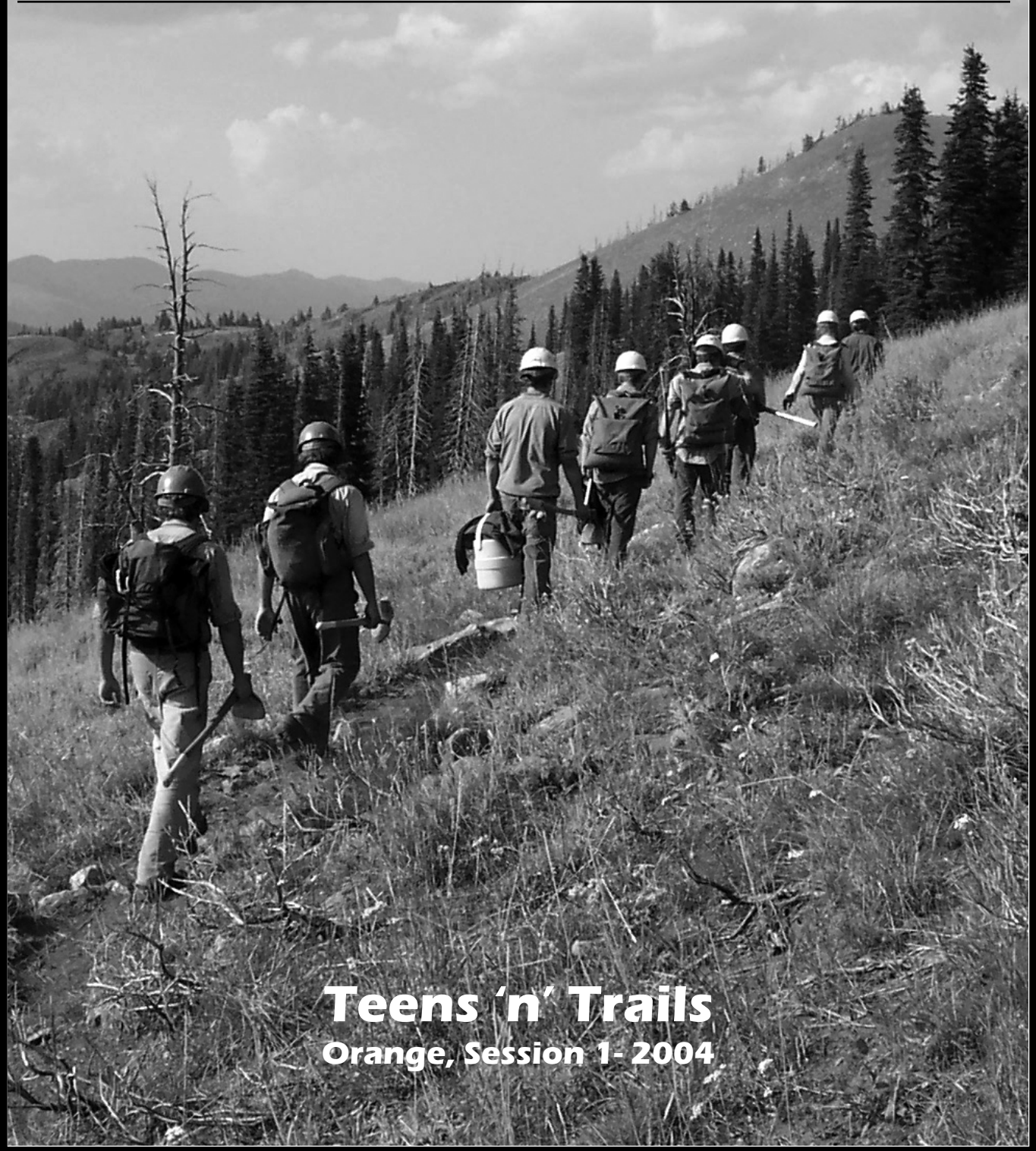




Crew Journal



Teens 'n' Trails
Orange, 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



National Forest: Willamette NF
Ranger District: Middle Fork RD
Project Name: EPCT-Bunchgrass Trail

Week 1:

Monday: It was orientation so we basically just figured out the rules, how to do stuff and meeting everyone. We met a bunch of friends and leaders. It was awesome. We then packed all our stuff up and went to our worksite at Oakridge. It was a really cool site. —Richard K.

Tuesday: Oakridge, sorta in the valley working on trails doing my best to help my crew reach the team's 3 mile goal by Fri. This project is for hikers and mountain bikers smoothing and clearing to make this way cool trail fun and safe. This is way hot weather working and drinking lots of water kept me going.—Julie P.

Wednesday: Our goal for the week is to finish the trail to our greatest extent. We also want to practice our skills on solving problems and listening to others. It's been pretty good so far. We have done a lot on the trail. It's been fun!!—Laura H.

Thursday: Challenges this week are hiking to work, waking up and doing the safety circle in the morning. We learned how to use the tools and that is hard to do the bump line. BUMP!

Friday: My crew's accomplishments were all about finding out the other persons' characters and basically testing the strengths and weaknesses so that for the next 3 weeks of living and

working together we would all know how to keep our wits about us.

The family atmosphere creation has been easy enough and has worked so far. The main challenge has been getting used to the idea of sleeping outdoors with no toilet, running water and no shower every day was hard. Plus working the hardest job part of that trail and then by the third day when one of the girls in the crew quit. Which resulted in more manual labor. But overall, it is a great challenge. The three miles of trail are done and finished. YES.

Sponsor: Coos Bay BLM

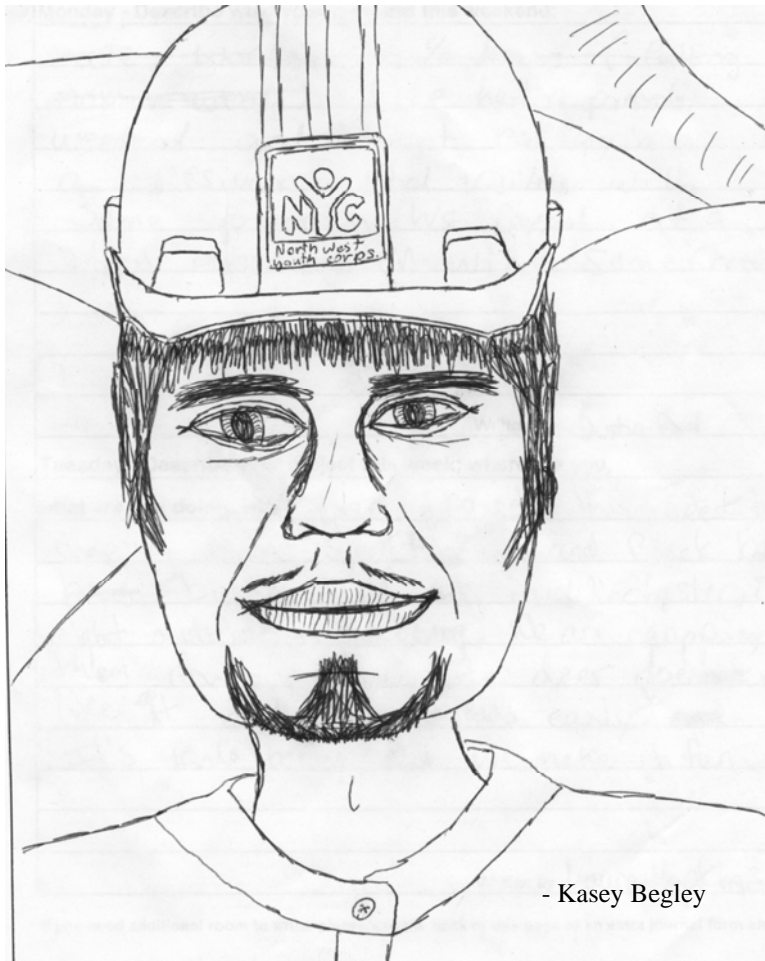
Project Name: Blue Ridge Trail Trails

Week 2:

We drove to the site and did our stretches and hiked down the trail and filled in the dirt made from the motorcycle and we got down to the mud and I got dirty all over. We came back to camp and got the water and went to get water we came back and now I'm writing this.

—Alex C.

This week we're in Coos Bay. We're on the Blue Ridge Trail. For this week's project we're doing trail maintenance and trail reconstruction on the trails. We're also making turnpikes.—Chaz C.



Wednesday: Our goals for the week were to go get all the gravel and take it to the turnpike and make three turnpikes and that was also the hardest.—Kasey B.

Thursday: Our crew learned how to make turnpikes and we learned how to work together as a team by carrying logs.—Mike B.

Friday: This past week was a fun, interesting week. We started the week without a kitchen tarp and many other kitchen equipment. We made the best of a somewhat bad situation but the group learned to deal with all the missing things.

On the trail we filled in small pits, trimmed back brush and built 2 turnpikes. The area where we built the turnpikes was muddy and full of water. First, we covered the cuts then did a gravel line. Meanwhile Lia and Jean cut trees. After

we skinned trees to put on the sides to keep the gravel in place. Once the roots were dry we covered the ground with a tarp but we did not have enough to cover the ground twice. Also, we didn't have enough time to put dirt over the first layer of tarp. We were rushed but we did a good job still. At one point we were questioning ourselves whether or not we would finish any of the turnpikes because we were suppose to do 3 turnpikes.

Sponsor: Roseburg BLM

Project Name: North Bank Habitat Area Restoration

Week 3:

Monday: We had a parent's weekend - went rafting in a reservoir and visited with some parents. We stopped at a store and visited with some friends. Dustin R.

Tuesday: Our project this week is dropping down Scotch broom and blackberry bushes. We are in Winchester, OR, right outside Roseburg. We are chopping them down because the deer does not like it and it spreads easily. It's kinda boring but we make it fun. Laura H.

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for this week are to try eating all of our food and to meet the 360 mark and try to have a safe week so we can have fruit at the end of this week. We are trying to not get poison oak. Mike B.

Thursday: This past week we learned about Scotch Broom and may other nature problems. In the beginning of the week J.P. quit so we learned to have only one leader. It was hard on Jean but we all got used to it. Late in the week we were taught about Scotch Broom and reasons why it is bad. Fro example, if there is a forest fire, it is like kindling in a sense that it spreads the flame on the ground and to the higher branches of trees nearby. Also, we learned that Scotch Broom is a very invasive weed. Early in the week we leaned about Poison Oak and what it looks like. Finally, last night we talked about trees and other regenerating sources. Nick H.

Friday: This week we had to tackle the boring job of weeding. It was pretty hot in the afternoon and got to be very repetitive. We got through it all, though, but just talking to each other and playing some games while we worked. This really helped the week go by. It was probably the fastest week I've had. Richard K.

Sponsor: Coos Bay BLM

Project Name: Dean Creek Restoration

Week 4:

Monday: Our crew went on a Rec. trip to Crater Lake. We also made store stops and came back to camp. Then we had crew Olympics. Our crew won! J Then we had crew talent show. Then people could do whatever they wanted to do in the talent show. Chaz C.

The following morning we woke up at 6:30. After breakfast each crew packed their trailer and headed off to their worksite for the week. Nick H.1

Tuesday: Our job this past week was clearing blackberry bushes and tree branches for a narrow, muddy canal-type stream. Our job was right outside of Reedsport in an elk reserve. It is really hard getting the branches out of the water because the mud is so soft. The stagnant stream is narrow in parts and wide in parts. We are doing this work so that later in the summer the stream can be dredged by machines. Nick H.

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for the week is to get all our hours in, not get into trouble, do what you're supposed to do and to respect all our crew members no matter what. Mike B.

Thursday: Our crew learned about the area we've been working in at the museum and we also learned how to fill out at application. And we learned a lot of what we did wrong and what we did right. Kasey B.

Friday: Some challenges were just getting through the week. It was the last week, and everyone was getting on each other's nerves. Even though this week was hard, we still made it through the week and got a lot of work done. It was also still really fun! Richard K.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

My most challenging day at NYC was week two when we had to start hauling gravel, For me it was hard physically, because it has been a while since I had to actually push myself to work that hard. The other part that was hard for me was the mental thinking. Because I wanted to quit so badly but I didn't want to let anyone down. I got through it.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

Going rafting at Cougar Reservoir. That was awesome, going swimming and stuff like that. Another time was jamming at my guitar with some other people and making up music. It was really fun. The third most favorite thing I did was actually working the last Thursday of NYC. We were moving branches out of a ditch and it was awesome.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

I will always remember the friends I made on the trip. It was a lot of fun meeting and becoming really close friends. Over the course of 4 weeks our crew became like a family. We definitely had little fights and things, but the friends I made are awesome and will always be with, even if they live thousands of miles away.

From Now On I Will Always...

From now on I will always be of my best behavior at the worksite and back at camp. I will always be respectful to crew members and leaders, and I will work to my fullest potential. Also, I will always keep looking out for all NYC corps members who had sessions in there.

At NYC I Learned...

I learned a lot about the environment. Like, there are 3 types of logging. I also learned about being a leader and helping people out. And the last of all, I learned how to make hard and boring work fun.

