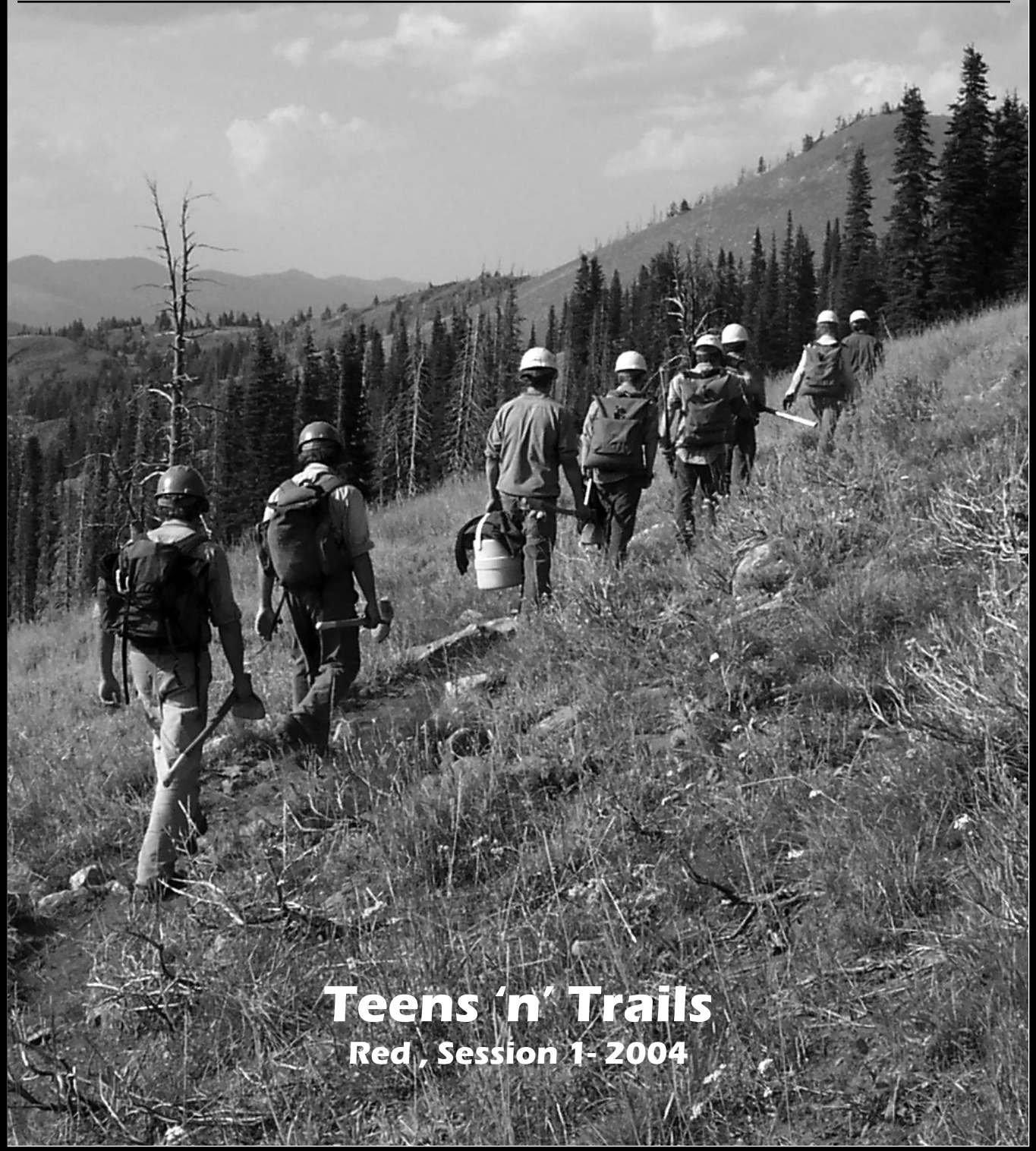




Crew Journal



Teens 'n' Trails
Red, 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



Sponsor: Coos Bay BLM

Project Name: Blue Ridge Trails

Week 1:

Monday: On Saturday we all got oriented with everyone. We did not know who was in our groups. It wasn't really that exciting, but it kicked up on Sunday when we found out who our group was. Some were disappointed because we weren't with the people we wanted to be. Others were happy but so far most were disappointed but on Sunday everyone became friends. No one had negativity. Our crew leader was Dave. We thought he was a hippie. Some thought he was cool. When we found out Peter was coming we all thought he was cool. Peter was really cool. So far last weekend was all right except for the rain . . . Alionzo W.

Tuesday: We are making trails where there are turnpikes. We are redoing part of the trail. We are in the Blue Ridge trails. We are redoing it for the Coos Bay BLM. Peter and I were talking and putting logs in the turnpike. We are putting rebar in the logs. There were people throwing mud in the forest so no one could see the mud when they go by. We are refurbishing the trail so when people walk on it, it won't look so bad then they walk on the trail. —Matt M.

Wednesday: Goals: 1. to eat all our food. 2. To make all our work hours. 3. Finish the trail including the turnpike, and all the ruts. 4. No quitters. 5. No injuries. 6. For everyone to have fun. 7. Try our best to stay healthy. 8. To make it through the week. 9. To come to the weekend site with all our tools, etc.—Chaz C.

Thursday: We learned that the three steps to clean water are filter, iodine, boil. We also learned to put in turnpikes, water pan drain dip, reconstruct the trail, and how to do the no trace program by a mound fire, pan fire.—Blaine P.

Friday: Our crew's biggest challenge this week was learning how to do trail. This was an ongoing challenge as we installed various types of structures from turnpikes to water bars. The crew became increasingly independent throughout the week; by the end of the week they could peel, drill and remove all the logs on their own. The first week has its own challenges when it comes to adapting to a new schedule. Monday started off smoothly with the whole crew up before 6 am enjoying a pancake breakfast. We made it to work on time every day and completed a smooth pack-up on Friday morning. Red crew has taken on food as a personal challenge this session. The meals have been great but Red Crew should be recognized for the quantity of food they consume. We arrived to the weekend site with empty coolers and food boxes, save for one tub of margarine, 1 can of kidney beans and 1 can of green beans. David V.

Sponsor: Roseburg BLM
Project Name: Roseburg Pruning

Week 2:

Monday: Our crew all went to the beach mostly between two vehicles. Also there was a lot of drama. People fought a lot and Chaz switched to orange crew to even out the girls. People thought that the weekend sucked and only liked the beach. They thought that too many people talked a lot of bad things! That's how our weekend was!—Amanda M.

Tuesday: This week we are pruning pine trees to reduce the fire danger. It is pretty simple work and all the same the main goal is to saw off all of the branches from the bottom of the tree to ten feet up. We are in the Camas Valley just outside of town.—Sean B.

Wednesday: Not to lose anyone on the crew. To get all of our hours in. Stay sane all week. No injuries, no poison oak. To not get stuck in the short bus. That is our crew's goals for the week.—Danielle S.

Thursday: We learned the basics of compass and map. How to prune trees. We learned that pruning trees is very boring, redundant work. Basics of the first aid kit first response and we learned that we can take the minibus 4x4ing—Jamethiel C.

Friday: We finished a pruning unit at Camas Valley. We got through the week of pruning. The crew's challenge is getting to know the alternate. The 25 minute drives to work. The Manzaneta bushes. Everybody was at each other's throat this week. Matt M.

Sponsor: Benton County Parks
Project Name: Bezell Memorial Forest

Week 3:

Monday: We lost five crew members, Ali chilled with a couple friends. I hack sacked with my dad and mom. It was parents' weekend. So we hung out with our parents except Matt, Ali and Wes went rafting at a reservoir and played pirates on the high seas. My boat captured the most of boats. Blaine P.

Tuesday: What we are doing is building a new trail. On the first day everyone was glad to be done with pruning but it is tiring people what we are doing. We got two new kids which will probably make work easier.

Wednesday: Goals: to work as hard as we can and finish as much trail as we can. Finish trail up to brush deterioration. Have no one quit. Nice atmosphere. Have maximum fun, eat well, stay hydrated and make new crew members feel welcome.

Thursday: We learned how to carry logs and walk with them right and not fall. Learn about new members. Take out brush fast and to have fun with the crew.
Chris K.

Friday: One of our challenges was working with only 6 people for the first two days. Everyone was depressed about the people who quit. It was hard because they were really good friends. It got better when 2 more people came: Dillon and Jesse. What we accomplished on Friday was reaching our goal and getting pizza for reaching it. Another challenge was eating Blain's sandwiches because they were just terrible sandwiches. Our accomplishment was when we all pulled together at the end of the week. Ali W.

Sponsor: Eugene BLM
Project Name: Whitaker Creek Loop Trail

Week 4:

Monday: We packed up camp, went to weekend site, then we did rec trips. Chris K.

Tuesday: We are making trail at Whittaker Creek. We are making a new trail because they need us to make one. Chris K.

Wednesday: Our crew's goal for the week is to create as much trail as possible. Other things that we've been working on are getting along with each other and getting along with the LDT crew who we were assigned to work this week. So far, progress has been pretty good, but we hope to improve as the days go by. The 1+ mile uphill walk early in the morning has been really difficult for our crew, but we all know that in the end, it can only be good for you. Dylan E.

Thursday: This week our crew learned the value of hard work along with team work. Our crew would not have reached the goals, and without teamwork there would be no hard work. We also learned how to build a trail on steep sides of the mountains. I think this week we improved more on building trails than last week. I am sure our crew learned that the best comfort comes from hard work. Chanho N.

Friday: Our challenge was not to get too excited about the last week and still work hard all the way through. Some of our goals were to repair some climbing turns and some plain old trail. Blaine P.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

Jesse T. the first day

Blaine P.: 3rd day of pruning

Matt M.: When at weekend site two, then 5 crewmembers left. It was hard.

Dylan E.: The first day I got here, because I didn't know anyone.

Wes M.: My most challenging day was the last one, because of having to let go.

Chanho N.: Most challenging day for me would be the second week I came, so by the 4th week my hands started to hurt and I couldn't work as hard as I could before.

Ali W.: The most challenging day was when I had to hike up a mile to work site and then to also walk to the place where we got to work.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

Matt M.: When we went to the ocean for my first time at the weekend site. – At the top of Mary's Peak watching the sunset – at the third weekend site on the rec. trips when we went swimming in the lake by Crater lake.

Chris K.: Going to the beach, crawdad fishing and meeting everyone.

Blaine P.: Crawdad fishing, Mary's peak, carrying yellow tops down a two-mile trail.

Chanho N.: My favorite NYC experiences are when we saw the sunset at Mary's peak, the times we went to catch crawdads, and the times when all the crews came to the weekend site.

Jesse T.: weekend site, trails, the woods.

Wes M.: My three favorite experiences were going to the beach, floating down a fast-flowing river and hanging out with the LDT'ers.

Dylan E.: my three favorite NYC experiences were hunting crawdads, hanging out with my crew and the end of the week days.

Ali W.: Most favorite experiences are – when I saw how Bo did push ups in the morning; the time I went to Crater Lake and the time half of TNT played pirates with rafts. I speared David, my crew leader off a raft, right after he helped me up.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

The time I came to NYC, I ate. Chris K.

The view at Mary's Peak. Blaine P.

The first time when I got into red crew and met everyone, and sang my song to everyone. Matt M.

The weekend site. Jesse T.

Watching the stars the first night I was there. Dylan E.

One thing I will always remember would be the times we laughed at work, because it really helped me to get through the days.

Ali W.: I will always remember my birthday on the beach. It was awesome. And I will always remember my crew mates.

*One thing I will always remember is the beautiful people.
Wes M.*

From Now On I Will Always...

NYC has taught me the value of money and hard work. From now on I will try to save and carefully spend money. Dylan E.

From now on, I will always remember the value of team work and the value of money. I will always remember my red crew whenever I see a mountain. Chanh N.

I will always remember that we really made a difference in a lot of communities, the value of hard work and the hard work behind making money. Blaine P.

I will always remember that NYC taught me to work hard and have fun at the same time while making friends that will last forever. Matt M.

I will always remember to work hard and keep it together. Chris K.

...listen to others. Jesse T.

I will always remember my team, friends and hard work. Ali W.

From now on, I will always be more conscious of tool handling and to work at my own pace;, to be more respectful to other sand to be more in tune with nature and with myself. Wes M.

At NYC I Learned...

Chanho N.: at NYC I learned about he endangered checker butterfly, the value of team work and about the will not to quit.

Dylan E.: At NYC I learned the value of money and hard work, willpower and respect.

Chris K.: I learned about drug addictions, endangered butterflies and willpower

Matt M.: I learned that people do not need to look tough in orde to be nice.

Blaine P.: I learned to control my ADD without my pills, and the value of hard work.

Jesse T.: I learned how to build a trail.

Wes M.: Three things that I learned at NYC are: how to use a compass, how to build a trail and how to harness my rage.

