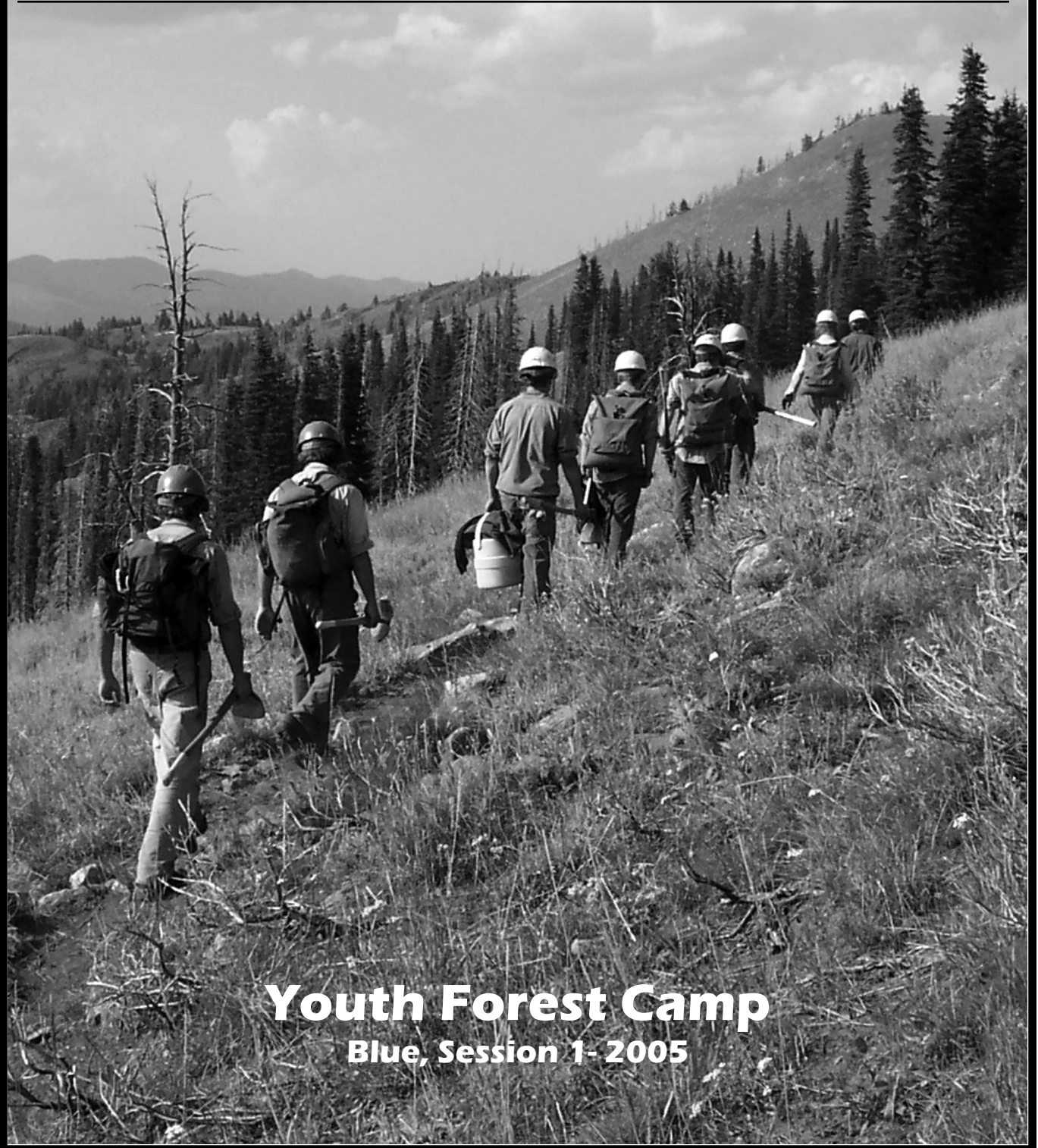




# Crew Journal



**Youth Forest Camp**  
**Blue, Session 1- 2005**



Dear NYC graduates,

It is time for reflection; the good, the bad, the highs, and the lows...part of your summer and indeed part of your life. From starting wide eyed and full of wonder to the last triumphant, "TOOL COUNT" these journals represent a five week slice of time in which; friends were made, skills were gained, and trails were built. Look back with pride and honor at the memories which may have slipped away over the past few months. Enjoy the tired and sometimes strange musings of a session spent with the Northwest Youth Corps as you relax back in the world of porcelain and pizza.

Hopefully these journals will bring out the confidence in each of you to tackle the next challenge in your life. Have a great off-season and never forget the wonderful taste of PB & J.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Joe Waks".

Joe Waksmundski  
Program Manager



**Fremont National Forest  
Paisley Ranger District  
Project Name- Fire the Cannon (Springs)**

**Week 1: June 18 – 25**

Monday: It is the first day working on trail. It was very brutal but that is going to be the way the first week. –Robbie L.

Tuesday: The crew is outside of a small town called Paisley 3 miles up Moss Pass trail camping in the outback. We are repairing a trail where the hill side is slowly sliding down on top of it. We have been cutting a top-line and scraping the trail and knocking off the berm, so that it looks neat. Removing brush is also an important job because plants like sage brush will take over the trail but they also hold the hillside up. –Alyssa T.

Wednesday: Our crew's goal for this week is to finish the trail we are working on, and also to keep all our crew members and to get our hours for this week. –Amie T.

Thursday: This week we learned who the weak and strong were. The strong are the people who are still here. We also learned how to make trail safely with all the tools that NYC has provided for us. I think one thing we need to improve on is communication. –Max

Friday: This week we worked over 2 miles of trail. That's pretty good for a crew (when this) is their first time doing trails. The crew faced problems like fighting in the group. At the fire we talked about fighting. We decided that we would stop at all costs. After all that we could be one of the best crews yet. –Chase S.

**Fremont National Forest**  
**Paisley Ranger District**  
**Project Name- Fire The Cannon (Springs)**

**Week 2: June 26 – July 2**

Monday: On Saturday we went swimming and it was incredibly cold, and it started raining. We also got to sleep till 9:00 and we played steal the fish from Erik. We also talked about how we were treating each other. We had some really good cheesecake and Erik beat Robbie in basketball.

Tuesday: We are finished with our project and are going over the trail to make sure we did it right because we were just learning to do trail when we did that section.

Wednesday: Describe your crew's goals for the week: For this week everybody plans to finish the rest of the trail down. After finishing we hope to go to the weekend campsite. Before that we have to do some chores on Friday. The rest of the weekend is just for a nice sit back. Relax!

Thursday: Today we learned how to make a rock wall. We made it to our goal; that was really exciting. We all worked really hard and built a really nice trail. I basically cut berm a lot of the day. I used the hog, my favorite tool. We sat around the camp fire for SEED and learned a little bit about weather and how it works. Someone gave their PH, it was cool. Well that's about it! –Jessie

Friday: We finished the job and got in all our hours on the trail this week. The week started out wet and rainy, but come Wednesday it was hot and everyone got somewhat dehydrated. We overcame the weather and dehydration. Today we hiked out and finally got showers and clean clothes. We made it through the two-week-long backcountry. –Alyssa T.

**Rogue River National Forest**  
**Prospect Ranger District**  
**Project Name: Huckleberry Campground Fencing**

**Week 3: July 3 – 9**

Monday: We all rested, replenished our bodies, and went to see different places for our rec. trips. Some people's parents came for dinner. –Jessie F.

Tuesday: We are at Huckleberry Campground working at a meadow. Right now we are fixing a wire fence to keep the cows out. The reason they want to keep the cows out is so that they don't destroy the wetland. –Rebekah G.

Wednesday: Our crew has been working hard to make a trail to make room for a fence. The trail should take at least the rest of this week and a little bit of next week. I'm doing fine after a 6-hour job. I hope tomorrow will be a moderately well-off day. –Eric G.

Thursday: Our crew learned how to dig fence holes, and we learned about drugs in SEED. And that was a lot of fun; I really liked the poem. –Amie T.

Friday: This week we almost got done clearing the swath for our fence. We also began to dig post holes. Our goal to completely clear the area for the fence was unsuccessful, but the contact was still pleased.

Our crew still fights a lot, which makes people very angry. Also, our crew still needs to work on staying hydrated. Overall, the week was fine, and the food was really good compared to backcountry, and we were better cooks. –Alyssa T.

**Rogue River NF**  
**Prospect Ranger District**  
**Project Name: Huckleberry CG Fencing**

**Week 4: July 10 – 16**

Monday: This weekend we moved basecamp to the original spot; it was hell, but oh well. We kind of got along. I think we can improve, people just need to let stuff slide. It would be a lot more livable. We also got to stay at base camp. That was nice because we got to get away from each other. –Max M.

Tuesday: Our project is making a fence about a mile long. We are at Huckleberry Campground. We are put into groups of 2-3 and we take post-hole diggers, then we should be putting the barbed wire up. –Amie T.

Wednesday: My excellent crew's (which is Blue team) goal for the week is to finish the fence. Another goal we have is to get along with each other at least get more along than we have. I think so far we are doing very well with everything. For two more fence lines everyone on the

crew has gotten along. There haven't been any major arguments, which is pretty cool, at least for us. –Cory W.

Thursday: This week, the crew and I learned that if we don't do our chores we get busted. Knowing the fact that we have our own chores, we still have to help others with their chores throughout the day. We also learned that we need to communicate with others while working with everybody in the work site. Everybody learns brand new things every single day, at work. We all learned how to work with the digging holes and we definitely learned that for every hole we dig, there's always a rock. –Alan A.

Friday: This week was a good week. We had plenty of challenges, one of them was finishing putting in the post holes, and getting along. I think we have done better than in the past weeks. There is still room for improvement. I think that we can do it. We all are kinda fed up with each other. We can deal. –Max M.

**Rogue River National Forest**  
**Prospect Ranger District**  
**Project Name: Huckleberry Fence**

**Week 5: July 17 – 23**

Monday: This weekend we all went to basecamp and we participated in Crew Olympics. We had time from each other, it was good. I and others went swimming. Crews were split up and we went to various rec. trips, such as Shady Cove, a hiking trip somewhere, and Crater Lake. Sunday morning we re-supplied and packed the trailer before Erik got back from his day off. We all were warned on Saturday night, “if anyone sneaks out, they will get fired.” –Max

Tuesday: We are working on fence for 3 weeks, which is really cool because soon we will be able to see the finished project. We are at Huckleberry Camp. Well, we didn't get to finish the fence but what we got done looks good, so we are all satisfied. –Amie

Wednesday: My crew's goals are to finish the fence and for all of us to get along. Although we can't finish the fence, we did a pretty good job. And we have gotten along very well, and I am proud of my crew. –Cory

Thursday: Our crew learned that we need to communicate with everybody in order not to argue. I think we had enough with everybody bickering, but hey, it's part of life. Even though we didn't finish our project all the way, we are still getting enough work the next day. –Alan

Friday: Our challenge this week was, once again, to get along without arguing. We also really, really wanted to finish our fence this week; we even had our project extended from two to three weeks. We only got about half of the fence completed, which is somewhat disappointing. The contact is still pleased, just as he was two weeks ago. He even offered us job opportunities. We also succeeded in getting five PHs in this week, and we were finally on time for safety circle everyday. All in all, I think each week we have improved as a crew. The road has been rocky, but we made it, that is our crew's biggest accomplishment. –Alyssa

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

...when we were backcountry and when we hiked up-hill. Robbie L.

...when we had to hike 3 miles with a heavy backpack on our first day. Amie T.

...when I had to keep my mouth shut and learn when it is appropriate to make comments. Max M.

My most challenging day at NYC was the hike out of the backcountry. I was dehydrated, and my pack was crooked and adjusted wrong. I had to carry the bucket of rotting food, and one of my hands went numb. Alyssa T.

My most challenging day has been almost every day. Just try to ignore people that were being little baddies. People complain about the most stupid things you could ever think about. Most of the time I can just ignore them. Chase S.

One of the most challenging days for me at NYC was today! Waking up after a bumpy sleep was murder to my back and my mind. I wasn't able to work as I have been, but that is my own fault. I will try to work harder to please Erik's needs. Eric G.

I think that the hardest day of NYC is just about every day because we work, get off work, sit around five minutes, then we're on chores. After chores are done, we do SEED. After SEED we go to bed. That's every day at NYC. Jessie F.

My hardest day this session at NYC was on Sunday. We hiked into the backcountry that day with huge backpacks. It was only a three mile hike, but it seemed to take forever with the huge backpack and new boots on. Rebekah G.

My hardest day was the very first day because I did not understand what I was doing with everything, towels, building trail, none of it. I have never done this before and was very confused. Cory W.

My hardest day at camp was probably when I actually first set foot at work, when I didn't really know what to do. Alan A.

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

My three favorite NYC experiences were climbing to the top of the mountain in Fremont; getting to see a finished project; and working with our crew leader. Max M.

My three favorite NYC experiences were visiting the weekend site for the first time after a two-week backcountry; eating the grand front country food, especially the gingerbread and fresh fruit; and the basketball game in Paisley. Alyssa T.

My favorite experiences were having to cook dinner for everybody, going backcountry and camping out, and having fun learning about SEED. Those were my best experiences at NYC. Alan A.

Going to base camp, knowing that I am going to make it, and knowing that I am going home with \$1,000. Robbie L.

Going backcountry and learning how to live without relying on resources; getting a rock out at Huckleberry Campground; and being able to see the finished project of our fence. Amie T.

My three favorite things were building trail, making friends, and all the hard work. NYC has been great. Cory W.

My three favorite NYC experiences were bathing in a stream, seeing the trail we dug at the end of the two weeks we worked in Fremont, and sleeping outside. Rebekah G.

When Erik played Robbie at basketball; when we took a trip to Crater Lake with Kat; and when we went swimming at base camp. Chase S.

The greatest experiences of mine in NYC would be the first day I got here and meeting a great person who I will never forget; being able to hang out with this person for several days; and hearing Molly drop the bomb. Eric G.

The greatest experiences I have had in NYC are the friends, the experience, and watching our crew leader school Robbie at b-ball...that was the greatest moment of NYC. Jessie F.

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

Is when Robbie and Erik played basketball 1-on-1 and it lasted about 10 minutes. Robbie lost 15-0. Erik destroyed Robbie. Chase S.

One thing I will always remember is when I pulled out this big rock that I had been working on forever, and also when a certain person slipped and said a word that they would never say. Amie T.

One thing I will always remember is that even when things are the worst, to have a positive attitude. Max M.

Is when I dominated Erik at b-ball 15 to 0, oh yeah! (**A LIE**) Robbie L.

One thing I will always remember are the good times we had with the crew leaders and the crew. Alan A.

I will always remember the time I spent with the most spiritual person I've ever met. Eric G.

I will always remember the day we hiked out of the backcountry to go swimming in the rain, and all the nights we ate about eleven servings of gravy each for two weeks before we finally read the label. Most of all, I will always remember the view from Fremont as the sun was setting on the last night of backcountry when we slept under the stars. Alyssa T.

I will always remember the time Erik was our crew leader... he was hard core, he never liked seeing people sitting around doing nothing. He was awesome; I had really good experiences with him. I tried to work just as hard as him. And some of the people I met were really cool. I'm glad I got to come out and be a part of this program. Thanx. Jessie F.

I will always remember the people I met and the things I did at NYC and hope to have another experience like this. Cory W.

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

From now on I will always be more considerate of my mother and the hard work she does to put food on the table. Cory W.

From now on I will always take responsibility for my actions and finish jobs that I start. Max M.

From now on I will always think before killing a bug, and take pride in the little things we get. Amie T.

From now on I will always think before talking and make sure that what I say is something that needs to be said. Chase S.

From now on I will always respect what I have with great pride and respect others and their stuff. Eric G.

One thing I will always remember is when we got to go swimming in the rain. Since we were backcountry, that was our shower for the week and I enjoyed it. Rebekah G.

I will always remember what a fun time I had in NYC and all the friends I made and the cool

crew leaders. Robbie L.

From now on I will always remember all the good times at NYC, because I had lots of fun, like when we were on the trail the first two weeks. Eric and Sam Bones made me laugh one night. We were all in our tents and I poked my head out and said Chase, and he poked his head out and said wuz up, then I snapped a picture; that was awesome. Jessie F.

From now on I will always remember Blue Crew from NYC, because even though we had our ups and downs we still stayed together by others' sides when there were a lot of arguments at this place. That is one thing I will always remember. Alan A.

From now on I will always remember the stupid things we argued about, the view from Fremont, and the rec. trips with new friends at base camp. I will always think of NYC as one of the highlights of my teenage years. I now know that the quicker you jump on a task, the quicker it gets done. Anything is possible. Alyssa T.

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

At NYC I learned how to leave no trace at a campsite. I also learned how to cook for 12 people, and how to live, work, and sleep in the same tent with the same people every day. Amie T.

I learned how to build fence and fix fence. Robbie L.

NYC has been a great teacher of many things. I have learned that my life at home isn't as bad as I had thought. I learned that with teamwork, cooperation, and a lot of passion, I can accomplish great deeds. And lastly I learned that the world is much larger than just my home town. Eric G.

I learned about the rain cycle and that there are five steps to it. Chase S.

At NYC I learned how to communicate effectively with others, how to keep a clean camp, and how to work an eight hour day. Max M.

At NYC I learned how to build a rock wall around a tub. I also learned how to build a wire fence that will be used to keep the cows out of the campgrounds and the wetland. Rebekah G.

At NYC I learned how to build trail, how to make and build a fence, and how to build tents for everyone to sleep in. I've learned a lot more than that. Alan A.

I learned what precipitation means, I learned how to tie a bear-hang, as well as how to build trail. Cory W.

One of the three things I learned at NYC is how to build trail. [Another is] how to tighten fence. And I even learned all the steps to making a fence, so it's been pretty awesome. Jessie F.

Through NYC I have learned the names of many interesting plants, how to make a fire pit while no-trace camping, and most of all I have learned how much work goes into building or maintaining trail... next time I go for a hike I will know the specific names of the pieces of trail.  
Alyssa T.