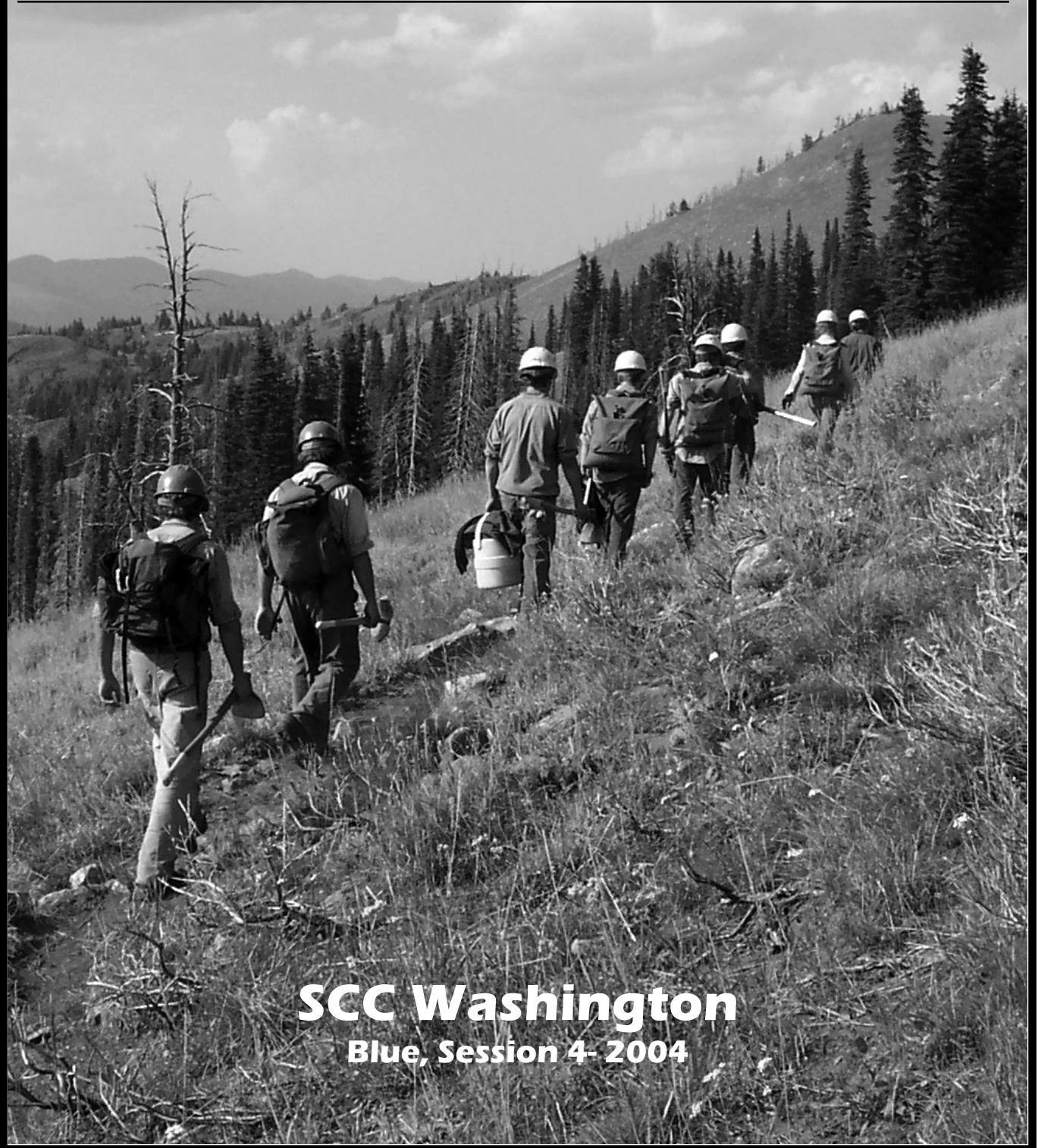




# Crew Journal



**SCC Washington**  
Blue, Session 4- 2004



Hey Hey Hey! It's that time of year again. All the vans have been washed and vacuumed, all the tents have been patched, all the tools sharpened and put away, and we have finally caught up on all those short nights and long summer days of little rest and hard trail dawgin'! It's time once again to sit back, reflect on the season and start recounting the tales of adventure and hardship that you'll someday tell your grandkids. I hope this journal reminds you of the wicked hard days the awe inspiring vistas and the seemingly endless supply of pasta and trio-sauce. I hope that it takes you back to campfire stories and ice-cold creeks and that break in the rain that seemed like a holiday! We've typed out the scribbles lain down at the end of all those long days by worn out hands aching from swinging a tool and copied some of the dazzling images drawn up by the artists of the bunch. To anyone else who hasn't lived outside for over a month, done safety circle before dawn, done the push-up challenge, or chugged a gallon of vesper, these notes might not seem like much. But I hope that for those of you who know, that these entries can serve as a small key for 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 and good friends, great achievements 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,

Billy Scrafford



**National Forest or area that the work took place Ochoco National Forest  
Ranger District Lookout Mtn.  
Project Name- Trout Creek Trail**

Week 1: Date

Monday: we started in Eugene, OR and made our way up to Bend, OR. The first day on our mission was to find camp. That was a lot harder than we all thought it would be. Today went out on our journey to maintain this trail. It's not really hard work it just takes a lot out of you. So far most of everyone is having a good time, not to much griping going on. Now just want to get some sleep and wait for tomorrow. Jessie Z.

Tuesday: Our project is to help the Ochoco National Forest with one of their trails. The trail is called the Trout Creek Trail, and we are retreading the trail so nobody would trip, fall, and die. The Blue crew is having a blast and we all are Almost done! We cannot wait to get some sleep for he finishing job waiting for us tomorrow. Jason K.

Wednesday: so far we finished what we set out to do, which is cool. Two miles of rocky trail in a little over 2 days is alright. It seems we have a lot of energy most of the time which is good too. Ti is a pretty place even though there is not much more to see then Ponderosa Pines and tall grass. David L.

Thursday: This being our first week, it was filled with learning. We learned about hinges, benches, carbon 14, yaro, top line, radioactive rivers, and so much more. But besides the text book education there's something more that we learn being out in nature. Dirty, sweaty, and taken away from our household comforts we've only scratched the surface learning what can only be learned out here. It is a lesson that can't be taught in 1 week, not even 5, but our time here will plant the seed to a greater life. Sam K.

Friday: This week we accomplished 3 miles of trail when we were only requested to complete 2 miles. We didn't get too stinky this week. The rocky trail was very difficult to dig in and flatten. Several crew members quit their tobacco habit this week and survived without cigarettes. Work gets easier as we get stronger. We had 12 different individuals come together this week and work together as a solid team. Ryan O.

**National Forest or area that the work took place Malhuer  
Ranger District  
Project Name- Fire Trails**

Week 2: Date

Monday: Weekends for NYC kid seem to be just an all around relax time. Our crew got to take showers and swim in a lake to clean the dirt off their bodies. Then we joined up with all the other crews and socialized about what went on during the week. It all seems like it is worth the break from the week but then there is the 5 hour drive to the next work site. Nathan

Tuesday: This week we are making water bars to the trail which seems to be easier than fixing trails. But then again the end of the day I still feel just as tired. There is not much time to stop and think about things like where I am, to be honest part of me doesn't care much, all there is left to do now is eat, sleep, and work I guess. Nathan

Wednesday: this week we are working on the Fire Trail. Our goal is to participate in drainage mania. What we have to do to complete this wonderful challenge is put in drainage dips which are trenches that angle the water off the trail. The other part is to put in log bars. These are logs that are sunk into the ground and then you put in a ditch to channel the water away from the trail. Our real goal is to put in around 80 of the things. The End. Div

Thursday: this week the entire crew set to learn how to make drain dips and water bars. The point of both of these is to divert water off of the trail and into a ditch that carries water off of the trail and into a ditch that carries water away from the trail. Four of our crew got to make a rock bar and a long ditch that ran along the trail a ways before dumping it into the woods. All in all we have all learned volumes about specialty work. (Can't read name)

Friday: Our challenge was to make water bars and drain dips on the trail, but we had a bit of a problem. During the middle of the week, our contact, Terry changed our plans all around; we had to make lots of water bars and do supreme QC our drain dips. We also had some difficulties getting used to our stinky selves. Sleeping was fine, but of course, walking wasn't fun. Jason K.

**National Forest or area that the work took place Wenatchee  
Ranger District  
Project Name- Cody Creek Trail Mountain**

Week 3: Date

Monday: Friday we started the other crews. Saturday after the chores and breakfast we went to the lake and just lay around for the most part. Some parents came out to see their kids and that was real treat for them. Sunday was the start of the work prep. For the start of the new work site. Every crew will be gone for 2 weeks and we, the blue crew, are blessed to be working at the PCT! Jessie Zuber

Tuesday: So far on our hike up on Sunday afternoon we were so stoked for everything about this week. The part about the hike that I loved was that we stopped all the crap for the 4 hour we were just uzzing out positivities and no one was really complaining which really made me happy. The End. David Hopkins

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for the week are to improve the Pacific Coast Trail. We will be clearing brush mostly, among other things. Also we will be making a few drain dips and treading the trail. Another big goal for this week is to become more independent and not ask our crew leaders as many questions as in the past. Plus we need to unite as a team better and help each other out more often. Sulli (Ryan O'Sullivan)

Thursday: This week we learned how to lop. We clear the sides of the trail so it is more pleasant. We accomplish that by chopping all woody plants that are within about one or two arms away. We also learned how to read a map, and how to play "pass the weasel." All in all we learned a lot this week about how to survive in the woods. Chris Johnson

Friday: I would say group dynamics were most challenging and interesting at the same time. Interactions within the group may be a little choppy, but maybe not to the point of discomfort. Another thing that was challenging was picking up the pace but by the end of the week our pace had improved. David Lozar

**National Forest or area that the work took place – Wenatchee Nat'l Forest  
Ranger District - Levensworth  
Project Name- Cody Creek Tr. Nat'l**

Week 4: Date

Monday: On Saturday we slept in, which rocked. Then we hiked to the van to re-supply – which didn't. The hike back was easy, until the last two miles. On Sunday we slept in again, and then we hiked up to something that Brian calls a saddle. After that we went swimming in a lake and Ryan pushed me off a rock. Then, when I came back to make dinner, ?? already made it, which was mundo sweet. Nathan S.

Tuesday: This week we are lopping and doing trail maintenance on the North fork of PCT from Cady Creek Pass. Yesterday we QCed about 10 000 feet from last week and we did about 22 000 feet today. We are doing this because the trail is overgrown and needs some new dips.

Morgan W.

Wednesday: Work wise, our goals remain the same as the week before: to lop, lop, lop and pull, pull, pull. Our real goal or at least the more important one is to maintain good group dynamics. We've started our way to improve ourselves and eventually (maybe I am a little hopeful here), but eventually we will learn to treat each other with respect, with no more side comments, smart-alec statements and just general disrespect and immaturity. Its quite feet ahead of us. But we'll get there. Sam K.

Thursday: This week we learned how it feels to be a crew leader. They have it off pretty easy. Just kidding! It is pretty rough, to be them. You get asked a lot of questions, and all of them are the same. Also, this week, a lot of us learned the true meaning of a great view. It was a very spiritual week, and I hope that we can retain all of what we earned. Chris J.

Friday: To make a long story short or maybe to make a short story long, our week was a blur. We mostly did lopping and smoothing trail. This might appear boring at first and, well, it was. But we make it fun by setting goals for ourselves on the trail, along with some happy conversations and some horribly sung Beatles songs, I guess the crew's biggest challenge was the hikes and trying to stay alive while on them. Once again, the week was a blur for at least me, along with some cheesecake and some beautiful moments. Nathan

**National Forest or area that the work took place- Wenatchee NF**  
**Ranger District- Levensworth**  
**Project Name- Upper White River**

Week 5: Date

Monday: This weekend our crew drove for 45 minutes to the White River Trail head where we unpacked the trailer and loaded our backpacks for the 6 mile hike up to the Spike Camp. We hiked for a little over 3 hours. We came to our site, it was occupied. On Sunday night we camped across the stream from our site until the next day, when the other campers left and we moved into the spot. Morgan W.

Tuesday: Our project this week is to work up the upper White River Trail, and to survive our fifth and final week. We are working about 1 mile out from our camp, loping, brushing and sawing. It might get boring at times, but we stick it out and until the end. We work this trail, along with others, for every hiker to enjoy the trail to its fullest. Jason K.

Wednesday: To do the best that we can for the last four days, to make the trails look very sexy and pretty, so the hikers can enjoy them. And most of all, to remember the times and the new people that we have come close with in the last 5 weeks. The goals are simple to do. For the most [part], do the best you can, learn and listen, which we can do very well. My personal goals are to get to know my brothers more that I already do, so that I can remember the good times we had together. Time has come and gone so fast, that [it seems like] it was just yesterday. I just met these people, and not it is almost time to say good bye and good week. Jesse Zuber

Thursday: This being the last week and all, we are pretty much getting it all down. Camp chores, safety circle, work and what not, are nothing but easy. But especially, [with] this being our last week, we realized the special bond that took place over the last 5 weeks. Mixed emotions about leaving are certainly present. I want to go, but I want to stay. Nonetheless, the time has come for us to part ways. Everything we've learned about camping, working, what to do when it rains for two days straight and most importantly each other, is something special and shared between the 12 of us brothers. Sam

Friday: Our crew's challenges for this week were to survive the final week. This week was different than all the other weeks because it rained for a couple of days and all of our clothes became soaked. Our crew was all cold and wet, but we beat that challenge easily by staying warm. We survived the week after the rain and work, and now we are having an awesome time. Jason K.

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

O'Sullivan: My most challenging day was the second day here. I was so sore, and everybody was still kind of new. I was so tired and cranky I was going to quit. But I pushed through.

Vincent R.: It was the first day, because I was not used to working 8 hours a day.

Donald T.: Probably the first days, because everyone was still getting to know each other.

Kim: Finishing the first day of work and also realizing that there were 5 more weeks of it.

Jason: My most challenging day was the first day. Just getting into a whole different environment in one day is a major change.

Hopkins: The first day of work and me not getting in agreement with anyone about something small and stupid.

Johnson: The first day of rain that we had. I hate rain and it sucked.

Jessie: The whole first week. I have a really bad back, and bending over for 8 hours didn't feel good at all.

Nathan: 5<sup>th</sup> week when I kept falling with a heavy bag.

Morgan W.: Hiking up to Cody Creek on the third week was the hardest thing I ever pushed, and it was probably the most challenging day at NYC.

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

*O'Sullivan: One experience I enjoyed was the sunrise over the cascades from Lake Sally Ann. Another thing I liked was the friends I made at NYC. My third experience I favored was the time I had to spend away from the city.*

*Vincent R.: Believe it or not, I like it all!*

*Hopkins: My favorite is getting ??? from everything. Second would be the thoughts that Lake Sally brought into my mind. The thirst and final would be the friendships.*

*Kim: Going back to town every Friday, but knowing I'd be back in nature in no time. 2<sup>nd</sup> one was hearing other crews' stories. And just camping was great.*

*Johnson: At our fist rec. site when we walked up to an awesome view, Lake Salian, and working on the pct.*

*Jason: Meeting all my great friends, having rec. sites all the time on weekends, being a leader for one day.*

*Nathan: Living in the woods for 5 weeks, working while having fun, and Lake Sally Ann.*

*Jessie: First was the lake we went to. Second is my crew. Third is learning a lot, and my experiences here.*

*Morgan W.: Hiking up Cody Creek pass was extremely challenging, but a great experience. Another one was watching the sunset from lake Sally Anne. But my favorite was the putting new holes in my belt.*

*Vincent R.: the first day, the last day and the memories that I will always have.*

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

O'Sullivan: I will always remember the crew leader and rovers that taught me. I will never forget the crewmembers I spent time with.

Kim: The people I've met and the experiences they shared.

Vincent R.: I will remember it all for the most part!

Hopkins: My crew members are the one thing I will remember, and the experiences we had.

Lozar: The views we saw on high peaks.

Johnson: The people in my crew. They are great people. I love the memories of them. They made it worthwhile.

Jason: My crew. The Smurf crew. Blue crew.

Nathan: Cheesecake and a lot of good memories

Jessie: The cheesecake. My 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, when it was pouring down raining. And, most of all, my crew!

Morgan W.: I don't think I will forget any of it, but (especially) my crew.

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

O'Sullivan: I'm going to do a lot of things I'm going to do differently once I get back home. I feel very goal-oriented.

Kim: I will appreciate nature a lot more, spend more time out there and always push myself.

Vincent R.: Leave no trash and respect people more.

Johnson: Trust in my team and listen to them. Being part of a community needs it. You can not do everything on your own.

Lozar: Be more of a team player.

Jason: Exceed past my minimum capabilities.

Hopkins: Listen twice as much as I talk

I want to give everyone more respect than I think is necessary, just to make their day a little better.

Jason: have a better understanding of safety around the work site. Ignore others if they annoy me.

Morgan: I will push myself, do more and do it better; to push myself to better myself and to succeed.

Jessie: leave no trace when going camping. I will also not drink water from a stream without [adding] iodine.

Nathan: Iodine water and make sure that I make my boss happy.

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

*O'Sullivan: I learned a huge amount about nature and the environment. I also learned how to be a good leader. Another thing is learning a lot about what I want to do in the future.*

*Vincent R.: I learned how to read a map, how to get along with everyone either at bad or at good times, and a lot more.*

*Kim: I learned more about myself and a lot about nature, environment and trail work.*

*Jason: I learned how to be a team player, a leader, and how to exceed my capabilities.*

*Hopkins: I learned to cope with my problems. Second, I learned how to work till I drop. Finally, [I learned] how to enjoy every grain of sand that makes up the time.*

*Johnson: I learned that there is no 'I' in a team, that nature is a beautiful place and that this is a great program.*

*Lozar: To not give a crap*

*Nathan: 1. How to not go insane under the circumstances of having 4 teenagers in close contact with me.*

*2. How to realize that PMA is irrelevant.*

*3. How to push myself*

*Jessie: A LOT!!*

*Morgan: Too much to tell!!*

