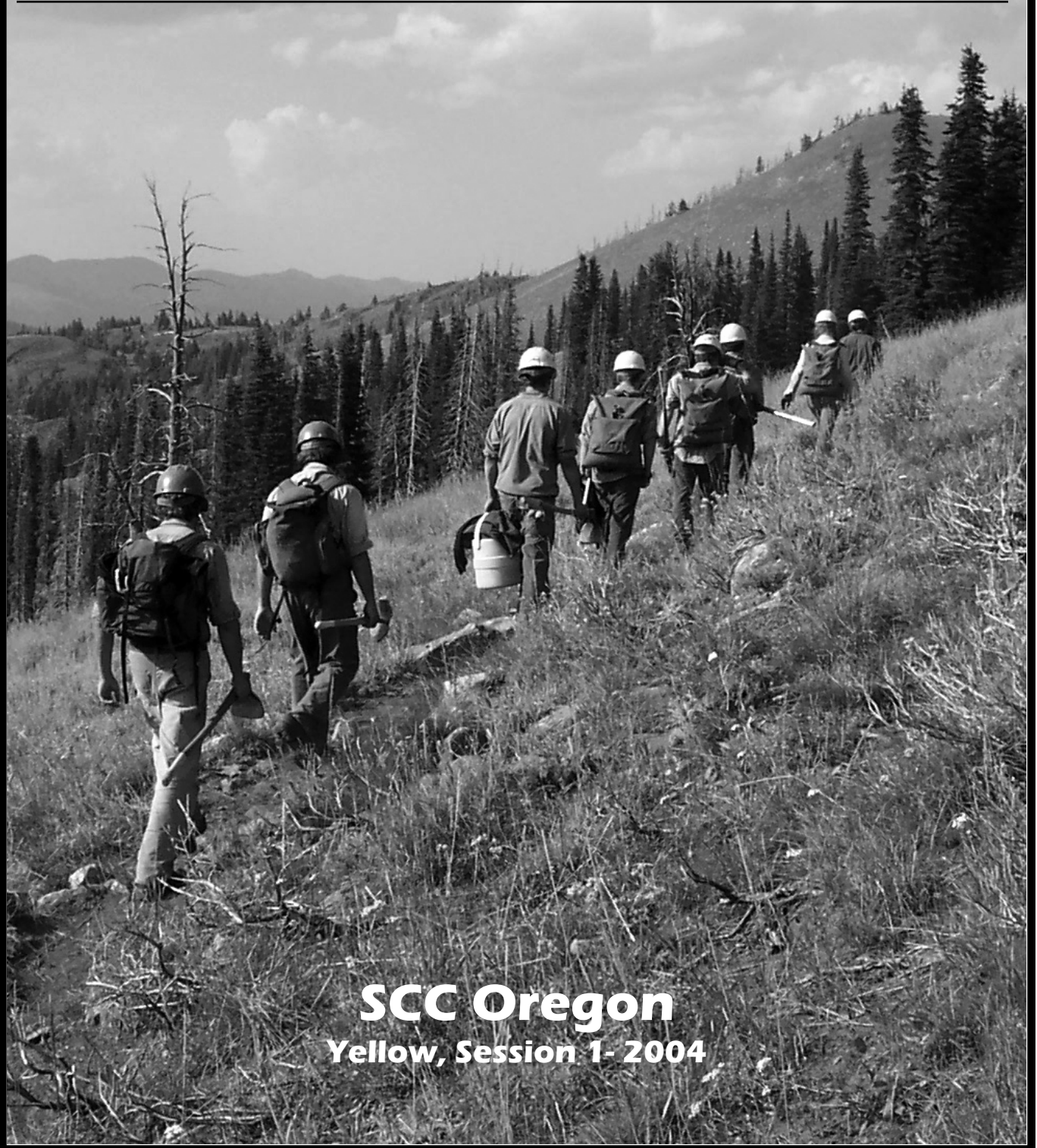




Crew Journal



SCC Oregon
Yellow, Session 1- 2004



Well, it's that time of year here at NYC, with the final tool count completed and the vans neatly tucked into their winter parking spaces, its time to sit back, reflect on the season and start recounting the tales of adventure and hardship that you'll someday tell your grandkids. This journal is a small reflection of your crew's experiences this year; footnotes, scribbled at the end of a long day by hands aching from swinging a tool. To anyone else who hasn't lived outside for over a month, done a safety circle at 5:30 AM, done the pushup-challenge, or chugged a gallon of vesper, these notes might not seem like much. But I hope that for you they are a small key to unlocking memories that will stay with you for a lifetime. And I'm not just referring to memories of smelly vans, blistered feet, and poison oak rashes. Sure that's all part of the gig; but it's the shared hardships that bring people together and forge memories of good friends, great achievements, and incredible places.

Thank you for taking on the adventure of NYC this season. With your commitment, courage and hard work NYC crews have left a lasting legacy. 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 an all too-large meal; up to twenty-one 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!

As you embark on your next adventure, whatever it may be, remember the things you did here. Remember the challenges you faced and that nothing is impossible. All you need is a fistful of gorp, a PB&J and some good friends in your bump line. Make it happen!

Best Wishes,

Joe Waksmundski
Program Manager

Linn County Parks & Rec.
Project Name- River Bend Park

Week 1: Date: June 14th

Sunday: June 13th Today was our first day together as a crew! After separating into our different colored groups everyone began packing each van and trailer. Once that was done the vans filled with each enthusiastic group and we were off for our 5 week journey! After about a two hour drive to our work site we saw the sign, Camp attitude and realized we had arrived. Once the gate was opened our excited really began.

All of us in the van and towing the trailer; drove down a non pavement road. We went till we came at the end of the road. So Kat our crew leader had to drive in reverse. We then had to wait till Kat got back looking for a campsite. Cat finally started driving everybody in it; and got stuck in the mud. So every body except the crew leaders worked on the tent. It was drizzling at the time. While Sara and Cat worked on getting the van unstuck. It didn't work. So every body of the crew helped get the van out of the mud. Except Cat was in the van. Some people got dirty from trying to move the van. It was a lot of team work. We had to push the van so it would get unstuck. It was hard work but we got it done.

Monday: WE arrived at camp and met each other. We then found out what we were doing and the rules. After dinner it was time for bed. The next morning we found out who our crew was, met each other and loaded up the van. We arrived at camp got the van stuck in mud, set up camp and had a blast getting the van out of the mud. Katlyn B.

Tuesday: Were a little bit out of Sweet Home building a new trail around to periphery of a soon to be campground/public park. We've forged through a good chunk of the trail yesterday and today and I find when using the bump method we get the most work done in a shorter amount of time. More then when people zone out doing their own thing. Our crew is working together really well and for the most part I think it will be a smooth journey. Ashlee W., Chris H.

Wednesday: one of the main goals for our crew this week is to work in harmony with each other in building a brand new trail by the end of the week. We are meeting the challenges of staying motivated and keeping a positive attitude all week. So far our crew is doing a good job at keeping our spirits up and meeting our goals. Genevieve V.

Thursday: So far this week our crew has learned a lot. We have learned a lot about how to use all the tools. We also learned the "yeti". Another thing that we learned about building new trail is that nicer rocks really to build through. By the end of the week we should have learned all that we need to become trail building machines and to get us through the next four weeks.

Friday: Dust, sunlight & another anonymous road. The trail seems more familiar than the rooms of my home. My vision is blurred & the fabric of life seems to sharpen as my senses dull. I find reality in the some context of television. I am beginning to look deeper into the well. Beyond the reflection of the sky & fern. As Robert frost said "for once then something"

National Forest; Fremont
Ranger District Paisley
Project Name- National Rec trail

Week 2: Date: June 21st

Sunday: what we did this weekend was we got mail on Saturday and then on Sunday we went on the rec. trips and some of our crew got split up and some went to see waterfalls and the lake and some also went on an old growth forest. And then on Sunday Kaitlen went home in the morning and after that we started towards Fremont and we drove forever but now were here at the camp site and its all good.

Monday: Last weekend, our crew arrived first at the weekend site. We set up and did various routine things until Saturday afternoon. We split up and mingled with the other crews and went on rec. trips. Then we came back and did more of the same until Sunday. On Sunday we packed up, found out where we were going, then left. Our campsite @ Fremont is convenient and has a toilet. Brent

Tuesday: Our project this week is to mainly fix up an old but not that old trail some of it is kind of new but yah. We are at national recreation trail at Fremont national forest. We are doing this trail for horses & hikers. It is very hot & very dirty. We have gotten a long long way on this 3 mile trail we'll be able to do it. Ashlee W.

Wednesday: This week our crew had many various goals. Our goal for our worksite was about 3 ½ miles of trail maintenance and 500 ft. of laying gravel. So far we are doing well at achieving the goals that were set out for us. At this point in the week we've already finished almost 3 miles and laid all the gravel. Besides the working part of our goals we also had goals to make our living situation much easier for everyone within camp. The main goal was to just keep things within camp. The main goal was to just keep things within camp mellow. This has been pretty well achieved, but small community living obviously brings out less mellow situations at some point. Amy

Thursday: I'm on my second day as an alternate in the yellow they are all hard worker and pretty much a real mellow group of kids. It seems like this session will be a little easier than last year but I plan to have a lot of fun this year. WE should finish the trail we were working on by tomorrow and everybody is real excited to go back to the weekend site. I want to meet the rest of the crews. Shamah B.

Friday: Regarding the prompt, I'd rather not. The muse speaks only when the mind is quiet & when the body is mechanized. The mind & body seem to separate under the blazing & beatings of the seemingly incessant sun. My view of the world shifts, my mind becomes as curious as an explorer or a child. Everything, looks different the world is shifting & my attempting contemplation. I see everything as it is, will be, should be, could be, & would be. Yet that is just a fraction of all of the possible realities in which we live. Brandon D.

National Forest: Willamette NF
Ranger District Detroit RD
Project Name- Little N Santiam trail # 3338

Week 3: Date: June 28th

Monday: This weekend our crew packed up and left from the Fremont National Forest. We drove about three hours to the weekend site we attempted to get our clothes washed but we were fooled by the small Laundromat. On Saturday we went to do our rec. trips. Some crews went to Crater Lake and others went to a lake. On Sunday we left to the Salem area on the way there we got a talking to by a cop. Eric

Tuesday: We are at Little North Santiam, we are doing a trail actually trail maintenance, we have some big projects to do that involve lots of work & rocks. We are maintaining this trail so that the trail won't diaper in about a year so we are just mainly helping. We are here for 2 weeks Kelsey M.

Wednesday: for our worksite these 2 weeks we are doing 4.5 miles of trail maintenance on the little North Santiam trail 3338. So far we have worked on structures that we have never worked on before such as water bars, retaining walls, and other things as such. The crew is learning how to build these structures quite well which is good since we will have many more opportunities to build them as we continue on down the trail. Amy

Thursday: This week in my opinion we have learned to deal with attitudes of others. I believe that we are all getting annoyed by each other at least once a day. And we are learning that being around each other & working with each other all day every day, someone will get annoyed. But I think we have learned to deal with it a tad more than we would at home. Ashlee W.

Friday: Our mental and physical limits were tested this week. We were challenged by varying buckets and buckets and buckets of river rock up to build rock walkways across super rooty sections. Our mental limits were pushed when we discovered we'd have to learn more about each other than we'd ever thought! We persevered through and made it, each member stepping up to "take one for the empire." Coons

National Forest: Willamette NF
Ranger District Detroit RD
Project Name- Little North Santiam Trail

Week 4: Date: July 4th

Sunday: July 4th How do you make people think?
How to lead the horse to water & have it drink
Does the horse care?
About the water that lays there?
Would it revolt, stand stiff & stare?
If you let the horse use its own mind,
What kind of water would the horse find?
The muddiest around,
Or the cleanest to be found? Brandon D

Monday: We started with a late wake up and after Kat had her full cup of coffee and breakfast she packed up and moved her tent then went hiking. Most corps members lounged at camp, made a good lunch and kept a fire on all day. I went hiking and explored near the river and back more by the starting areas of the trail. It was a relaxing day for most. Chris H.

Tuesday: I am last a million ideas, thoughts, and perceptions, theories, of her suck reality bending anti-science flow through my head like a sound wave traveling at the speed of light. Which is right? All? None? Many? How do I tell? What is the answer? Is the answer more visible than I think it is? Patience I tell myself, will help me find the answers. Brandon D.

Wednesday: Our Crews goals for the week were to finish the trail while making sure the quality was still good. Also to keep up on the chores & help each other out. Trying not to make each other mad or get offended was equally hard for us this week too. But we seem to work things out. Kelsey M.

Thursday: So far this week our crew has learned quite a bit. One of the most major things that the crew learned was that putting dead slugs on you not the smartest thing to do. Another thing that we learned is that Brent really should stop licking slugs. He gets really odd after doing it. One thing that I personally learned is that digging stuff out is really hard.

Friday: The week is now over. I remember Monday and everyone hoping it would go fast and I don't even remember the rest. We swept the trail up and put tons of effort into the structures we make. Like most Friday's there was a little tension but our crew still packed up and got going fast. Our weekend site should give everyone a nice break and we can hangout with those we've missed the past two weeks. I'm really looking forward to the break but also for next week to come so we can spend the remainder of summer with friends and family back home. I think everyone's had a good experience thus far and the pressure will float away as we enjoy the final days with one another. Chris H.

National Forest: Winema NF
Ranger District: Chemult RD
Project Name- Maidu Lake Trail

Week 5: Date

Monday: Our crew this weekend first did our laundry & then showers. The weekend site was at Pringle falls. We had a talent show too, Chris from our crew rapped Sunday we drove to Maidu Lake. Kelsey M.

Tuesday: Our crew had late start, which was quite unusual. There was usual crew drama but the day went on as usual. Good work for the most part and I'm expecting our crew to make good hours this week and a good payout. Everyone is counting the days which something makes them go slower but it's also motivating because we all want to do nothing the rest of summer. Chris H.

Wednesday: Yellow crew's goals are to maintain trail and rebuild a bridge. The bridge is probably the hardest part of the trail. Our goal for the trail is about 2 miles we've done about 1 mile. We also have about 63 drain dips we've done

about 15 so far. A cool thing that has happened is that our contractor gave us a mosquito net. We are very happy that we get to go home. Jesse

Thursday: This week our crew learned to build bridges which was the most technical learning challenge. We learned to skin logs and notch them for level and even placement on the stringers. We also perfected removing railroad-tie sized nails from logs and using hand drills. Brent

Friday: It was an early morning start today, and with some tension we eventually got things done and were on the clock only 3 minutes late. The bridge was near the finished product and in the 3 ½ hours of work after the hike in it was completed. While some members worked on that others went to keep going on the trail section, and although it wasn't 100% done it was close with drainage dips and a very sharp clean cut top line. Near the end of work day almost everyone helped to put the guide rails on the bridge then we packed/carried the tools out got on the move. Our crew gained lots of self knowledge and for me it was a life changing experience, over through the clouds of drama and attitudes was a large shining sun.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

The first day of the fifth week because the mosquitoes were horrible and demoralizing. Eric G

Moving a big 500 lbs log for a retaining wall. Jesse S

The first day of work because it was new and different. Brent

The day we had to carry logs for the bridge. Amy

The days my back hurt a lot & the day when mosquitoes were bad. Ashlee W.

I think it was the first day because I was new and unsure of everything. Kelsey

The mid part of the 3rd week with hot desert air and mosquitoes everywhere. Chris H.

The day that we moved logs for the bridge. Brandon D

Mobbing the big logs for the bridge. Shamah B.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

Building a rock bridge, finishing the switchback, and teaching SEED. Even G.

Moving giant boulders, building a rock bridge, and telling trail jokes. Brent

Building the bridge, building new trail, and working with the different attitudes.
Amy

Being able to finish. Learning to work hard. Getting care packages. Ashlee W.

Unsticking the van day 1. Sticking with the lifestyle & people for the whole trip.
Everyone's personal history around the fire. Chris H.

Moving huge rocks for walls, carrying huge logs for a bridge, & meeting all of the
wonderful people. Brandon D.

How to be a leader. How to control anger. And how to chill. Shamah B.

Swimming in the river. The van ride. Chilling with everyone. Kelsey

Getting the van unstuck, the van rides, the campfire. Jesse

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

The bad jokes that through the crew. Even G.

Is that I can push myself to finish things without quitting. Ashlee W.

Is teamwork. Brent

Is my experience here in the forest, working hard. And Ashlee. K.

Some people from my crew and the days on the trail. Amy

Everyone's raised different, and that it's hard to change people's thoughts & opin-
ions. Chris H.

Doug. Brandon Ducharme

Everything. Shamah

When we got the van unstuck week one. Jesse

From Now On I Will Always...

Be sure to drink lots of water. Even G.

Respect the fact that everyone is not the same. Ashlee W.

Respect the hard work that is put into trail maintenance. Amy

Think of NYC when I'm eating a lot of food! Tell everyone who's being stupid to shut up & rethink it. Kelsey

Notice how trail were constructed and give respect to those whom deserve it. Chris H.

See the world through a completely different lens than I used to. Brandon D.

I will always hear people out. I will listen more to peoples ideas. Jesse

At NYC I Learned...

how to pace myself, and how to cook. Evan G.

How to work hard, get along with people, and be a team player. Brent

Trail work is time consuming/hard, I can receive help from people, and I'm more independent than most kids my age. Amy

Work ethic, people skills, mosquitoes suck. Ashlee W.

People always have an opinion. Working hard is mind over matter. I hate bugs!!
Kelsey

What real work is and why it's important to work for what you believe in. Chris H.

People will be people, & that is wonderful. Work is hard & fun. I can do more than I think. Brandon D.

I learned I could control my anger instead of blowing up. Shamah

Not everybody is the same. My limits. How much I can really eat. Jesse

