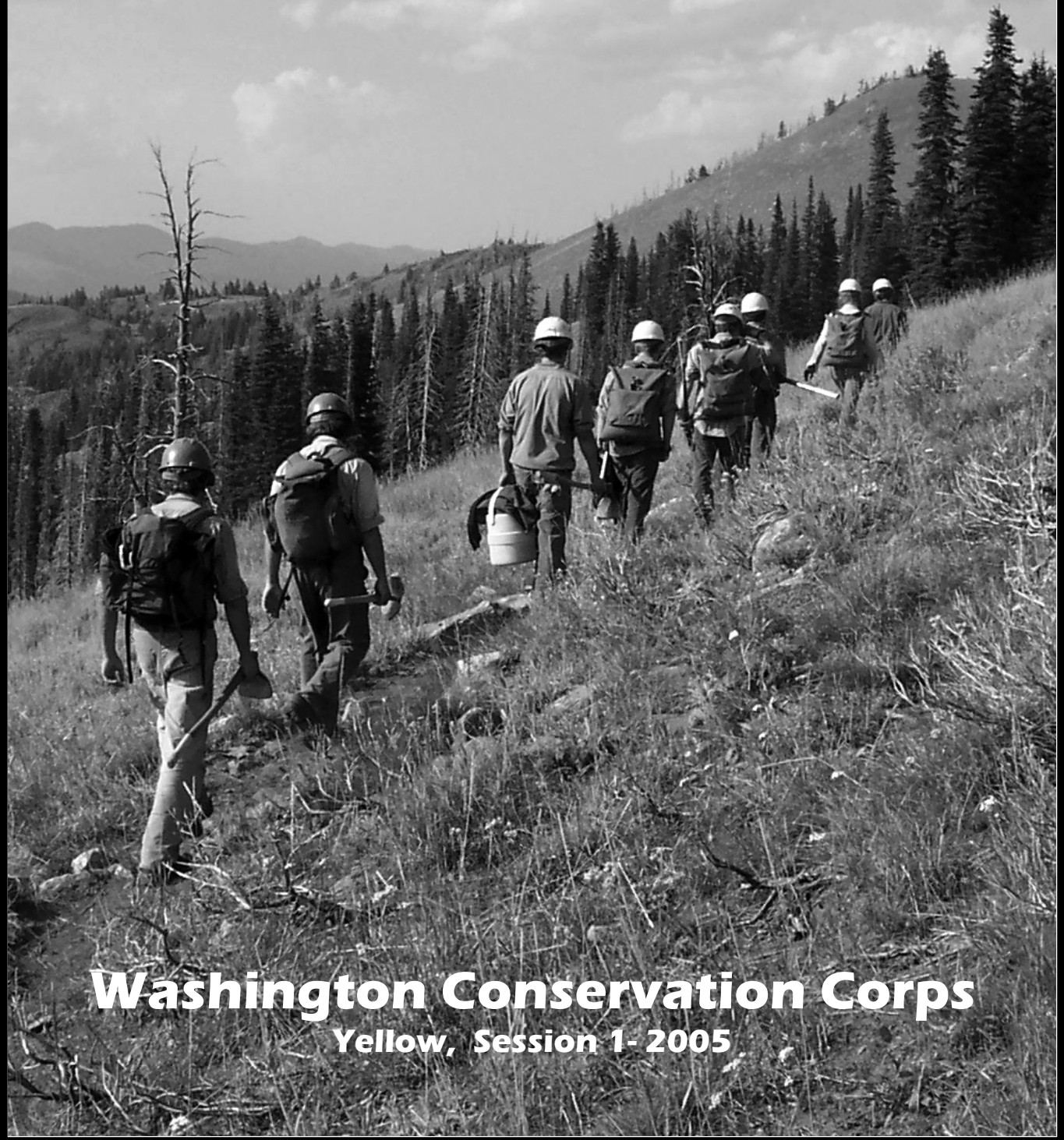




Crew Journal



Washington Conservation Corps
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,

Billy!

Billy Scrafford
Program Manager
a.k.a. "Office Geek"



**Salem BLM Nat'l Forest
Ranger District
Project Name- Molalla River Trail**

Week 1: June 12-June17

Monday: I met my crew, we had lots to do, we dug up dirt, I got junk on my shirt, I wore my hat, I never sat, I saw a snake, we got a few breaks, all in all it's been fun, it'll be a long time before I'm done. Ron's a cool kid who's really funny, Tawney's attitude is always sunny, Valerie's so cool in every way, Alex always has good things to say. Caroline is a great cook, I can read Jessie P. like a book. Lynda's always got a smile, Jessie S. could run for miles. Cole's in a really cool band, Shilo is such a neat man, Melanie makes me happy when I'm sad, Jordan makes me see the good in the bad.

Brie D.

Tuesday: We are out in the middle of nowhere, every one is cranky and tired and it's only the second day, but the only thing that really matters is that we are having fun and respecting each other and having team work.

Alex B.

Wednesday: Our goals for the week are to push ourselves to work our hardest. We also have a trail to clean up and build a turnpike. In order to reach our goal we are going to have to work together as a team helping each other to complete each project.

Thursday: This week, I think our crew has learned how to use the tools properly, work hard without getting scolded, etc. Next week should be easier, then a cinch from there!
Churchill!!

Cole

Friday: This week my crew has had many challenges. First week we had to do a lot of work which was far harder than anyone had done before. Second we had to get to know the program. What I mean by that is the way things work when at NYC. Last we had to deal with each other. I think we had a few minor quarrels, but overall I think that we are united as a team and will slowly become a family. Part of the reason we will grow so strong is thanks to you Jordan. You gave us an extremely difficult assignment right off the bat and I think since we all have that under our belts we have an advantage. Thanks. As far as our accomplishments, we worked on the lower rim trail outside Molalla, Oregon. We built a massive turnpike as well as many drain dips and brushed. We were all able to work our tails off, and that, I believe, is our biggest accomplishment.

Mello Yellow Hardcore
Ronald L.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Roseburg BLM
Ranger District
Project Name- Roseburg Pruning**

Week 2: Date: June 19th – June 25th

Monday: This weekend we went to the weekend campsite and saw all the other crews. We mostly just relaxed all weekend except for some rec. trips which were hikes and store stops. Melanie did not join us for the weekend activities, though. The crew's morale would have been crushed except for we had a really cool rover. Shilo is the man. Mellow Yellow hardcore....Ronald L.

Tuesday: This week we have the pleasure of pruning tree after tree in a flagged off area. We are maintaining areas of forest. We have to make everything we do interesting during the day in order to keep ourselves on task, we are learning teamwork and trust in this project....Valerie Y.

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for the week are to finish the pruning project with a great push, while keeping ourselves motivated and having a good time....Jesse S.

Thursday: This week we learned the pointless, repetitive task of pruning trees. Some of us had difficulty keeping ourselves motivated but with the persuasive efforts of our leaders we all made it through the week. Caroline C.

Friday: A huge challenge for our crew this week was staying motivated and positive. Staying motivated is very hard to do when you're working on a project like pruning. After the first eight hour day of just pruning it gets repetitive and boring. A challenge was going to work everyday with little to keep you motivated. In the end though we all came through as a team. AWESOME!...Lynda R.

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

Week 3: Date: June 26th-July 2nd

Monday: What we did this week was go on rec. trips. It was parent weekend and yeah it was real fun and exciting ...yeah it was fun....

Tuesday: We are in Mount Hood national forest, working on the PCT!! We are filling in a turn-pike because it has been worn down from people and horses walking on it. Me and B-Man totally busted out a ton-o-dirt at the end of the day...

Wednesday: Today is hump day of hump week! We got lots of candy and pancakes. We dug really, really big holes at the worksite. The holes were gigantically massive. Our campsite number is 4200023. Melanie and Cole have found common ground through the misfits. Alex cannot make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Melanie and Jesse have gone to ride ponies and eat candy. Everyone's body is very sore from work today. Somebody ate Ron's chips. Today's vesper is really sweet. Our goals are to make it through the week...Caroline

Thursday: What we learned this week is how to build really big holes and how to fill them back in. We also learned that Alex can't make sandwiches and can't bring any other food because he forgets. We learned how to walk three miles to get to our work site...Alex

Friday: This week we were challenged by hauling dirt in wheel barrows. It was hard. We also hiked a lot and that was hard. But we accomplished a lot and dug some sweet holes. Seriously I love NYC....Jesse S.

National Forest or area that the work took place
Ranger District- Eugene BLM
Project Name- Cake Creek Falls Picnic area

Week 4: Date July 3rd – July 9th

Monday: On Saturday we went to Smith Rivers and went swimming and had a great time. After that we went to Florence beach and had an awesome dinner. On Sunday we went to another creek and went swimming down a water slide. After that we went back to Florence beach and did SEED and hung out and then came back to camp...Alex

Tuesday: We are at Whitaker Creek Camp ground. The camping spots are extremely small. We are doing some work around camp and working on some trail.

Wednesday: Finish The Trail!...Church!!!! "I'm not confused I'm well mixed" – Robert Frost. Red gummy bears are good. This next week is supposed to be really really hot. Now into the void we go. The muffin man? No not the gum drop buttons.

Thursday: I think we all learned how to tie new knots and we learned how to be a better worker. We learned a lot about Salmon. We learned Garlic keeps away mosquitoes. This is my 5th sentence.

Friday: We had a terribly strenuous week of back breaking labor. Fortunately Cole and I had the privilege of performing tasks with these tricky mechanical machines that blew out an unlimited amount of air. These so called “leaf blowers” were given to us by some guy at the campsite. We were commanded to peddle along the road and use our fake wind contraptions and blow all the leaves, sticks and rocks off the road. Then about five minutes later the wind would pick up and blow all the leaves and twigs and rocks back on the road. So there was really no point in doing this but we did it anyway. And that about sums up our week!...Caroline C.

National Forest or area that the work took place: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Ranger District: Ecola State Park

Project Name- Indian Beach

Week 5: July 10th-July 16th

Monday: Last weekend we took a hike. Last weekend we saw a dog. Last weekend we went to sleep. Last weekend we threw rocks in the water. Last weekend we packed up and left...John

Tuesday: We are making some water bars where mold builds up. Because we don't like mud build up! What kind of vague questions are these?!...

Wednesday: Yellow crew's goals for the week on Indian beach trail is to put in water bars, finish the steps and check steps. The hikers are very appreciative but slow down progress at times. It's so awesome to be working hard and then you just turn your head and see something that looks like it should be on a post card. We've had some of the best weather for the past two days, which makes up for our tent almost getting knocked over in the rain on Monday. At first I wasn't too excited to be here but after wading in the ocean after work with surfers and cute dogs running around I'll miss it...Emily P.

Thursday: The clothes that were inside are far more smelly. I sat up and walked giant green slimy slugs. Where the ocean meets the sky it begins with. Then after candles were lit we danced around them chanting “keep the San Juans green.” The crescent wrench went missing! We came from a singularity; an infinitely hot, infinitely dense, and infinitely small point. You're crazy- drink water! To remove product intact, set a flat knife around inside edge of can, invert and shake...Caroline

Friday: The crew's challenges this week were being able to get as far as we could on the Lewis and Clark trail! Also being able to get some stairs and some water bars done. We cut back some trees and did some brushing and also some....

National Forest or area that the work took place
Ranger District
Project Name- Fort to Sea Trail

Week 6: July 17th-July 23rd

Monday: Our weekend sight was at the beach in between Seaside and Astoria. It was pretty cool. We hung out on the beach and went down town with other crews on Saturday. On Sunday we woke up and got all of our stuff packed up and headed to the Lewis and Clark trail which was five minutes away...Alex B.

Tuesday: On the last week we are working on the Lewis and Clark Fort-To-Sea trail. We are barreling gravel and then shoveling gravel and then barreling gravel and then shoveling, barreling, shoveling, barreling etc. We also made new trail and are making rock walls....Lynda R.

Wednesday: Our goal for the week on the Lewis and Clark, Fort-to-Sea trail is to finish graveling the muddy spots and to rake it so it looks like the gas powered wheel barrels have never been there. We're already pretty close so I know we'll be able to get it done on time.

Thursday: Today we are (at) the absolute last day of work. We completed 2,520 hours of hard man labor...Caroline C.

Friday: For the last entry I will write about two of my friends on my crew. Cole is the sadistic one, who usually has something funny to say. Jesse is the crazy one. He is a hard worker, a good cook and has a very nice sleeping pad. Every morning these two guys (and myself) wake up and go to work. We always speak our minds. Anyway I think that if it weren't for these two I may not have made it through the six week session. Thanks. P.S. You're fired...Ronald L.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

My most challenging day at NYC was when I had to choose between French toast or pancakes!...Cole

My most challenging thing I did at NYC was doing gravel...John D.

The most challenging day was the first day when we had to carry these really heavy logs like 1 ½ miles...Jesse

The most challenging thing was the 2nd week when we had to prune trees for 5 days straight...
Caroline

My most challenging day was coming in as an alternate and not knowing anyone. On top of that, I was sick with the stomach virus. I threw up on the bus and it was only my second day...
Emily P.

Pruning trees...talk about looking deep for motivation...Lynda R.

My most challenging day was day one when we had to carry food 1 mile in a slippery trail...
Val

My most challenging day was the first couple of days of work where we had to walk 1 mile...
Tawnie P.

My most challenging day at NYC was when we had to haul loads of gravel down a half mile
hill...Alex

My most challenging day was when Jesse, Cole and I sprinted down a mountain with full wheel
barrows....Ronald

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

Meeting new people and making new friends. Learning new things about the work site. Pushing
Shilo into a huge ditch during the fifth week at Ecola State Park...Valerie Y

My favorite time is when Shilo and I were just hangin out by the ocean talking for an hour...
Alex

The people that I had met that were new rovers were the best. I don't have a favorite rover...
John D.

I really enjoyed our work site by the ocean. I got to wake up and see an ocean every morning.

The first day and meeting people for the first time was one of my favorite times. Swimming on
hot days and giving back massages for free...Emily

My three favorite NYC experiences were probably when we were swimming at the ocean with
Shilo. Also when we were watching B-man doing Yoga in a kilt on the beach and meeting all
these awesome people...Lynda R.

My three favorite experiences have been throughout the whole session. One is when we went
to the Smith river, fish ladder with B-man, another was hanging out with Shilo the first week
that last was on the last work day right before we went to bed there was an awesome sunset...
Jesse

My three favorite experiences have been throughout the whole six weeks; the second thing was
the first week when we had Shilo and we would play Mafia...Tawnie

The Rec. trip was awesome the first week with Shilo. Hanging out at Bryan Dugans fish lad-
der. Being in downtown Seaside. Joining the Flash Thompson club...Cole

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

My most challenging thing that I did this semester was taking gravel in wheel barrows and hauling down the hill ...John

I will always remember getting stuck in a giant mud puddle and having to push the van out... Valerie Y.

I will always remember the most random music we listened to. Everything from Cannibal Corpse to Old Crow Medicine...

My most challenging moment was running wheel barrows full of gravel down a 1/22 mile trail with blisters and then having to push the wheel barrows back up the hill...Emily P.

The experience of starting from scratch with 9 people and then turning into a family. The real meaning of Mi Casa Es Su Casa...Lynda

One thing I will always remember is all the good times I had with my crews...Jesse

The thing that I will always remember is I had a great time with 9 other people...Tawnie P.

Is when Shilo and I were talking on the beach about how far you can see....Alex B.

How bad my body hurt...Ronald L.

From Now On I Will Always...

I will remember how people who live in Bend, Oregon all ride in Hummers! How Caroline's feet reek and Linda's smile. How my sleeping bag smelled, and lastly how my body hurt... Ronald Lem

I will always remember just how good everyone got along with each other...John D.

I will always remember how Tawnie rubbed my back and held my hair back when I was sick. She didn't even really know me but was really nice...Emily P.

I will remember the Ronald Lem show, Cole's singing, Caroline's completely random ways and watching everyone grow in different ways...Lynda R.

I will remember the Ronald Lem show and Coles screaming, Linda's smile and Jesse's sense of humor...Alex B.

From now on I will always try to conserve water and not waste as much...Jesse

From now on I will always try to never take things for granted and remember to conserve be-

cause it might not always be there...Valerie Y

From now on I know not to waste food and drink a lot more water...Tawnie P.

At NYC I Learned...

Leadership, responsibility and friendship, I learned all of these things in a nice manner, NYC was probably the best experience of my teenage years. I think that I will keep coming back for years to come...Alex B.

I learned how to gain team work and leadership...Tawnie P.

I learned that team work is better than trying to do work by oneself.

I learned to appreciate trails more...Caroline

I learned how accepting and understanding people can be...Emily P.

I learned to accept and get along with people that are different than me...Lynda R.

I learned leadership skills and how to build trails...Jesse P.

I learned to build trails and maintenance and how to make new friends...Valerie