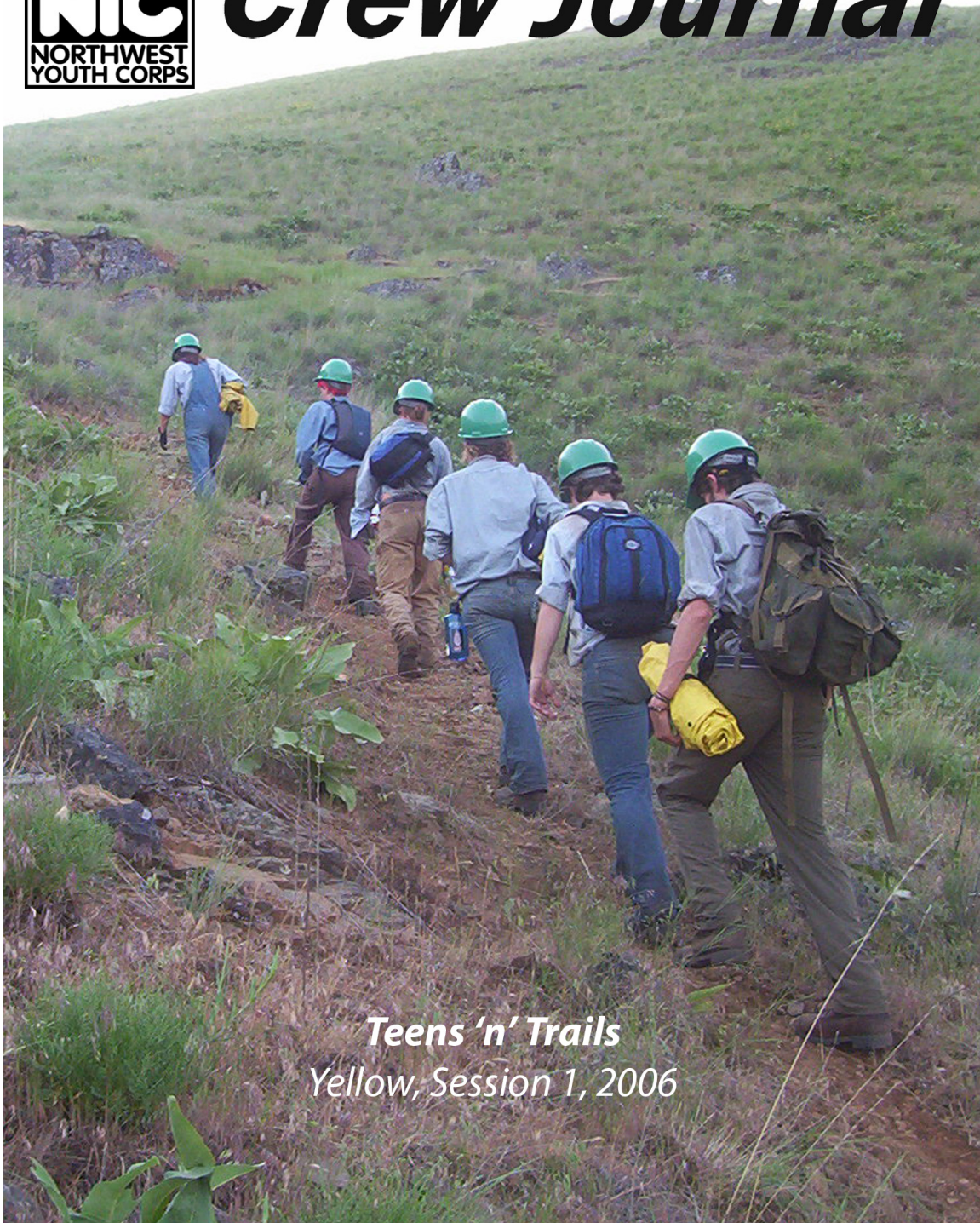




Crew Journal



*Teens 'n' Trails
Yellow, Session 1, 2006*



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 2006. It is testimony of your successes, challenges, experiences both good and bad as well as some 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. Make it happen!!!

A few of the amazing things accomplished during the 2006 field season at NYC; over 17 miles of new trail constructed, over 328 miles of existing trail maintained, 2,237 drainage structures installed, 3,400 ft. of retaining wall built, 1,222 ft. of turnpike constructed, 323 ft. of bridge built, 208 acres of trees pruned, 381 logs bucked out, and 1,513 acres of noxious weeds eradicated.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Waksmundski". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light blue rectangular background.

Joe Waksmundski
NYC Field Director



Rooster Rock State Park (near Portland)

Project Name- Rooster Rock Park Maintenance

Week 1: Date June 19th-June 23rd

Sunday: Saturday was orientation. We did a lot of sitting but we learned to make tents. We took a seed test. It was kind of hard, I made up my own dot for Montana. I slept well on Saturday night and then on our long bus ride on Sunday. We played “one fish two fish red fish blue fish.” It was a lot of fun!!

Monday: Today we cleared over 4500 feet of barbed wire. It was painfully messy and most of us ended the day with gashes and cuts. One of the guys, Cameron, had a yellow gash from where one of our leaders, Colin, expertly applied iodine. For breakfast we had pancakes with syrup or honey. For lunch/snack we had bologna or PB & J sandwiches with gorp and saltines/ritz crackers. Yummy! ☺ We are getting ready to have vegi/hamburgers. Tonight we may do another “personal history” and do another SEED on leave no trace. I’m tired and surprised how excited I’m becoming for bed. –Nikki T.

Tuesday: Taking out barb wire fence and we are in rooster rock and it is fun. The blackberries are horrible and I officially hate barb wire. I got cut at least 10 times today. –Terrance M.

Wednesday: We learned how to make different typed of knots for certain things, such as the bowline knot, the tot line knot, the ghost know for tarts, and the butterfly know. We also went to

the Bonneville Dam and learned that there are five different types of salmon; pink salmon, silver salmon, Chinook salmon, sock-eye salmon and the chum salmon.

Thursday: We were able to take out a bar wire fence starting at 7:10 am this morning, and to 11:30 a.m. We then switched locations and started on a new one when we left. We drove back to camp to pick up our bathing suits and went to Benson Lake. After swimming for about an hour and a half, we had our SEED, which dealt with watersheds and how their locations effect where the water goes. –Leah

Friday: Aah Friday the day we pack up and leave to go to Cougar reservoir. I am so excited. Okay, everybody grab a tool. As we head off to work I am once again reminded to tuck in my shirt. So we did the safety circle thing and then we go once again to cut barbed wire fence. As we pair up I am paired with Nikki. As I work and get to know Nikki I notice that she is a very cool person that is very open to opinions and always smiles and is happy which I think is cool. So as we continue cutting through blackberries to get to the fence post I notice that we made a tunnel that connected to another side where we were the other day and then I heard my favorite two words. “Tool Count.” Which means it is break time and we get to eat. I was so hungry. After the 15 minute break we go back to work for another 2 and a half hours. Today was only a 4 hour day which is cool. As we call “tool count” to count up the tools and leave we notice a big problem. We were missing a pair of wire cutters. As we look for an hour nothing showed up. We were way behind schedule and everyone was frustrated because it was the third day in a row that we lost a tool. But on the other two days we found it. So we checked out everyone’s story and we never found it which sucked but we got to go take our showers. After showers everyone looked different and felt clean. So now we were off to a laundry place to wash our laundry. It took us a long time but yet I got to talk to my cool siblings. I really miss my family. I almost cried. Anyway after the laundry was washed and cleaned we were back on the road. There wasn’t much scenery so all we could do was sing along with Teresa’s ipod video. She is a very cool leader. So as we travel for another hour we make a bathroom stop. You should of seen me, Thania and Nikki fight for the bathroom. Obviously I lost to Nikki and the Thania but it was close. After we got back on the bus and on the road we were informed that we had another 40 miles to go but we weren’t the only ones behind schedule. Another NYC bus was right behind us. It took us a while to figure out who it was but after we scoped them we still couldn’t figure it out. So as we roll into our cool tent place it was about 4:45 pm. That was late plus we still had to set up camp. Well, it’s time for bed. I hope you enjoyed my writing. Night. –Cameron M.

**New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern
Coos Bay Bureau of Land Management
Project Name- New River Meadow Restoration**

Week 2: Date June 26th-June 30th

Monday: This weekend was our first time at the weekend site for this session. On Saturday we went on Rec. trips. Nikki, Cameron and I went on a hike and swam. Later that day we did chores and red crew made dinner. The next day, Sunday, the blue crew was gone and we packed. Oh and I forgot on Saturday we had a fashion show! Cameron was the NYC worker, Nikki was “formal” and Alex was the rockstar! It was fun. –Thania

Tuesday: This week we are cutting down trees and organizing them in burn piles. We are doing this to help clear meadows for restoration. It tends to get really boring and tedious fast! Today went by really slow. I found it hard to believe at times that we hadn't had lunch yet. But we all survived and now we're making dinner (sadly.) Actually looking forward to bedtime. –Nikki

Wednesday: For this week the group goal is to finish all the meadow's that we started on for the week, we also need to finish two more meadows that we haven't started on yet. Another goal is to make sure that after we cut down trees we put them in nice neat piles that are 5 feet by 5 feet by 5 feet. The last goal that we always have it to work together so there isn't any problems. –Kaylee

Thursday: Today we worked from 7:30 to 2 or something. And the best part was that we went to the beach!! Yay! I think today we're packing. Yes! The weekend is on the way! –Alex H.

Friday: Today, we woke up around 6:00 in the morning and took down our tents and packed the trailer. We started work around 8:05 and finished around 12:05. We left in search of a place to wash our clothes and a place to call Jess. Luckily, we found out we will be going to Cape Blanco for the weekend site, which is only 5 miles away from Port Orford. Also, the place where we are going to take showers is only about a half of a mile from Cape Blanco. I'm surprise we haven't had to dig latrines in the last two weeks. I bet we'll have to after this.

Coos Bay Bureau of Land Management

Project Name- Blue Ridge Trails

Week 3: Date July 3rd-July 7th

Wednesday: This morning Teresa and Kate made us breakfast in bed! It was really good! We started work at 7:50 and we ended at 3. Leah and I made a drainage and there were so many rocks! We had to pick out rocks so that it would be compact. Later we had to use gravel because we ran out of turf stones. We also had to use rocks that we find. Near the end of the day, there was still 1 rut, since we are cool like that. We finished it in less that 2 minutes. Yes! On our way back, red crew was going to get water so they took ours for us! That was nice! –Thania N

Thursday: Today we worked a shorter day! Teresa and Kale were acting suspicious and we decided they had a surprise. When they yelled "tool count" they made us hop on the bus without taking are rain gear off. We finally found out our surprise. We got to go to the beach! The best part was that we saw a whale!! It was a grey whale. Later we got to go to Abby's pizza! It was so good!! Yummy. When we got back, Kate said "no chores!" it was an awesome day. –Thania

Friday: This week I think our crew had a lot of challenges to overcome. We did some really great things too. We finished the Danny Boy trail by Wednesday which was pretty awesome! But I think we are all getting irritable looking forward to going home. We had some disagreements and got on each other nerves pretty easily. But no matter what we were able to recognize we're a team; a family, and worked past our differences to be okay with each other again. We started work on "slug fest" yesterday and we got quit always into the trail. I'm really proud of our crew and I think we're all looking forward to graduation in a week and a day to look

back for a job well done! I'd have to admit that I'm looking forward to going home but I'm not looking forward to leaving my crew. I will miss them tons! –Nikki T.

Eugene Bureau of Land Management

Project Name- Shotgun Park Trail

Week 4: Date July 10th-July 14th

Sunday: We drove 2 ½ hours to shot gun creek and we are so close to my house I almost cried, almost. But not really. We have toilets again! Hahaha. –Terrance M.

Monday: Drip, Drip. As I awakened to the sound of dew soaking through the guys tent and the wet feeling of my sleeping bag I got up early and set off on another adventure to work. As I look around to find my boots, I realized they were in the van. Awhile after we got to work Colin (or the harry beast) started telling pretty good riddles. Work was hard because we had to build a turnpike on hard ground. After work we had “SEED”. I personally think there OK. Well, I'm running out of ways to describe how the day was so here is where I leave you. –Cameron M

Tuesday: Happy Birthday to you as Jess woke up to breakfast in bed. Kyle, Teresa and I made chocolate chip pancakes for the group and served Jess in Bed. We went down to work on the trail. We carried back heavy pieces of wood 7/10ths of a mile so Jess and Joe could start on the puncheon. We started mudding out a swampy area and setting logs for the sides. After break Jeremiah started putting in a drain pipe. After work we got root beer floats from Jess cause it was her Birthday. –Alex

Wednesday: This week we've been building a turnpike which has been really hard! We finally finished it and we ended the long day with a dance party on top of it. We had some pretty funny dance moves (think conga line but with more separate movements.) So tomorrow I'm curious what new objects/projects we will have. But whatever happens I'm sure we can get through with a positive mental attitude (PMA) which we agreed with Jess to work hard on. I think we're all just anxious to see our families. Only 3 and a half more days. Wow time has flown! –Nikki

Thursday: Today we finished our second, smaller turnpike further up the trial, and we did some more trail maintenance. After work, we headed back to camp to change into our bathing suits, and took our rain gear to the park where the sprinkler was watering the lawn. We ran through the sprinkler in rain gear and scrubbed them off. Then, for a special treat, while we left our rain gear to dry, we went to DQ and “saint” Teresa bought us blizzards!!! Ha! LOL, JP! –Leah H.

Friday: Today was our last work day. The whole crew was sad. But we got to play at the playground. We got to go swimming too!! During work we finished some trial maintenance and dug. Kyle threw a big mud ball at me and it hurt! It's really sad that this session is almost over. I think I'm going to miss everyone! Ooh during work, Terence decided he wanted to get a Mohawk, so Nikki started cutting his hair at the playground. It's still in progress. -Thania