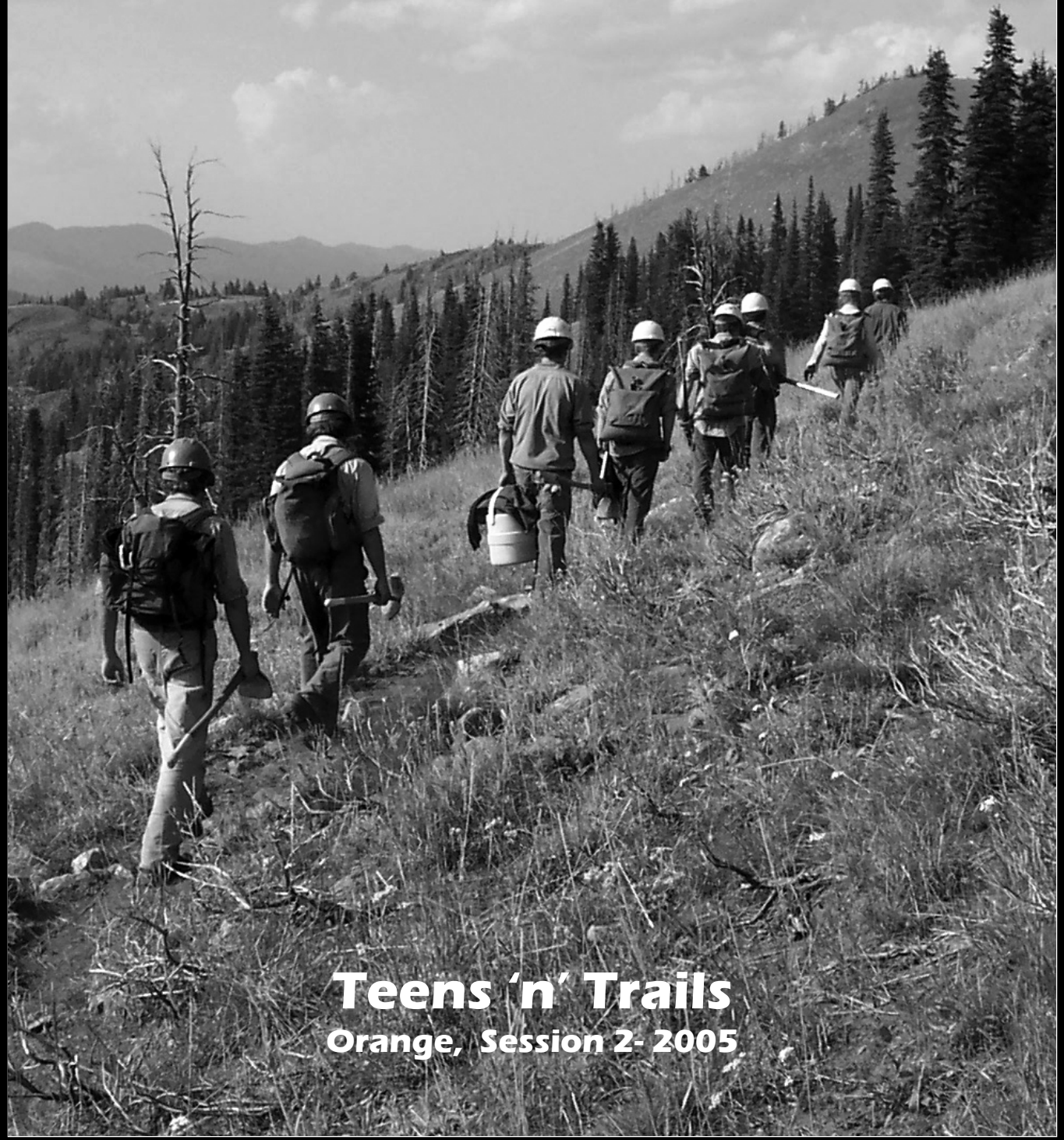




# *Crew Journal*



**Teens 'n' Trails**  
**Orange, Session 2- 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: Coos Bay BLM, New River Area of Critical Environmental concern**  
**Project Name: New River ACEC Trail Maintenance**

**Week 1: July 25 – July 29, 2005**

Monday: We had to meet at NYC Headquarters at 10:00am [this Saturday]. We spent all day learning the ropes and getting to know everyone. Everyone was really nervous, but I think we had a right; we were going to be with these people for a month. But it was great and the counselors were also awesome. –Katy L.

Tuesday: We went down to New River Beach and made the trails a little wider, trimmed the trees and bushes, and made the ground flat and leveled. We are also going to spend a day hauling driftwood and piling it on eroded soil. At the end of the week, we're going to cut down blackberries. –Jennifer S.

Wednesday: Some of our goals are to finish our hours for the week, to move as a crew, to push ourselves a little harder, and have less complaining and more focus. –Brady C.

Thursday: We learned how to tie knots this week and how to cook. We also learned how to build a fire. At work, we learned how to use our tools properly and work long days without stopping. –Corey E.

Friday: In just the past week, this crew has already come a long way. Bonding hasn't been too much of an issue and they've already become fast friends. But other issues such as working consistently and staying focused have been major challenges. No one said this job was going to be easy, and this group found that out. Their muscles ache and they're worn out, but they should feel great because they cleared more blackberries this week than most NYC crews could in a month! Way to go, Orange Crew! You should feel proud! – Jean W.

**National Forest: Fremont**

**Ranger District: Lakeview**

**Project Name: Fremont National Recreation Trail Maintenance**

**Week 2: August 1 – August 5, 2005**

Monday: [Friday], we packed up all of our stuff and headed to the weekend site. When we got there, an extremely over-enthusiastic Red Crew unloaded our trailer for us. We basically just chilled the first night and ate dinner under an unreasonably low-strung tarp. The next morning, we got to sleep in for a pretty long time, and that was awesome. We went on our rec trips and bought all kinds of sick supplies at the store. On Sunday we woke up early again and packed everything up for the road. We thought that we had escaped Dan's dreaded 8-counts, but how wrong we were... –Scott M.

Tuesday: We are in the Fremont National Forest. We are brushing the bushes and widening the trail. We are doing a rock wall. We are sitting on a tilted table. The end. –Alicia A.

Wednesday: This week I think our best goal is to complete the trail, and get it all cleaned up and all the sides nicely chopped, LOL. Then we can move on to our next site. And a couple other goals are to complete all of our chores in 55 minutes, then to do dishes in under 10 minutes so we can earn popsicles and candy bars. –Sterling A.

Thursday: Our crew learned a good deal about trail maintenance, like how to drain the water off the trail so it doesn't collect on the trail, and how to go about building a rock wall. We have also learned to sleep on a slant and predict the weather.

Friday: Right from the start, my crew felt the challenges of living in the middle of nowhere. We were camped in the Fremont National Forest, far from latrines and running water. Our tents and tables were on a slope, and our water had dirt and debris in it from the creek. Even at work, we had to contend with the blazing sun, high altitude, and dust from the trail.

Yet despite all of this, Orange Crew stuck it out and made it through the week. We got used to the water and the slant, and learned to find ways to keep our minds off of the heat and homesickness. I was extremely impressed with the quality of work I saw, plus several crew-members really stepped it up with their pace and intensity. The contact even remarked that the

trail looked better than when it was first built! Way to go Orange!

The biggest challenge that the crew is still facing, however, is commitment. There was a lot of talk about going home over the weekend, and even though they're having fun and enjoying the company of their crewmates, homesickness seems to be taking hold of the group. Only time will tell! –Jean W.

**Project Location: Coos Bay BLM**  
**Project Name: Range Management Projects**

**Week 3: August 8 – August 12, 2005**

Monday: Our crew spent the weekend on different trips on Saturday, and when we got back our parents were there and waiting for us to return. We hung out with our families and other people's families. –Brittany F.

Tuesday: We are near Elkton and we are clearing out blackberry bushes, again. The reason why we're doing it is so that the BLM can lease the land to cattle ranchers for grazing. –Jennie S.

Wednesday: [Our goals are to] put in all of our hours so we can go swimming, get all of our jobs done, wake up at 5:00 in the morning, push all of ourselves to the limit, and not fight with the crew. –Corey E.

Thursday: I think that our crew learned better teamwork, to respect each other a bit more than earlier this week, and that touching an electric fence feels very funny. We also learned about geology and watersheds. We studied the stars one night and learned 4 constellations: Big Dipper, Little Dipper, Cassiopeia, and Draco. –Brady C.

Friday: Teamwork has been a major challenge for this crew all session long, and they're constantly working on cooperating and working together rather than against one another. I saw a glimmer of hope for Orange Crew toward the end of the week, and they started motivating each other so that they could all go swimming after work. Another challenge they're trying to overcome is their lack of motivation and speed. We've been working on doing chores and dishes much faster, and we've also been trying to get to work earlier by hustling in the morning. They still have a way to go with this challenge, but hopefully week #4 will be the one that sees it happen! –Jean W.

**Project Sponsor: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**

**Location: Starvation Creek Wayside**

**Week 4: August 15 – August 19, 2005**

Monday: This weekend was full of adventure. The Oregon Caves were our first and only stop on Saturday morning. Later that day we went swimming and finally drove back to our weekend site. Late that day we received our mail, ate dinner, and went to bed. Sunday was an easy day with an 8-hour drive. –Paul L.

Tuesday: Our project is pulling English ivy and building rock walls with gravel filled in. We are at Starvation Creek next to the Columbia River. We're building the walls to level the ground under picnic tables, and the ivy is not good for the trees. –Corey E.

Wednesday: Our goal for this week is to work really hard so we can dress Jason up in drag and take him like that to Big Clean. That would be a goal worth fighting for. –Brady C.

Thursday: We learned that at the end it pays off, because our contact has done so much for us... he's given us ice cream and donuts, told us about an awesome swimming hole supposedly, and we got this awesome camp site... it's the best one yet. –Sterling A.

Friday: All I can say is that it wasn't an easy 4 weeks. It was a constant challenge for the crew to get along with each other, plus a challenge to get motivated and moving at work and at camp. But we all survived the experience and we're stronger people because of it. I'm proud of Orange Crew for their individual accomplishments, such as tolerating others' differences or eating food that they're not used to. Several people didn't think they would make it past the second week, but they did and proved to be amazing workers in the end! Finally, I have to say I've never felt a greater sense of accomplishment than I have after moving 14 tons of gravel in 6 hours. After shoveling and carrying wheelbarrows all day, it was more than worth the muscle aches and the sweat to look back on a job well done. The contacts were extremely pleased with our work, and so am I! –Jean W.

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

The first week when we had to remove all the blackberries.

In week one, when we were working with Corey on the blackberries and he was micro-managing our every action.

I think it was the first day of work, because I re-hurt my knee.

I think the first week when we moved the drift wood, because there was so much of it.

My biggest challenge was doing the same job for 3 weeks straight. A little variety would have made work easier.

My biggest challenge was keeping my fists in my pockets because people think they can try my patience.

The day after my best friend Brittany left and the whole crew had to make up all her hours.

My most challenging day was the last full work-day; everyone wanted to go home.

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

Learning how to build a rock wall, making a mile-long trail, and most of our SEEDs.

Store stops, mafia, and weekend sites.

Rec trips, rock walls, and showers.

Store stops, phone calls, and meeting some of the people.

Road trips, different camp site, and the way my love grew.

Store stops, phone calls, and the weekend road trips.

I loved the weekend sites.

I loved the showers, rec trips, and road trips.

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

Jean and her long but meaningful lectures.

I will always remember the pile of gravel we moved.

I will always remember my crew.

Are the people here and their impact on my life.

I will always remember Jean Walker and my co-workers.

I will always remember Jean, and all my new friends that I got here at NYC.

I will always remember how my work was greatly appreciated.

I will always remember the people I got to work with.

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

Work my hardest and never give up.

I will not take for granted what I have at home.

Take a shower.

Keep on with the personal hygiene.

Remember that though you may not get along with some of the people, do your best anyways.

Be good to my environment and work hard at my job.

I'm going to appreciate the long showers at home.

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

I learned to be more patient, to accept people for who they are, and not to take things for granted.

I learned how to do trail maintenance, how to have better self-control, and how to go a week without a shower.

That I can go a week without a shower, teamwork, and that I can cook.

To take some people's immaturity into consideration, patience, and perseverance.

Patience, not to curse, and self-discipline.

To try to hold back almost all of my anger, and that without teamwork and patience, you would have nothing.

I have learned how to protect, work, and care for the environment.

I have learned about nature.