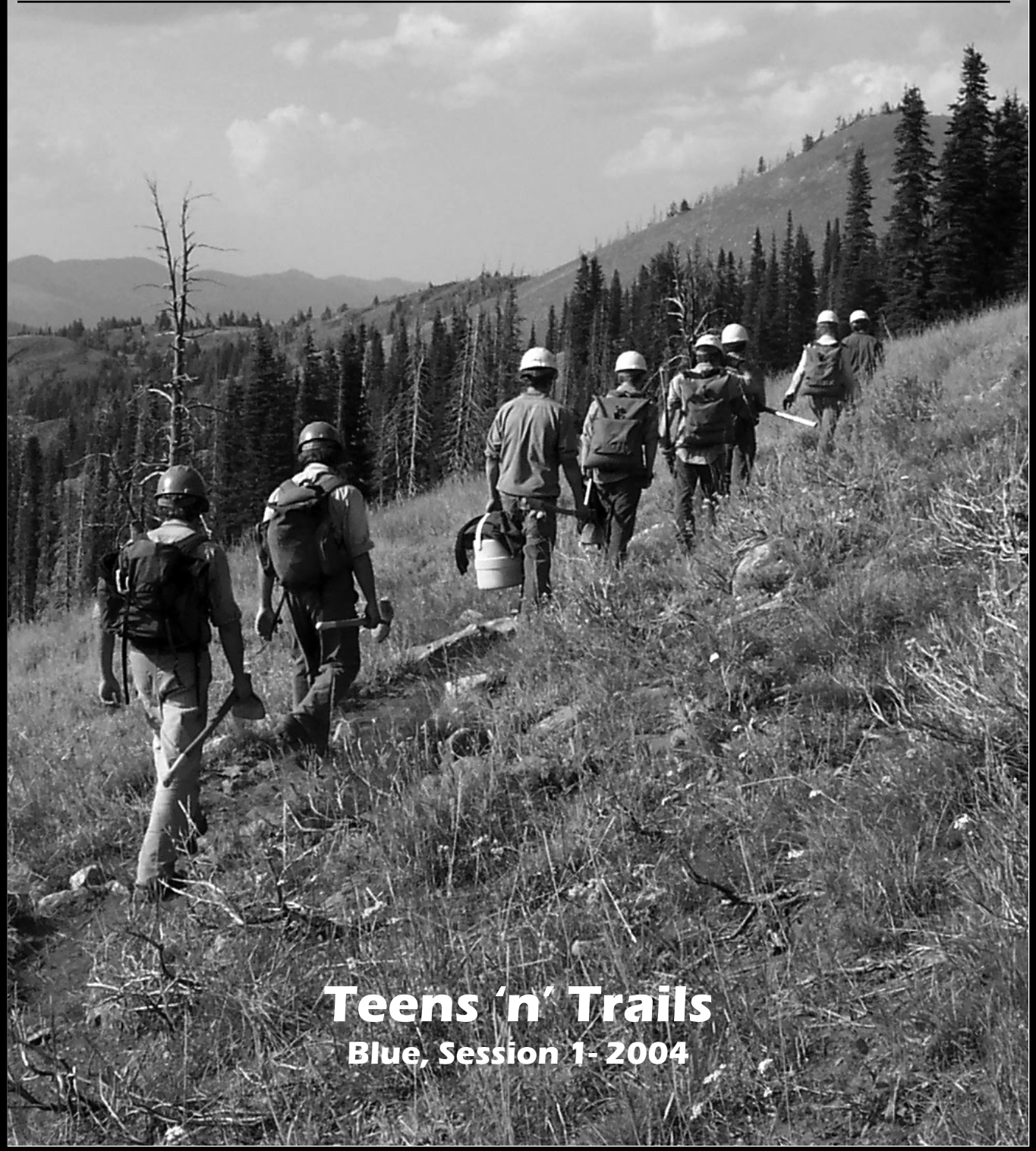




Crew Journal



Teens 'n' Trails
Blue, 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 a 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Ojerio'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'R'.

Ryan Ojerio
Program Manager

goal is to finish the trail and make it easier for bikers to both see where the trail is and be able to ride on it. I think that the crew is going to definitely finish the trail and meet our goal! Ariel S.

Thursday: This week our crew learned about the salmon swimming to lay eggs in sea. We also learned how to fix and repair trails. We also learned about plants.

Friday: A major challenge for the crew this week was learning how to maintain trails. There were a few experienced hands that were able to help lead the crew in the right direction on tool use and maintenance. We all had our little pitfalls on trail maintenance but by the end of the week we were beginning to bump down the line. Kenny had a section of trail that challenged his patience, and he worked on it at least 3 different times. The crew also fought a battle with gigantic root that seemed to get bigger as the day wore on. Cameron H.

National Forest: Siskiyou National Forest
Ranger District: Illinois Valley RD
Project Name: Elijah Mt. Trail

Week 3:

Monday: On this weekend people on our crew rafted around in Blue River Reservoir. Dustin was running along and stupidly fell into a steel grill, he got hurt. Papa Tyler slept, Soren saw his parents and his mom gave him cookies. Peter had a day off. Josh hung out with his parents this weekend, Grace got sick. Our crew got the best campsite ever. Toilets, beds, river with rope swing, big tents. We are so much better off than other crews. Soren Y.

Tuesday: Blue crew is outside Cave Junction. We are maintaining trails. Tyler and I stayed on the bus and we threw up all day. Josh and Dustin got sick on the trail, and Nicky is starting to get symptoms. Our whole crew is getting sick, and I started it, I hope we all get better! It's a good thing we have coats because we all do not feel good! Grace A.

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for this week are: to get over being sick and to still try to get all our hours, which most likely won't happen. We all have some sort of sickness, besides Elliot, Little Tyler and Kenny. (I hope they get sick HA HA HA!) The three main people that are sick are Big Tyler, Josh and I, Grace. We feel horrible and all sorts of yummy things! Grace A.

Thursday: This week our crew learned in SEED about service and how important service is. We also learned about all the problems in our crew and how important it would be to Cameron if we could all get along for the next week and a half that we have left. Oh, and we learned that Peter likes to be in charge. Nicole M.

Friday: Our crew accomplished a lot over the last week. One of my proudest accomplishments was completing the hike to the site and back to the bus everyday for a week. I am sure others will agree with me when I say that the hike was very challenging. But we all did it at least once and did it without complaining. Another challenge for the crew was the sickness over the last week. Everyone didn't feel their best, but most of them continued to work and push themselves. Only the really, really sick people stayed on the bus, and they were not happy about not working. But everyone recovered and now everyone is pretty much better and hopefully the sickness has passed. All in all I think this was a challenging we but we pulled through and did it as a team. Cameron H.

Sponsor: Roseburg BLM
Project Name: Roseburg Pruning

Week 4:

We all did the crew Olympics and came in second place. This weekend we would have come in 1st. if it wasn't for one event. We went on a rec. trip to Crater Lake and went on a hike and looked at Diamond Lake which was really cool. Some of the people went to Lemolo Lake and swam. We all had a pretty good time. Tyler H.

Tuesday: This week we are pruning outside of Roseburg. We are doing this so that the sun can get to the ground; also in order to get more room and also provide homes for little animals.

Wednesday: This week our crew did not have very clear goals. We were just supposed to prune all these conifer trees 10 feet high. It is unclear to me how much we are supposed to clear. The size of the area we have done is 7 acres. Lenny, the guy we are working for, said that's what he expected from us the whole week. It is weird where and why we are doing it. It is in some random woods and it is suppose to prevent fires. Soren Y.

Thursday: This week we learned that if you leave food out, bears will eat all the food they can get their hands (paws) on. They also have sidekicks: they bite holes in sleeping pads. Therefore, be aware!
Josh M.

Friday: The biggest challenge during this final week for the crew was the egg water. They absolutely did not want to drink it but after a night of ventilation we found it potable. We also piled in the orange peels and our delicious sugary vesper. By the end of the week the egg water was behind us and we were on our way to completion. Cameron H.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

My most challenging day at NYC was 3rd week, the first day, Monday. I had gotten sick and my stomach hurt really bad, but I could work. I was more than wrong. We got to work after an hour drive, then we had another hour to get to work, we hiked for so long. My lungs were dying. We were at about 6,800 feet and I was so light headed that my whole entire body was shaking and it felt like I had asthma. On the hike back I nearly collapsed and when I got to the bus my lungs felt like they were convulsing and not letting air fill them up. The next day I did not get to go to work. Grace A.

The most challenging day at NYC for me was the day before parent weekend because I was debating whether or not to go home and quit or not. I decided that I was going to stay because I needed the money and it wasn't that hard of work. I also started to get really homesick and I was missing my dog and my little sister. But by the time I made it to parent weekend, I decided to stay and not go home because my mom talked to me and convinced me not to go home. Tyler H.

The most challenging day was the Tuesday of the forth week, pruning. It was horrible when our water had sulphur in its making. Cameron and Sonya tried to raise moral but it proved more

impossible than properly cooking in the Dutchy.

(Written across the bottom of the page):

CORNBREAD!!!

(spoken in disgruntled thick voice)

Elliott D.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

My favorite NYC experiences were: one was during the second weekend site we went to the beach on the Pacific and we played Frisbee. Richard, Shawn and Soren jumped in the water. What made that experience so meaningful to me was that was the first time I had seen the Pacific Ocean before. Another experience was the week we were pulling ivy. There was a humongous tree in the middle of the ivy patch and we went ahead and cleared it all off the tree with a Pulaski and cleared off a tree.

My favorite experiences at NYC are the third week when we hiked over Mt. Elijah and we would stop on top at the end of the day and look out over all the trees with the sun shining over them. And to think how hard I worked to get to that point. My second favorite experience is my second week when the whole crew had an icing fight and we were all running around camp with icing all over our faces. My third [favorite] experience is when we had our last weekend site and were doing the crew Olympics. We were running to the finish line with our hands connected to the other person's hands like Elephant trunks. Nikki M.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

I will always remember Elliott Daggett, because he is so funny in weird ways and the way Cameron dances and all the hard work I did. Dustin S.

I will always remember when Mr. Piggles first got his name and when he was kidnapped and taken into the girls' tent. It made me so mad that I collapsed the girls' tent in attempt to get my pillow back. Josh M.

From Now On I Will Always...

From now on I will always think of NYC whenever I go camping or am out in the woods in any way. It will always remind me of it because I never stayed in the woods before NYC. Hopefully I will have good memories of it and it will remind me of my good experiences. From now on I will also not be bothered when I don't have a bathroom and have to go into the woods. I've gotten used to it and how it doesn't bother me at all. I will always be reminded of my experiences here when I go to bathroom in the woods. I came back with a lot of things that will stay with me and I can't name them all, I just had a bunch of great experiences.

Love forever, Ariel S.

From now on I will always look at the outdoors a little differently. I will now look at pine cones as a source of a toilet paper instead of a seed for confers trees. Also, when I see trails I will think of the hard work, time and effort that went into them. These things are not really great memories but they will stay with me forever. From now on, I can not enjoy the wilderness in the

way I once did. Now everything is not just beauty and trees. It is now, what I can do with this limb? Or, this trail needs to be fixed up. It needs a smaller brim or a bigger bank on the turn, or something like that. I will still enjoy the wild but in a different way.

By Kenny "Franklin" H.

