully give you a smile. Today is Thursday, one day after "half week" "half session" and our crew is pruning, yeah. Not much to talk about but tonight we are at base and Kelley and Amanda are making enchilada pie. It's really good. Our mascot (Mandi), rescued a baby Praying Mantis. Well she was alive but sadly she only lived for a week after being rescued. So tonight we are remembering her by making her favorite dish, so enjoy Mandi, we love and miss you, love Nolita and Yellow crew.

Nolita S

Our crew's biggest accomplishment has been its attitude, a total skyrocketing jump from previous weeks. Biggest challenge was probably staying focused with such a large mountainous project and trying to make it interesting.

Russ B

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Gold Beach Ranger District  
Illinois River Trail**

Week 4: July 6 - July 12

We had fun at basecamp on Saturday then on Sunday we drove by the beach. After a short time on the beach we got to the trail head, packed up then hiked five miles. Today we worked. We started at the end and worked our way to camp. We had good progress.

Anonymous

We are doing trail maintenance on four miles of trail right outside of Gold Beach. We hiked in seven miles to our first campsite. It was rough and everyone struggled, but pulled together as a team. The project consists of widening tread, moving rocks, falling trees, shrub removal, hiking crazy hills during work, and working together. We are doing this project to make hikers happy and to get paid on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Kelley G

My crew's goals for the week are to get just a little bit more trail done further from our campsite. We have quite a bit to do. Some more goals are we have to build lots of culverts. We are doing excellent moving at a good pace. We are also very tired from our hike but we are still kicking butt. We've been on top of things for a good time now and I am hoping that we all can get this project done in the amount of time we have to do it in so that we can feel happier knowing we got another project out of the way.

Yvonne P

Today we got pretty far working. It was pretty hard, since it was a lot of gravel moving. We have been working pretty hard, and have been basically "family". The food is good, a-okay, and the water is great! I like the scenery where we are too. I love my crew! Go Yellow crew!

Amanda H

The crew has just finished the first week of backcountry. It has been a new experience for all of them. We are camped at Connor's Place, which is a strange plot of land on the Illinois River, full of weird leftover junk. We are camped near the water and right below us is a green blue lagoon with yellow algae along the rocks. The other side of the river there is a huge rock that rises 500 feet and it looks like a waterfall used to run down there. The crew really likes rolling big boulders into the water. This week we learned stuff about how public lands are managed, geology, and the LORAX by Dr. Seuss. We also grubbed a lot of slamin Parma Rosa and Tuna Trio.

Russ B

**Siskiyou National Forest  
Gold Beach Ranger District  
Illinois River Trail**

Week 5: July 13 - July 19

On Saturday we moved camp from Conner's Place to Frans Ranch. After we did move camp we decided to go swimming at Indigo Creek. We stayed there most of the day and went back and ate

and then went to sleep. On Sunday we worked! Wa-Who ! Well we worked all the way to where we were supposed to work, I was great.

Destiny S

We are still in the woods, tomorrow we're moving out. Today we split up. Half the crew stayed with Russ and fixed the Indian Flat Trail, while the rest went with Emily and forged ahead. They got all the way up to Buzzard's Roost. Tomorrow we're done.

Kurt W

Today we hiked out of the Calmiopsis wilderness via the Illinois River Trail. It was our last day of work (hooray!) and now we are at the beach after a much needed shower and laundry. I really look forward to our next two days here in Port Orford. The five weeks are up and I'm going to miss everyone dearly.

Jack G

This crew learned or found out what it's like waking up at 4:00am and eating coos-coos for breakfast. We hike out five miles from the time we started our hike. We also stopped along the way to fix up the trail that the contact said needed to be done. We learned a lot about patience when the slow hikers had to hike in the front of the line so we would all be together. That's pretty much what we did. We did though get a lot done before our hike out and so we didn't have to go back.

Yvonne P

Last day of the session before graduation and the crew has really done well and pulled together. Everyone is asleep now. The past few days we finished up at Port Orford, Kurt's hometown, where we camped on a cliff above the beach, learned about how the money we spend affects people farther away, played a lot on the sand, and had a excellent pizza dinner followed by chocolate bread pudding courtesy of Emily. The crew's challenges this week were getting along as a crew for the homestretch and maintaining PMA. Eating Jeremy's chocolate couscous breakfast, but Emily, Yvonne and I and a few others found it to be delish. Our major accomplishments included the Indigo Creek Trail reroute and Jack's and Yvonne's and my beautiful retaining wall. Amanda's steps, Chris and Kelley's drainage ditches, Kurt and Jack, and Des's and Amanda's colverts, and lots of trail maintenance. The hikers had great compliments on our work. Thank you Yellow crew for a great session.

Russ B

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

...the second day we were at Lake Salmac, and we were all fighting. It was a really hard day to get through without killing someone.

Destiny S

...one of those days at basecamp when we were all not getting along, and I wanted to quit!

Amanda H

...the third week the crew was hard on me and I wanted to leave. I managed to stick it out, it was miserable.

Nolita S

...when I cut my finger on first week.

Yvonne P

...the hike out into back country, it was tough on me.

Jeremy B

...the hike into back country was one of the most challenging days at NYC.

Kurt W

...when my mom came to visit and I knew I was heading into backcountry for two weeks. When I was leaving and she was still there at basecamp, that was tough.

Jack G

...was our first nights hike into backcountry I was exhausted!

Kelley G

...was the fifth week.

Chris D

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

...chillin at base camp, week two rec. trip, and Connors place in backcountry "Paradise"

Kelley G

...rope swing, big fun, and free time.

Chris D

...rec. trips, hanging out, and that day that we all worked together and it went fast.

Destiny S

...meeting and hanging out as a crew. Driving a handicapped cart through a super market. Making life-long friends, and working hard. Not having life being about what you have, instead who you are.

Kurt W

...realizing who is real and cool, swimming, and hiking in the Kalmiopsis.

Jack G

...the trip to the caves was very memorable and the days off from backcountry. The beach was great and the times at base with all four crews.

Jeremy B

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

...judgment of others doesn't matter, it's what you believe.

Nolita S

...the one thing I will always remember at NYC is to learn people's differences.

Yvonne P

...the great people I met at NYC.

Kurt W

...the good times out in the woods and whatnot.

Jack G

...the views that we had out in the backcountry were incredible and amazing.

Jeremy B

...the friendships.

Destiny S

...is all the friends I have had.

Brandon W

...a challenge may not seem rewarding until the end. Kelley G

...is the beach. Chris D

...Brandon and Jeremy attacking each other with Destiny's swimming suit top at the beach! Amanda H

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

...not wipe with poison oak. Kurt W

...be a team payer. Chris D

...respect that my mom does my dishes. Destiny S

...say "Bump" when doing the dishes by habit! Amanda H

...not try so hard to be a part of a crew, when they take you for granted. Nolita S

...try my hardest at everything. Yvonne P

...not judge anyone without getting to know them first. Jeremy B

...be more conscious of others opinions and know when to keep my mouth closed. Kelley G

...look at how a trail is made. Brandon W

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

...leadership. Chris D

...that I should give more than one chance to each person. Brandon W

...patience, patience, patience! Destiny S

...that negativity is like a disease and the strong are the ones who can cure it! Kelley G

...to understand and respect other people's point of views and or opinions! Amanda H

...what it's like to be able to hike eight miles with backpacks and do good.

Yvonne P

...that in the end hard work will always pay off.

Jeremy B

...a good work ethic.

Kurt W