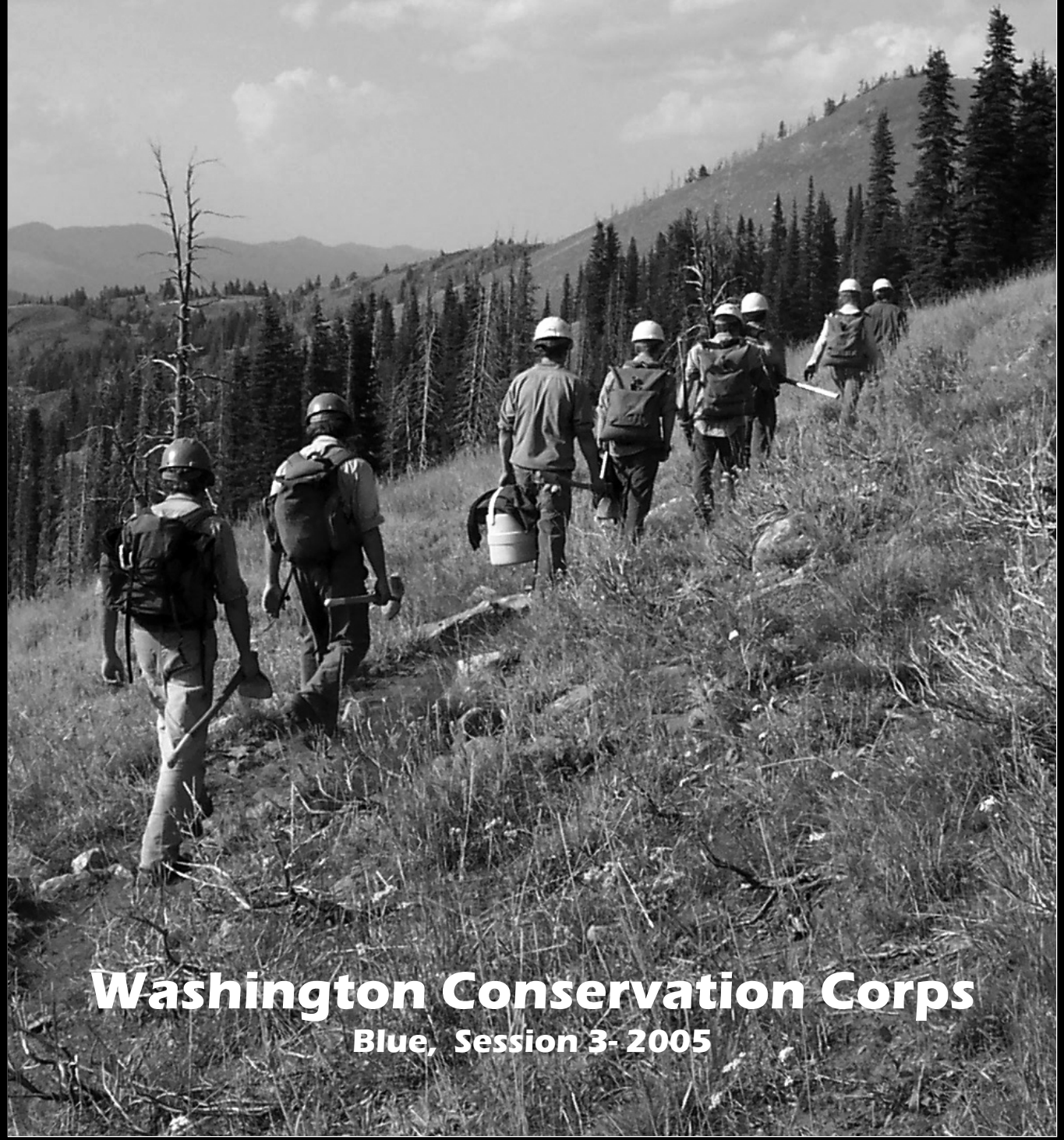




Crew Journal



Washington Conservation Corps
Blue, Session 3- 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"



Oregon State Parks and Recreation
Project Name- Stubs Stewart State Park

Week 1: July 31 – August 6

Sunday: Well it's the last day of July, and the first day out in the woods with the rest of blue crew. So far everything is working out pretty good. Nobody seems to have any problems with anybody else on the crew and hopefully it will stay that way for the next 5 weeks. We've got a good mix of kids and I'm sure we're gonna get a lot done. I'm really glad we have a few returners on our crew to kinda show us the ropes. Everyone's pretty funny and I think having a crew that I can laugh with and have a good time with will definitely make this experience a ton of fun. And I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone while doing something nice for the community. –Jessica

Monday: On Saturday we went to orientation and met 39 other corpsmembers. On Sunday we hung out on the bus during the 3 hour bus trip and set up camp until 7:00pm and at 7:15 we started SEED and played cool games. On Monday we woke up and ate pancakes for breakfast so after breakfast we cut down Alder trees all afternoon and after lunch we started to cut a trail through the forest. –Andrew K.

Tuesday: We are in the to-be Stubs State Park. We are clearing out campsites for hikers and we busted out a sweet trail throughout the area. We removed a lot of Alder trees for a rec. area and piled stuff. A state park has not been made in 33 years in the state of Oregon. The Stubs man was a huge contributor to NYC and Oregon. Oregon wants to make this park in his honor. –Ben H.

Wednesday: Our crew needs to complete 23 tent campsites. We want to make some bomber dinners and bust out on dishes. We want to get to bed on time. We want every one to stay here for the five weeks. We all should take a crap at least once a day. We all want to get along. –Ben H.

Thursday: We learned about the finger of fate, proper tool stance, and how to build trail and camp sites. Basically every thing you learn in the first week. The basics. –Jay

Friday: Today we sweated our butts off. The End.
Just kidding, we finished clearing the rest of the trails and camp sights but the best part is we only worked four hours. Mike lost a tool so now we're going to the Bell. SWEET! –Ruthey F.

Willamette National Forest
Middle Fork Ranger District
Project Name- Deception Butte Trail Reroute

Week 2: August 7 – 13

Weekend: Saturday we went swimming and had free time we gave Jay a Mohawk the girls all get in the middle of the tent at night and talk, it is fun. We went to the park when Ky was at the doctor. David was shooting the air and we went on the merry-go-round and Andrew was getting sick, so was everyone else. –Caitlin P.

Monday: Today it was hard to keep spirits high from lack of sleep during weekend partying. We worked it out then went swimming in the middle fork of the Willamette after work. THE END.

Tuesday: We are busting out some serious pimp status trail on the Willamette River area. Blue crew got the project special because we are da bomb. There is a crap-load of frigging logs and roots and rocks to move and hinges that are like 3 ft tall. But I'm not sure that blue crew will let that slow them down- actually I know it won't. –Davah W.

Wednesday: For this week our crew's goal is to finish a thousand feet of trail and make it look awesome! We have built about 800 feet already but we still have about 12 ½ hours left and our crew is da bomb so I know we can do it. We started off slow and still working our way up to great success. Tomorrow will be another day and I will work hard to get everyone to work harder, faster and have as much fun as possible. We will finish this trail and once we do I think Dairy Queen is an awesome idea to give to mike. –Cierston S.

Thursday: Well we learned that we are very close because we lost two of the best people on our crew. We cried when they left. We also learned to follow the rules since the reason the two got fired was because they did not follow the rules.
P.S. No one can quit. –Caitlin P.

Friday: This week we were digging trail we went slow the first day but on the second one we go 250 feet before lunch. That's when we had all ten of our crew we lost Jessica the Best and cutest girl in the crew we lost Cirsten that was the challenge of the week because we all miss them so much. We miss them. I WANT JESSICA BACK. –Caitlin P.

**National Forest- Baker Snoqualmie
Ranger District- North Bend
Project Name- Dutch Morgan Trail Maintenance**

Week 3: August 14 – 20

Monday: This weekend we did not get to the weekend site until 1:30am cuz we were so far away. Then we went on rec trips. They were fun. Our family could come and visit. My dad came. Then Sunday we loaded up and hiked 2 ½ miles in to camp. Well, we got halfway and camped at a site at the river. – Caitlin P.

Tuesday: Our project this week is cleaning up trail. We are in the Cascades in the middle of nowhere. This is also the most beautiful place ever. We are doing this because we have to. –Phylyshah

Wednesday: This week Blue Crew's goals are to finish a LOT of QC and stuff on the trail, to have hella fun, and get along like the da bomb da bomb bomb bomb crew we are! –Davah W.

Thursday: We learned how to do a bear-hang and backpacking stuff. We also learned of a new crew member. Sweet. –Jay L.

Friday: Our crew made it to camp 2 ½ miles into the backcountry. We hiked in all our tools and a week's supply of food with our personal gear. We made some bomber dinners and figured out how to make shotgun. We finally set up a bear-hang. We got over most of our fears of bees. We made it without major injuries or too many people quitting. We have rocked out some awesome trail. We have almost finished all the brushing. We also have gotten over most of our gossiping. –Ben H.

**National Forest- Mount Baker - Snoqualmie
Ranger District- North Bend
Project Name- Dutch Miller Gap Trail Maintenance**

Week 4: August 21 – 27

Monday: We chilled and Shilo and Mike made a pimp meal and we went swimming at a sweet spot. But we also had to work on Sunday. A lot of people complained about working on Sunday. –Andrew K.

Tuesday: We did a bunch of lopping and QC today. Later this week we are going to move lots of dirt. We are at "Dutch Miller Gap." It's a beautiful location. The clouds and sun make a beautiful array of colors. We are here because NYC told us to be. –Jay L.

Wednesday: Our goals for this week are to work together and try our hardest to get along with each other, and try hard on everything, especially the fire-lining thingy. –Felicia

Thursday: Today we woke up, took down tents, and on our way out we fixed the rock slide area. We also had top Ramen for dinner and went on a walk by the riverside. The End.

Friday: Blue Crew's challenges were getting used to Faith, our new crew member (she's really cool), learning to let little annoyances roll off our backs, and dealing with underground springs that create an

endless muck pit. Faith was easy to get used to (not as much of a challenge as we thought). Not getting irritated was all in practice! The muck pit was fixed with a lot of teamwork and rocks and good attitude about getting covered in sulfur-smelling muck. It was a great week! –Davah

**National Forest- Mount Baker/Snoqualmie
Ranger District- Skykomish
Project Name- North Fork of the Skykomish River Trail**

Week 5: August 28 – September 3

Monday: Well this weekend we had a short weekend site, which kind of sucked. We did not get a day off. We all did have a lot of free time, though. That was cool. –Felicia

Tuesday: Blue Crew is re-trailing and rock-walling a fall-out area! The trail is one for horses. We are at Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest—it's cool. There were TONS of bees around! I have no clue what we're gonna do yet! –Davah

Wednesday: We finished up the horse trail, it's cool, then we chopped down snags that were hazardous. Then we filled in dips in the trail and brushed some and did QC. We had the goal of finishing, which we did and then some as I described above. –Davah

Thursday: This week we learned that hard work pays off big-time in more ways than one. We have an awesome trail finished, muscles, and friends that we all worked hard to build over 5 weeks! –Davah

Friday: The packs were heavy, the hike was hard. We got to the van but all was locked and barred. What more can I say? We were tired as hell from the work of the day. We hopped in the van and drove into the night, then we slept at a rest stop until dawn's light. –Ruthie F.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

My most challenging day at NYC would have to be the first day when I started my fourth session. NYC would be the start of the other half of my summer. I was committed. Ben H.

My most challenging day at NYC was our 4th week at NYC in the backcountry. We were fire-lining. Caitlin P.

My most challenging day was non-existent. Every day was challenging in its own way. Ruthy F.

...the first hike in with my 120-lb pack on so everyone else could have an easier time. Jay L.

My most challenging day would be today, because it is the last day of work. Phyllyshah R.

My most challenging experience in NYC was coming to join a crew towards the end of the session, and also rooming with four other girls in a tent. Faith U.

My most challenging day was probably the first day hike of the backcountry. Andrew K.

My most challenging day was the fist hike backcountry, because I thought I was gonna die since my pack was heavy and broken. Davah W.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

My three favorite NYC experiences were: (1) listening to everyone complain about their first NYC dinner; (2) watching Mike accidentally throw his hazel hoe way off the trail; (3) the rad van ride that was like 9 hours from Eugene to our weekend site outside of Monroe, quite close to Stevens Pass. Ben H.

My three favorite NYC experiences were (1) the first van ride when everyone got to know one another; (2) at the first weekend site I gave Jay a Mohawk; (3) the first hike 3rds week when we went backcountry. Caitlin P.

...when I hiked watching the night sky. Ruthy F.

...the first van ride, the first weekend site when I got my Mohawk, and the first hike in when I had a 120-lb backpack. Jay L.

...the van rides, the weekend sites, and meeting everyone. Phyllyshah R.

My three favorite NYC experiences were when I hiked in with Jordan to meet with the crew, cooking dinner on my first dinner, the hikes in and out to the last work week, and getting to meet new friends and great counselors. Faith U.

...when work was over, rec trips, and store stops. Andrew K.

...scenery, rec trips, and van rides. Davah W.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

One thing I will always remember is the really cool mountains we could see our third and fourth week. I would also have to say that the road for third and fourth week was pretty sweet. Ben H.

The one thing I will always remember is the first time when we spiked our 3rd week. Caitlin P.

The waterfalls. Ruthy F.

“Baby I love you, will you give me a smile?” and never smiling. Jay L.

I will always remember all the friends I made here and how they all made this work experience awesome. Phyllyshah R.

I will always remember the friends I met here and how they have different perspectives and be-

liefs about things. Faith U.

I will always remember the friends I made and the scenes. Andrew K.

Funny memories—Airborne Ranger. Davah W.

From Now On I Will Always...

I will always remember to not tell people I'm colorblind. I will. Ben H.

I will always work harder so I can get buff. Caitlin P.

...remember the things I have learned here. Ruthy F.

...appreciate the clouds. Jay L.

I will appreciate life a lot more and how to cherish it with all my heart! Phyllyshah R.

I will appreciate and respect others' beliefs and religions. Faith U.

...accept other people's ideals and views on their surroundings. Andrew K.

...solve conflicts respectfully. Davah W.

At NYC I Learned...

At NYC I have learned to be more patient with people. I have also learned to be less judgmental about people, and also to learn even better trail building skills. Also, how to be a better person. Ben H.

I learned to make top line and cut trail into a steep side of a hill, and also to do stuff in front of people I would not do in front of people I just met. Caitlin P.

I have learned to accept instruction from my peers. Faith U.

...how to stop talking, how to pack a backpack, how to check transmission fluid. Jay L.

I learned how to accept constructive criticism, how to chop wood/roots, how to set up a camp. Phyllyshah R.

I have learned to work as a team, pack a backpack, cook with white gas, and I have learned the names of tools and what they're used for. I've also learned how to make top line and cut trails. Faith U.

...how to deal with problems, overcome pain, and listen to other people's opinions. Andrew L.

...tool use, trail terms, good "clean fun" when dirty. Davah W.