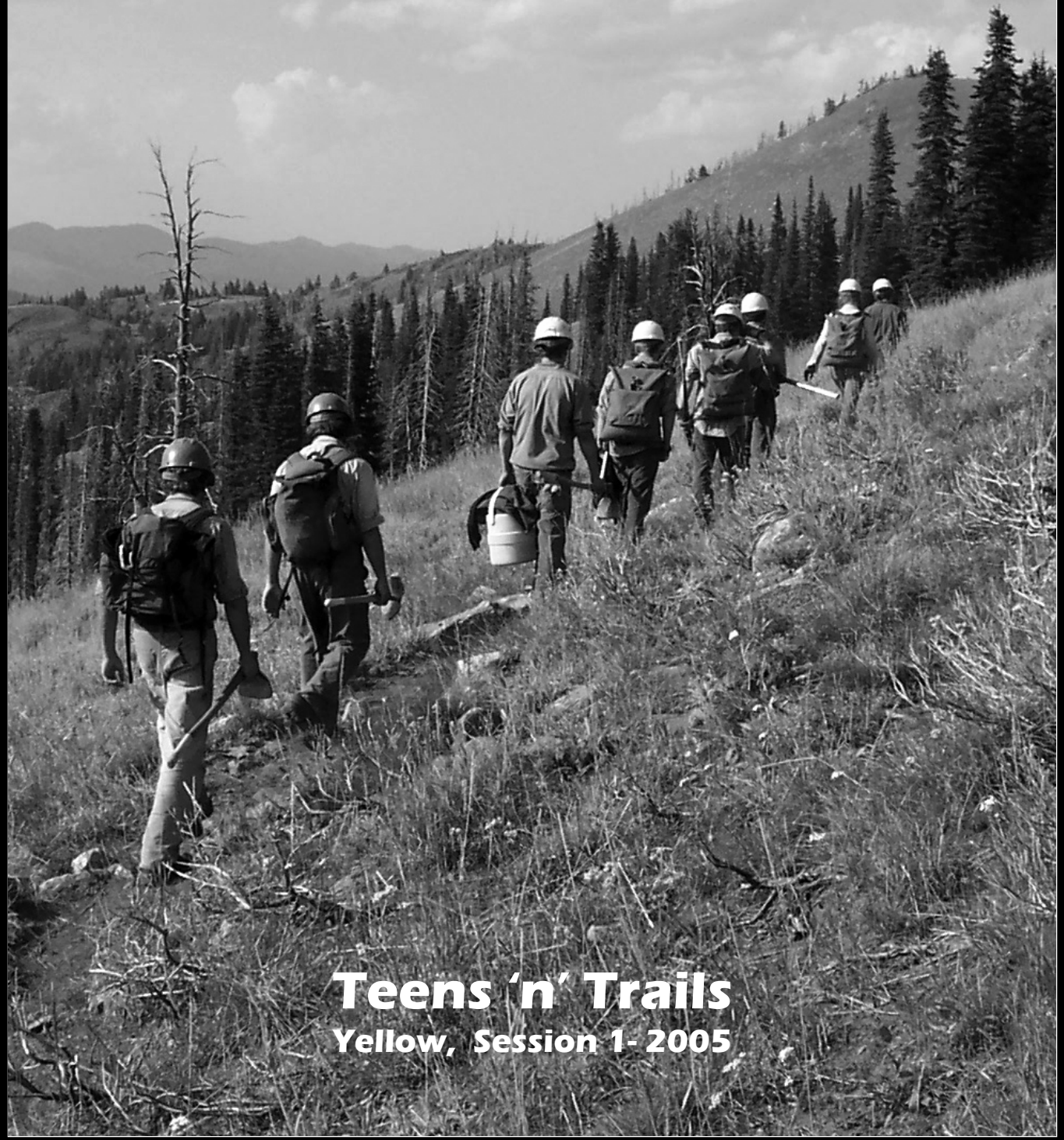




Crew Journal



Teens 'n' Trails
Yellow, Session 1- 2005



Dear NYC graduates,

It is human nature that as time goes by, memories fade and our perception of history changes. Tall tales grow taller, and in the retelling details are lost and added. In your hands is a written record of your crew's trials and tribulations during the summer of 2005. It is a testimony of your successes, challenges, experiences both good and bad as well as some that were weird and wacky. As you sit back in the comfort of your home and relive some of those memories I encourage you to add your own notes on how you felt, what you saw and what you did.

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 prominent loop at the end.

Ryan Ojerio
Program Manager



Project Location: Cascade Siskiyou National Monument
Project Name: Fence Maintenance

Week 1: June 20 – June 24, 2005

Monday: This weekend was our first weekend. On Saturday we had orientation and on Sunday we found out that we ten people are on Yellow Crew. We then traveled about 4 hours to the South of Ashland, in the Cascade Mountain Range area. We set up camp in a beautiful setting next to Hyatt Lake. We even get a semi-civilized toilet! It's pretty cool. It took us about an hour to set up camp. Afterwards, we made dinner and did chores. After that we went over rules and regulations, took a look at the SEED booklet, and pretty much headed to bed. – Heather T.

Tuesday: This week we are doing brushing, and then working on a fence. We are in southern Oregon really close to the border. We have been using pulaskis, hog hoes, loppers, and saws. It is OK work but I'd rather be doing fences. But I am having fun both ways. We can see Mt. Shasta from our worksite, and the view is pretty awesome. I am really glad we are working where we are. We are clearing out brush on the fence so they can do maintenance. –Curtis S.

Wednesday: [Describe your crew's goals for the week:] Finishing this week of work, NO hummus, getting through each day, making it to the weekend site, finishing all projects, taking showers and washing clothes. I had a hard time writing this because I'm a bad writer and I failed writing in school. –Jorge G.

Thursday: We learned how to start a fire, we learned the techniques of the tools, we know how to do chores.. We learned OSHA safety and camp safety. We know that we need to give each other space. –Thomas V.

Friday: Some of my crew's challenges this week were brushing the mile and a half of trail, and trying to hammer the nails into the wood to fix the fence. And we also had some problems with friendships in the crew. We had a lot of accomplishments during the first week of work. Some of our accomplishments were that we only had to spend 2 days on brushing the trail. And another accomplishment is that we finished everything we started. And we finished each project neatly and with an A+ effort. –Cheryl K.

Project Location: Coos Bay BLM – Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area
Project Name: Dean Creek Restoration

Week 2: June 27 – July 1, 2005

Monday: Friday, we got up early, did camp clean-up, and headed for the showers that we had been waiting for the whole week. After we were all dolled up and smellin' good, we went to Henry's Laundromat! When we arrived at Diamond Lake, the first weekend site, we put up our tents, hung out with people, and ate good food. The following Saturday all of the 39 teens split up into 4 groups and went on rec trips. –Amanda G.

Tuesday: This week we are near Reedsport, mostly clearing thistle and blackberries. We are also very tired. This week's good because I get to destroy the heck out of bushes... it's very destructive, quite to the likings of my taste of work. We are also VERY mad because we ain't seen no bears yet! –Jacob B.

Wednesday: [Describe your crew's goals for the week:] We want to see a bear. We want to finally have a good work day for the entire crew, we're not really the best workers. We want to get through the week. –Kennith B.

Thursday: We learned that teamwork is better than working by yourself! We also learned the ocean is fun and a big part of our lives, and the same as rocks! We also learned about living space and that with 5 people living together in the same tent, it's hard and we need to keep clean and organized. –L.J.

Friday: A lot of the challenge, especially for me, was digging out areas for the pipes to go across the trail. I had never done it before and I thought it was hard to chip rocks out. One accomplishment was clearing out the scotch broom; there was lots of it around, and they grew as trees, so some were really hard to get out, but we got it all. Today we cleared out all the thistle,

there wasn't much of it but I'm sure we got it all. The grass was hard to walk in. We were also taking a long time with chores and things, but we've gotten better at it. Another thing was just getting along with each other. There was a big mess in the tents and people didn't like it, so we were having arguments. –Megan E.

Location: Eugene BLM, Shotgun Creek Recreation Area
Project Name: Shotgun Creek OHV Trail System Maintenance

Week 4: July 11 – July 15, 2005

Monday: This weekend was kind of chill and we had a lot of fun. On Friday we took showers, and did laundry, and then we went to the weekend site. Then on Saturday we went for a very short hike and then went RAFTING! Rafting was very fun. I think that it was the best rec trip we've had. Also we also had NYC Idol; that was really fun because we got to use teamwork and show the others what we can do. –Cheryl K.

Tuesday: We are at Marcola in Shotgun Creek. We are clearing trails for motorcycles, quads, and 4x4s. We are doing this because the motorcycles and quads are making ruts, and the brush is hanging over the trail. –Thomas V.

Wednesday: One of our crew's goals is getting through the trails our sponsor assigns to us. A goal around camp every night is getting through chores in 15 minutes. We also like to get through chores after work fast. Another goal is making it through the week without taking anybody off the clock or anyone getting hurt. Another goal is making sure the campsite doesn't get too full. Another goal, because it is the last week, is keeping the peace with everybody in camp and making sure people get along. A goal is always to obey our crew leaders all the time. We always want to give 100% effort always... that is a big goal for the week. –Curtis S.

Thursday: My crew has learned teamwork, responsibility, and respect. We also learned that anything is possible if you know what you're doing and you work hard. We learned how to communicate better with one another and get the job done. We have done trail maintenance for two-wheelers and quads. Also we learned how to make the right decisions and to forgive our past bad decisions. –Amanda G.

Friday: Our major challenge was getting through this 4th week alive without killing each other or getting too mad! Our major accomplishment was when we finished our 4 weeks together and one big happy family! –L.J.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

My most challenging day was the first day. I knew none of these people and I was going to live with them for 4 weeks; it wasn't a bad challenge. Jacob B.

My most challenging day was Tuesday of Week 2—I was really tired all day and it was hard for me; I came through and worked all day long. Kenneth B.

The most challenging day for me was the first day because I had to make friends. Thomas V.

The most challenging day for me was the first day in the third week because it was a five mile hike round trip but I still liked it. Curtis S.

I think the hardest day was the last because I wanted to go home! Krista J (LJ).

My most challenging day at NYC was the third week... we had to hike, we got through it and I felt we accomplished soooo much! Amanda G.

My most challenging day was actually a week... the third one. That 5-mile hike round-trip was really hard but I and everyone else made it through. Heather T.

The most challenging day was probably my first day. I came in as an alternate and it was hard to adjust to everything and get to know everyone. Megan E.

My most challenging day was the first day of the work week when I had to hike 5 miles. Cheryl K.

My most challenging day was the first day of the second week because it was really frustrating looking for something that wasn't there. Jorge G.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

Rafting after the recreation trip, scaring my crew on the last day of the third week, and long bus rides full of jokes and laughter. Kenneth B.

My best three days were when we went rafting, the first Wednesday when we laughed crazy, and the visitors' day when I could show my family what I learned. Jacob B.

My three favorite experiences were the weekend recreational trips, laughing a LOT, and learning a whole lot of new things. Heather T.

My favorite experiences are: learning how to cook, making new friends, and how to work hard. Thomas V.

One was making friends and getting along with people, two was working hard and being proud, and three was spending time with friends. Curtis S.

My favorite experiences were getting through a hard hike where I had to hike 5 miles a day, spending time with crewmembers after work, and having memories to remember for a lifetime. Cheryl K.

My favorite three are meeting everyone, spending four AWESOME weeks with them, then laughing with them. Krista (LJ).

The first day, crying with 4 other girls, and the weekend site. Megan E.

Rafting, Crater Lake, and the beach! Jorge G.

My three favorite NYC experiences were getting through the 4 hard weeks of work, the rec trips, and being able to be with people I really love, like a family. Amanda G.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

I will always remember Leave No Trace camping, and to do something when I am asked. Thomas V.

I will always remember Jorge's bathroom humor—and I will always use the word “deuce.” Kenneth B.

I will always remember my friends I have made. I will also always remember the countless life skills I obtained. Jacob B.

I will always remember the days we laughed, cried, and fought together. I will always remember the camp fire stories, the alternate (Megan), and I will always remember the memories. Amanda G.

I will always remember the laughs we had, the crying fests, and the times we had together. And I will remember that forever! Krista (LJ).

Something I will always remember are the friends I made and the people I met. I will always remember them. Curtis S.

One thing I will always remember will be the people and the family I've made. Cheryl K.

I will always remember the 40 new friends I made while doing this program. Jorge G.

Water conservation, my experiences here, and my new family. Megan E.

I will always remember this whole program... the new places, the new family, friends, laughs, cries, and all the fun. But especially the people in my crew. Heather T.

From Now On I Will Always...

I will always be thankful for what I have, and not want more but appreciate what I've got! I also will always remember all of the things people taught me! Krista J.

Get to know people before I judge them. I will always use Leave No Trace camping. I will always be more helpful. Curtis S.

From now on I will always help others. Thomas V.

From now on I will always look at both sides of an issue before acting on an impulse. Kenneth B.

I will always do work when it needs to be done. I will always appreciate things I have, like a flushable toilet. Jacob B.

I will always approach problems with a positive attitude, and will do things for my mom, no questions asked. Cheryl K.

Be thankful for the things that I have, be more accepting of people, and be more comfortable with myself. Megan E.

I will always think about how hard it is to work for money. Jorge G.

From now on I will always use less toilet paper, not waste food, and be thankful for what I have. Amanda G.

Now I will always be thankful for everything that I have and be appreciative. I will also have a more positive attitude when working with others. From now on I will always keep these 9 other people, 10 including Emily, in my heart. Heather T.

At NYC I Learned...

To get along with people better and be more social. I have learned to be away from home for extended periods of time, and to work harder and appreciate the things I've done. Curtis S.

I learned to get along with people better and to be relaxed about things rather than getting mad at it and yelling like I used to! Krista J (LJ).

At the youth corps I learned to be flexible and go with the flow, and not to start problems out of little things that can easily be solved. Kenneth B.

I learned how to communicate with 11 other people. I also learned work ethic and how to appreciate a flushable toilet. Jacob B.

I learned that I can get along with all other people, how to cook, and how to use different tools/ water conservation. Megan E.

I learned how to live with 11 other people, and how to wake up early, and how to get straight to work. Jorge G.

I learned I don't need flush toilets, I don't need a lot of what I use, and I learned I'm a hard worker. Thomas V.

At NYC I learned that you shouldn't take long showers (to conserve water), and that you should have positive attitudes even in the most negative situations. Cheryl K.

I learned to have teamwork, to communicate, and to be positive no matter what happens. I also learned how to use tools properly, including the Pulaski, hog, and hazel. Amanda G.

Over the past 4 weeks I have learned a lot of things... to appreciate things like toilets and electricity. I've learned to cook with limited resources, and I guess another good thing was how to tie down a trailer well. Heather T.