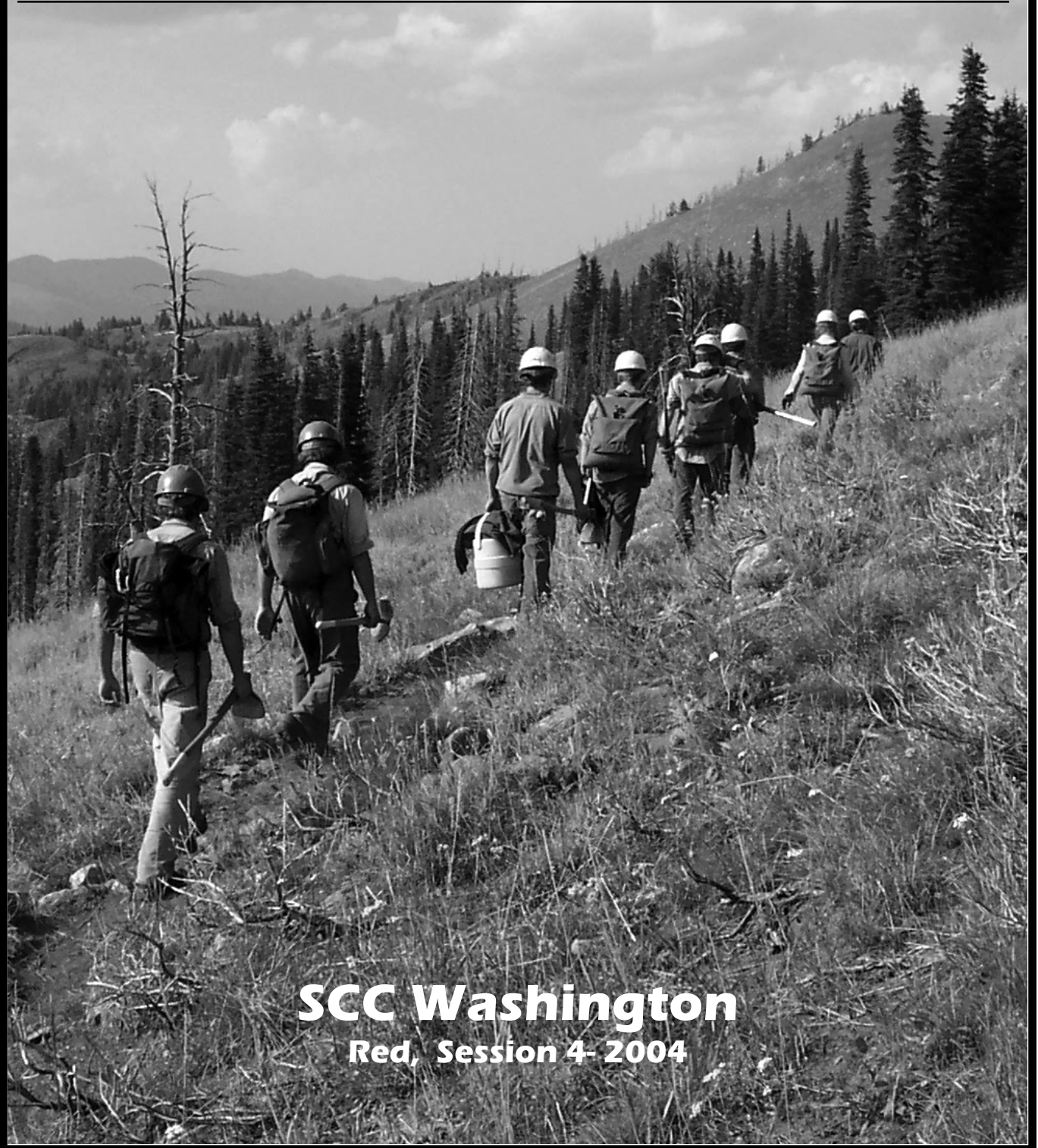




# Crew Journal



**SCC Washington**  
Red, 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 Umatilla  
Ranger District Hepner  
Project Name- Hepner Bridge**

Week 1: Date

Monday: After the 8 hour drive all I wanted to do is sit out the sun and just talk to someone, about anything, didn't matter what. Well guess what I didn't get my wish, oh well. I met cool friends though so that made it better. This camp was a lot different than I thought it was gonna be, I liked it. The games we played at first were kind of weird, but it was funny. I loved how they had so many different ways that you can learn some ones name by playing games. We got in to groups, and they showed and told us lots stuff but I don't remember what though, bus I was really tiered and was spaced out everything. About the drive it was long again, not too bad just 2 hours, then we picked up Kim, and she made us play the oddest game but it was worth it. Than she let us use her bathroom and I felt a lot better, I think everyone did....Monday we didn't have the best start but, the day went pretty good... the dinner looks really good.

Tuesday: Our project is to build an awesome bridge, and do a little trail maintenance. We are in the beautiful Umatilla National Forest! The bridge is awesome and nearly all from what we've seen out here, stones, boulders, & trees. It's very hard work, but at least we don't get too hot here. The night times are the best though, we have the best crew! Jenn

Wednesday: today we put more stringers on the bridge well, actually only 1. but still. They did a lot of hard work on the bridge that totally rocks! The weather is pretty nice. Kim, Sally, Bri & Amber spent the day building a stream crossing. We were soaking wet by the end of the day. We had a lot of fun. We got off work early & had dinner @3. Oh yeah, Jordan came. That's cool. Brian wants me to write about him & we all agreed to take Amber, Terry, & Brian snipe hunting. Bri B.

Thursday: The project of "The Bridge" went well today. We put up our last stringer and went crazy on our own dirt brigade. That was a trip!! After that Kim, Brian, Cameron, Terry, Zoe, Jen, and the 2 Sams finished the stream crossing. That was a good feeling. Back at the bridge Jordan, Jerry, Amber, Sally, and Bri became woodavores and conquered the last of the bridge, well almost. We still have to take another shift. Last but not least Brian is God of the Forest and everyone shall obey his orders. Brian C.

Friday: Today we finished all of the bridge except for the wood railing. Oh well! We had to get up at about 5:30 to pack them worked till 10:00 on the bridge project. After we got done we all signed our Muppet Names under the bridge on one of the sills. We ran back to the van with our tools, packed up and hit the road down to the Ranger Station to take showers, they felt great especially because they were free. And now we are waiting to go do laundry at Prineville. And then head to the weekend site. Later. Brian C.

**National Forest or area that the work took place Ochoco  
Ranger District Ochoco  
Project Name- Black Canyon-Honeymoon Creek Project**

Week 2: Date

Monday: Our crew split up and went to the reservoir in Prineville on Saturday. We lost one this weekend on Saturday night. After we got mail Saturday we left on our rec trip, (the lake). Some of us spent our time actually sitting at les Schwab. One of the vans was messed up. All is well now though hopefully. Then we were told on Sunday that we wouldn't have to go back to the weekend site because we would be gone for 3 weeks-but we don't know where else we are going. We are excited. Ben is our new rover for 3 weeks. Bri & Zoe

Tuesday: this week we are in the Ochoco National Forest working on trail, stream crossings (lots of them!) and brushing. We are having a good time being really wet and enjoying the weather. It's been thundering a lot and it's pretty cool. The day was kind of slow we all worked apart from each other. Tonight we all took part in downing some awesome spaghetti sauce that looked more like poo and had the weirdest texture to it. We did the circle of death & took down at least a spoonful. Props to Terry & Brian who took four spoonfuls big ones at that. Zoe

Wednesday: the trees are swaying and the random people on the radio called in to tell us that there is a "severe thunder storm coming. Hail, rain, extreme wind along with thunder is expected." We all made sure that our tents were "hatched up" as the guy on the radio said. We had

a really good work day. (Oh. It's RAINING!) We went to do quality control on the back half of our trail & finished a stream crossing that we started Tuesday. We collected rocks on the side of this hill that was totally cool. We all had a lot of fun. Since we finished the last end of our main part of the trail so we did another stream crossing next to our camp. A couple of us thigh deep in water collecting rocks. Sally & Bri had a cool idea to take off their helmets, fill them with rocks & float them down stream. Rock Transportation! It was fun. Everyone had soaking wet pant, boots & socks. But was definitely the best part of the day. Cam & Brian made really awesome burritos and rice. Two good meals in a row!! YES!! Cam, Brian & Terry went for a quick hike up to the top of a huge hill. Brianna B.

Thursday: Today we split the crew up to enjoy duff sections of the trail. I took Sam & Bri to do a rock wall section while Ben & the rest of the crew traveled west for some brushing & fun. The weather was great today. Hopefully tomorrow will be just as good! Berley

Friday: Today as the bigger half of the crew hiked out, they saw an elk. We had to wake up at 4:15 am this morning. Brian, Terry, Sam L., & Ben chopped the hell out of a big-big log. Then they hiked out. All restless & tired they ate ramen at a state park to the first night of their weekend. The End. Brian

**National Forest or area that the work took place Ochoco  
Ranger District Zig Zag  
Project Name- PCT**

Week 3: Date

Monday: After our 4 mile hike out of Black Canyon we headed for Mt. Hood. We picked up Cory then made the much anticipated Dairy Queen stop. Cameron's boot escaped from the trailer so we also went to goodwill (and the Oregon Candy Farm). On the way we argued about where exactly Mt. Everest is.

Terry and Sally's family visited. Zoe

Tuesday: This wee we are working on a short section of the Pacific Crest Trail. The work includes re-treading, drainage dips, popping rocs and searching near & far for the dirt to fill our rock holes. This bit of the trail was in decent shape for the most part but needed a little maintenance for this season's hikers. It is an awesome place to work-the views of Mt. Hood are gorgeous and we are close to Thillium Lake. Zoe

Wednesday: No one seemed very happy with our work on Monday-lots of people were sic and our group energy eve was pretty sad so our first goal was to work harder for the rest of the week. We also wanted to prove to Cory that we actually know how to work. Goal #2-Keep chores running smoothly with everyone pitching in so we don't have to assign jobs. Goal #3-Cram as much swimming as possible this week!

Thursday: We learned that it is easy to get a summer job with Forest service, especially forest fire fighting, and it pays well. We also learned good ways to land a job. During break everybody crawled under the van while stapler pointed out different parts, like the brakes! Tuesday Ben had a discussion with us about economics and how it works. Janis

Friday: This week was our first week with Cory. It wasn't too hard for him to come into our crew partly because he had done last session with Kim. Monday started off really slow and we were all unmotivated but Tuesday after lunch every one kicked it into gear and worked really well. Wednesday on the side of the road. We are getting a new crew member some time today or tomorrow. Everybody is anxious to meet him or her. All week there have been chippers eating our food stapler got stung by a bee, on the arm, now his wrist looks like it belongs to a chubby little boy. Sally

**National Forest or area that the work took place –Mt. Hood  
Ranger District- Zig Zag  
Project Name- Zig Zag PCT Mountain**

Week 4: Date

Monday: Last weekend we hiked in 5 miles to our camp site. Our camp was up on Mt. Hood. Man, it was an awesome hike! The view was awesome also. We were up on Sunday morning and worked for four hours, then went on solos. What it came down to is that the rest of the crew slept most of the time. But the view was great! Sam L.

Tuesday: On Tuesday we worked about 9.8(?) hours, just doing lopping and clearing up after that. After work we went to the camp site and made dinner, then did SEED and went to bed.  
Sam L.

Wednesday: This was Darren's first week in our crew, so one of our goals was to get to know him and to fill him in on some of our funky red crew habits. We also wanted to continue to work hard. Our final goal is to use the "leave no trace" ethics. We learned last week in Paradise Park, since it is wilderness area.

Never mind- not done! We are determined to live up to our backcountry motto "Poop it out – don't pack it out!" Since we may hike out a day early, I predict a circle of death feast with double Alfredo sauce pasta tomorrow.

Post note: Mount Hood is beautiful.                      Zoe C.

Thursday: In our group we are having a good time and hang out with each other [in order] to know more about them. Everybody keeps working hard in the sun and everybody gives 100%.  
Cory S.

Friday: Today was Ben's birthday, so Brian and Cory made him a pancake and tried to shape it like a Mickey Mouse, but it didn't work. We also got him two bags of goodies. We went to work and made Ben stay in bed. We are calling Ben "the Mountain" all day, as his wish. We are headed to the weekend site and everyone is excited to show their Mohawks off, I think. I know I am! Terry R.

**National Forest or area that the work took place- Wenatchee  
Ranger District - Wenatchee  
Project Name- Brushing**

Week 5: Date

Monday: This was red crew's first weekend with the other crews in three weeks. Most people went to rec trips along Icicle River. We also got mail (finally!). Dinner was excellent and was followed by a circle where everyone shared their favorite "environmental moment" After the usual chaos of weekend site we packed up our trailer, yelled good bye to the other crews and towards Wenatchee. Zoe

Tuesday: This week's project is going to be brushing along Boulder Creek on the PCT. WE are in the Wenatchee National Forest. We are lopping older and smaller shrubs along the trail that would soon grow into the trail. We are wet and cold but we are trying to make the best of it.

Darren

Wednesday: Our biggest goals and challenges for this week are simply to keep motivated at work while staying relatively normal and dry. The week's weather was cold and wet and it definitely dampens people's spirits. The weather also leads to safety concerns, such as hypothermia and difficult stream crossing.

Another goal was to have some closure with crew activities, since this is our last week!! Hopefully, we will leave with tight relationships and no regrets. Zoe

Thursday: This week our crew learned that getting along isn't always easy when it's raining or just really cold. We learned that our crew works well when we are motivated and want to work.

Friday: This week our crew took our big ol' muscles down Boulder Pass Trail in Wenatchee National Forest. We hiked a "Berly" 8 miles with some switch backs to finish the hike off. Through the whole hike we were surrounded by Glacier Peak Mountains, which was sweet. We arrived at our campsite in about 3 hours and 45 minutes, which was our crew's record time. We started work a little further up the trail with even more beautiful sceneries around us. The first day was gorgeous, but the second didn't turn out as good. It rained all day. Oh yea, all we worked on was sawing stabs the whole week, the sky didn't clear up until the fourth day, and from then on it was beautiful. Since we were so high up and it was raining, we were pretty much working in hypothermic weather. This caused us to move on down by our great pals Orange crew, which is awesome. They left us some lunch when we were low. The rest of the week we worked our way down the switch backs. Then on Friday we hiked out. Cameron H.

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

My most challenging day at NYC was the first week, when I was working with my crew, because I didn't know how much I should have pushed myself. Sam

The day we hiked out of Black Canyon: it was the first "long" hike, all uphill, my pack weighed a half of Zoe, most of our crew was sick and Amber didn't want to hike. Phew!  
Zoe

The day we went to work the last week and everyone was so tired, but then it was worse because it rained and everyone was cold, soaking wet and really cranky. It was so hard to get motivated and to work. The next day was hard - wet boosts - yuck! Brianna

Tuesday of the last week it was cold and wet. It was my hardest day because it was so cold and wet it was hard to work. Sally

The first day we went backcountry. I was really out of shape and my pack didn't work.  
Terry

The last week was OK. It was really cold and wet, also it really nice to see the mountains.  
Cory

First coming to the crew for the first time and trying to get to know everyone.  
Darren

Really, my hardest and most challenging day at NYC was when I had to work in the rain cutting shrubs. Sam

I would like to say that my most challenging day at NYC was during my last week when we had to work in the freezing rain. Cam

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

My first favorite experience is that I didn't know how much hard work I had in me. My second favorite experience is that in a little time I and my crew can do a lot of work. My last one is the whole NYC experience.

When we started, ended, and [when we] made new friends. Brian

Dancing good night to Mount Hood with the Red Crew ladies, going to bed knowing I had worked my butt off that day and being with everyone when we were pumped up and in a good mood. Zoe

Our goodnight dance with my ladies, laughing a lot and standing at Mt. Hood on the PCT seeing Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Jefferson, and Mt. Pioneer. Bri

The end of our first day back country, because I had never backpacked before. It was so rewarding, every day cutting our hair and then meeting the ladies dancing goodnight to the Mountains. Everyone jumping up and down on the bridge we had built. Sally

Building a bridge  
Getting into a crew  
Using the pick mattick

Terry

My three favorites are cutting trees, starting with the new group and finishing my job. Cory S.

-Seeing the crew for the first time  
-Announcing our crew for the fashion show  
-Hiking 71/2 miles with full strength Darren

My three favorite experiences in NYC were the 7 mile hike, crosscutting and the weekend sight.

My three favorite experiences at NYC were getting to meet my crew for the first time, hiking onto the ridge of Mt. Hood, and getting to listen to music after each time we went backcountry. Cam

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

There is a lot of stuff that I will not remember, but one thing [I'll remember] is that everyone worked together. Sam

...That anyone can become the best of friends no matter how many differences they have. Brian

A different opinion is not the wrong one. Really! J Zoe

I will always remember singing country songs with Sal Pal! Bri

I will always remember being at Mnt. Hood on top of a water fall looking at Mt. Hood, Rainer, and Jefferson, and then watching the sun go down. Sally

The difference between my first time going backcountry and my last time doing it. Terry

I will remember my new friends and working with them. Cory

I will always remember the hikes, the people, the projects, and all the good times I had.  
Darren

I will always remember the good times I had. Sam S.

I will always remember the scenic views of each backcountry hike. Cam

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

From now on I will always remember that I can push myself forever. Sam

Treat others as they want to be treated, and respect them. Brian

Get twitchy hands when I see donkey dicks. Zoe

Stop and critique a trail: 'This trail is not wide enough!' I can touch brush from the center!  
Bri

Notice drainages (good or bad) on trails and appreciate the work that went into the trail I walk on and bridges I cross. Sally

Complain when I see a trail that needs to be worked on. Terry

I will do a hard work and have fun. Cory

Remember what I did during the summer and appreciate what I have already [did]  
Darren

Wipe with nature wipes. Terry

From now on I will always be more considerate to people's different views  
Cam

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

I learned that Fridays are god-sent, people don't always get along, we are so lucky to be where we are and having a really good friend to help you through everything is so nice. Bri

I learned how to use a whisper light and a peak, how to dig trail, and how hard but fun it can be living with 11 other people. Sally

- 1) I learned to make knots
  - 2) To leave no trace
  - 3) How to build a wood bridge
- Terry

I learned a lot, things like working together, having fun and learn new skill. Cory

I learned that being an alternate is the hardest job in NYC. I can work my hardest if you give me time and that NYC can take you anywhere. Darren

At NYC I learned that in order to work as a group you must trust your crew.

At NYC I learned many key backpacking skills that will prepare me for many experiences to come. Cam

