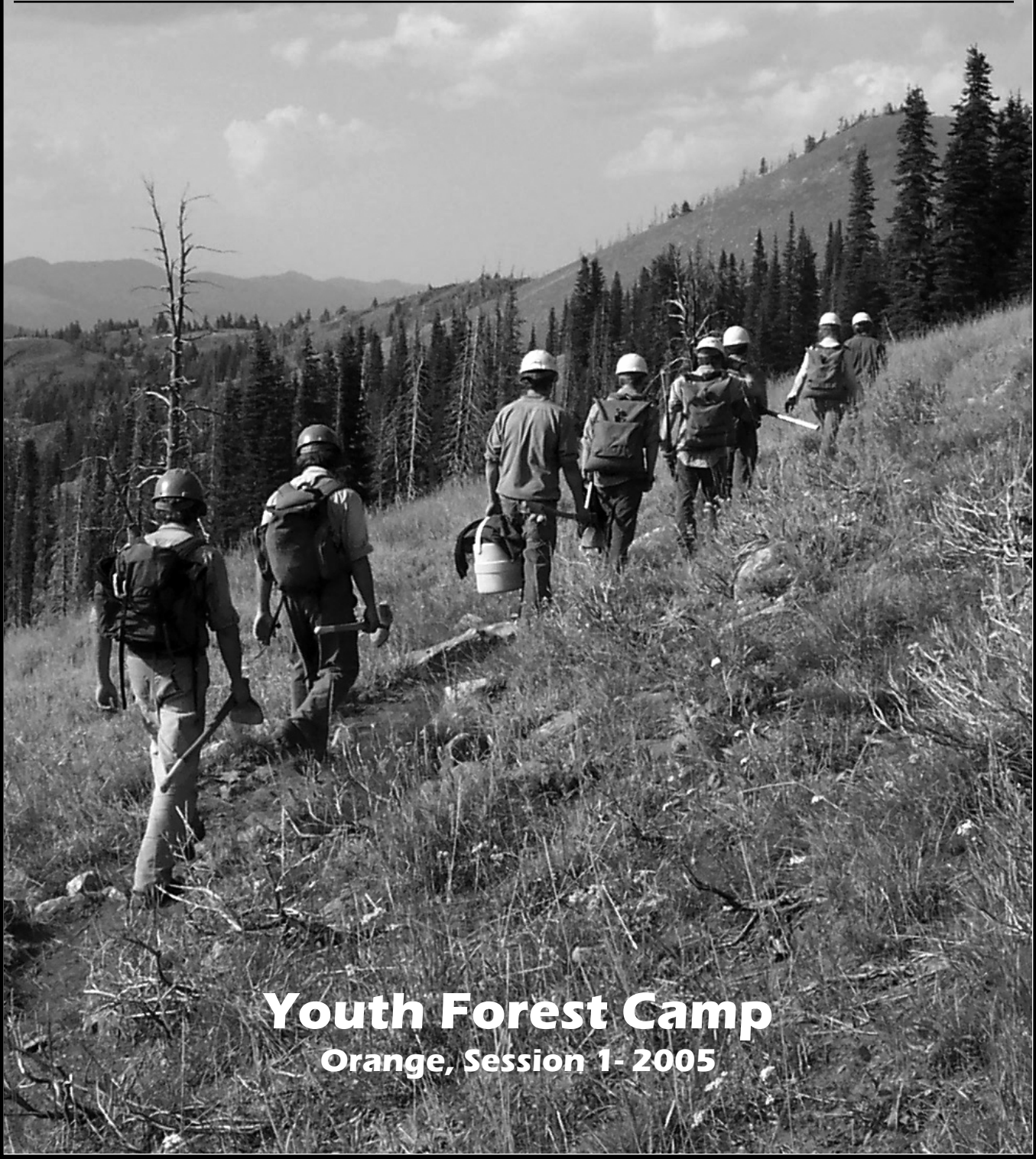




Crew Journal



Youth Forest Camp
Orange, 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". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Waksmundski
Program Manager



OPRD
Tou Velle State Park
Project Name- Tou Velle State Park Maintenance

Week 1: June 18-25

Monday: Saturday was the first day. There was a parent meeting and training. We learned a lot about the NYC program and daily life. It was really rainy Saturday. Sunday morning we woke up and found out our crews. Lucky us, we're the Orange Crew. We loaded up with much difficulty and headed out to the camp site. –Karlie G.

Tuesday: We cut blackberry bushes, raked up dead grass and then cut some more blackberry bushes. We were at the park. I guess we are doing this so that invasive weeds will stop invading. –Keith

Wednesday: Our goals were to get through the week with all of our jobs done. We all wanted to learn more about each other. We also learned to just stick it out through the ridiculous jobs they gave us, and the games we play need to obviously be worked on. –Toshae C.

Thursday: Our crew learned who is in fact committed to NYC and the Orange Crew. Our two strongest crew members, Keith & Keigan, quit just because they weren't feeling it. This

brought the rest of us closer. We'll be fine. Orange Crew what? Plus I ganked Keigan's hat. – Andrew

Friday: On Friday the Orange Crew worked on (the) same (trail) for most of the morning, and that was half of us. Some other people were clearing a trail along the Rogue River at our campsite. Andrew and Ben and some other people worked on a platform for people to look at the river. Then, in the afternoon, Kat, Toshae, Kat, Karlie and Craig went and worked in Salmon viewing station. That was super cool. There was more of a positive attitude with Kat and Ben because Keigan and Keith were gone. So Friday and the rest of the week was great. –Craig P.

Rogue River National Forest
Prospect Ranger District
Project Name: Upper Rogue River Trail

Week 2: June 27-July 2

Monday: This weekend on Saturday we went to the natural bridge up the road a ways. Only some went on that trip and also went to Union Creek and made a store stop and phone calls. That night (we) played games, a big group, all 3 crews. I led Saturday circle. On Sunday everyone got up and we got breakfast, and then Yellow and Red Crews left for their projects that week. Orange Crew drove into Shady Cove and got some food and gas. On Sunday night we played games and just enjoyed each others' company. –Craig P.

Tuesday: We are at the Upper Rogue River Trail. We are making the trail a little wider and clearing the grass from the trail. (We are) Cutting branches so that horses can come through, cutting down trees too close to the trail, and we also treaded the trail. –Matt P.

Wednesday: (Our crew's goals for the week are to) Get along with all of our crew members. We wanted to get our new trail job finished with quality. We wanted to learn how to use the tools differently than we did last week. –Toshae C.

Thursday: This week we learned to dig trail and learned all the special terms for building the trail. We learned to deal w/ new people and they're pretty much awesome! We learned to work together better and get along. We learned to build a retaining wall and best of all, we are learning about each other! –Tari J.

Friday: We hiked for about 2 miles on Thursday to our work site. That was a challenge. We had many accomplishments (this week) like making three retaining walls. Another was making the tread look awesome on the trail and brushing the whole trail. The best accomplishment was completing the job on time. –Devin H.

Jackson Country Parks and Recreation
Howard Prairie Park
Project Name- Howard Prairie Lake Trail

Week 3: July 3-9

Monday: This weekend was the 1st weekend with all four crews present. It was good to see Blue Crew again. There were 3 rec trips: Lost Lake, Crater Lake, and Natural Bridge. There were two new crew members: Jon and Eric. Visiting weekend was cool; it meant a good sub sandwich dinner. MMMM... –Andrew

Tuesday: We are doing whatever the contact tells us to do—he pointed at a trail, we spent a day on it doing maintenance. (We're at Howard Prairie Park.) –Katie

Wednesday: Our crew had a couple goals this week. One was to get as much work done as possible. Another goal we had for the week was to understand each other's differences and get along better. –Karlie

Thursday: This week the O-Crew learned about ecology, succession, and dichotomous keys. The O-Crew also learned the banana dance and other important stretches. But the most important lesson learned is love for each other. –Dylan

Friday: This week with the Orange Crew one big accomplishment was that we completed all of our hours. One other was that we made a lot of drainages this week as well. Also we built a whole lot of trail, which everyone was proud of, for building probably around 2 miles of trail. One challenge was that we had a crew member sick, and with that challenge we still completed our hours. Our contact didn't really know a whole lot about the trails that we worked on, so that accomplishment was that we just built trail where it was needed. Orange Crew got a lot done and we are proud of this week's work. The End. –Craig P.

Bureau of Land Management
Roseburg BLM
Project Name- Invasive Species Removal

Week 4: July 10-16

Monday: We rolled in to base camp 2 hours late and it was raining really hard. Orange Crew ate ramen noodles for dinner. Saturday we went our separate ways. Later Saturday afternoon some parents showed up. Sunday we packed up base camp and moved it back to Jim Creek, then we packed our trailer in record time and found our camp site. It was pretty much an amazing weekend. –Karlie

Tuesday: We are removing foreign invasive species. They interfere with the natural ecosystem. We are camped in a campsite of our own making next to Island Creek. –Andrew

Wednesday: [Our goals are to] get all of the weeds and scotch broom, French broom and every single weed on the entire campsite. We tried to avoid snakes, bees, and poison oak. A big goal was to impress the BLM and not get any poison oak... and we did both. –Toshae C.

Thursday: This week our crew learned that we should always have a positive mental attitude even when situations get bad. We learned how to work as a team more by removing blackberry bushes and many more plants in Island Creek near Roseburg, OR. By working together we all learned how to get the job done and not try to get on each others' nerves. We learned things about resumes and cover letters during SEED, and also to come together and to have a good fourth week of the five-week program. Learning this thing is for the better of the Orange Crew. –Craig P.

Friday: Orange's challenges were dealing with a really funky up campsite and the heat. It got around 100 degrees each day. We pulled a lot of weeds, cut down blackberries, and tried to avoid poison oak. Orange's accomplishments were that only one of us got poison oak, no one got a snake bite, and we completed our hours. –Tari J

Fremont National Forest
Paisley Ranger District
Project Name- Deadhorse Creek Trail

Week 5: July 17-23

Monday: This weekend the whole side went to Disneyland. Orange Crew had a fabulous time. Devin's favorite ride was the Tea Cups, he kept riding them over and over. Karlie and Dylan ate almost a pound of cotton candy. Toshae, Kat, and Katie enjoyed Pirates of the Caribbean, and our crew leader caught Andrew and Tari trying to make out in the line for Space Mountain. Everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. –Toshae C.

Tuesday: This week we are working in the Fremont National Forest. We have a sweet project building trail for the Paisley Ranger District. Today we did almost ½ a mile, and a lot of it was uphill. And towards the end of the day there was a lot of rock removal. –Karlie G.

Wednesday: Our goal this week is to complete 2 miles of beautiful trail for Larry, our contact. It's going to be tough because we have a long, uphill hike in, part of which is through a ton of blow-down, but I think the crew can handle it. Also the goal this week is to stop with all the drama that is going on in the crew. Some of the girls get soooo gossipy! –Craig P.

Thursday: This week our crew learned that we can work four 9-hour days, and rock the bump line like no other. We also learned that Devin and Katie have a little somethin' somethin' going on and both of them are a little bashful about it. Finally, we affirmed our suspicion that Kara and Kat are the best crewleaders ever! We love them so much and I am trying to convince the rest of the crew to be super nice to them for the rest of the week. –Kat A.

Friday: Our biggest challenge this week was trying to find the mustard. I was so frustrated with the girls that I found it necessary to harass them during every break. Toshae found it in their smelly disgusting tent last night right after the shotgun had been made. My week would have been a much better place if we had mustard on our sandwiches. –Andrew B.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

My most challenging day at NYC was the first day of work, when we cleared blackberry bushes. Craig P.

My most challenging day at NYC was leaving the Fremont National Forest. Dylan E.

...working when I was hecka sick. Andrew B.

My most challenging days were when I was sick and when my boyfriend quit. Toshae C.

My most challenging day was the first day of work. Karlie G.

My most challenging day was the day I came here. Matt M-P.

Everyday was a challenging day but the second to last day was really hard. Katarina A.

My day was when 2 of our members quit. We had to work in the blazing sun! Tari J.

The worst day for me was in the 4th week, on Wednesday. That day it felt like all of my relationships were falling apart at once. Katie S.

My most challenging day was when I first got here and didn't know anybody. Devin H.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

The greatest experiences for me were making friends, working hard, and challenging myself in a new way. Craig P.

My three greatest NYC experiences would have to be... time in the Fremont National [Forest], catching a nice bass at Howard Prairie, and swimming. Dylan E.

The Olympics, hiking (week 2), the end. Andrew B.

Meeting my crew, finding a baby mole, the Olympics, and hanging out with Karlie, Kat, and Dylan at work. Toshae C.

My three favorite NYC experiences were playing see-food with Timmy all second week, work-

ing with the dream team, and sleeping outside at Howard Prairie Lake. Karlie G.

My favorite three experiences were when I got to go to Crater Lake, and when I went hiking and saw a great sight. Matt M-P.

Swimming at this river at our old camp site, riding in the van, and sleeping under the stars. Katarina A.

Meeting new people, learning personal lessons, and spending 5 WEEKS away from home. Tari J.

Rec. trips, Katie, and swimming. Devin H.

Devin, swimming, and working on some really gorgeous trail. Katie S.

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

I will always remember this experience at NYC, because of how great the experience was for me. Craig P.

I will always remember my week in the Fremont National Forest. It was a really special experience and I hope to return someday. Dylan E.

I'll remember the work and Tari. Andrew B.

Graduation, Karlie, and Kat. Toshae C.

The van rides because they were amazing. Karlie G.

Having fun while working and everyone in the group. Matt M-P.

My friends I made here (Karlie and Toshae)... they're the best. Katarina A.

All the inside jokes and the people involved. Tari J.

The insane people I met here. Devin H.

The van rides and the swimming. Katie S.

From Now On I Will Always...

From now on I will always know that I can be a friend to different people in a group, and that I will be more responsible at home. Craig P.

From now on I will always place my tools business end down! Dylan E.

Be less lazy! Small chores at home will seem petty in comparison. Andrew B.

Know I can do anything I try if I put my mind to it. Toshae C.

I will always appreciate trails that I hike on and I will always remember the great friends I made (the dream team). Karlie G.

Think of the great times I had here. Matt M-P.

Be confident that I can hike 2 miles all up-hill. Katarina A.

Be confident I can do something. Tari J.

I will always appreciate my friends and family. Devin H.

Be more trusting and comfortable in my close relationships. Katie S.

At NYC I Learned...

I learned a lot about the environment through SEED, how to be responsible, and that I could be trusted by other people. Craig P.

I learned a lot about people, dutch ovens, and hard work. Dylan E.

I learned what it's like to push myself physically for five weeks, who I am, and what I am capable of. Andrew B.

About respect, self-control, and great friendships. Toshae C.

I learned not to leave your sunglasses out on the table overnite, that I am capable of things I'd never even imagined, and how to build a beautiful trail. Karlie G.

I learned to be more positive and to just let loose sometimes. Matt P.

Tolerance of people, how to make good top line, and the best way to use old mashed potatoes. Katarina A.

I learned to put up a white wall, cook in a dutchie, and how to use a latrine! Tari J.

I learned the value of hard work, how to put up with people, and how much I take my friends and family for granted. Devin H.

I learned when to open up in my relationships and when to be more reticent, and I re-learned how good it feels to complete a job well. Katie S.