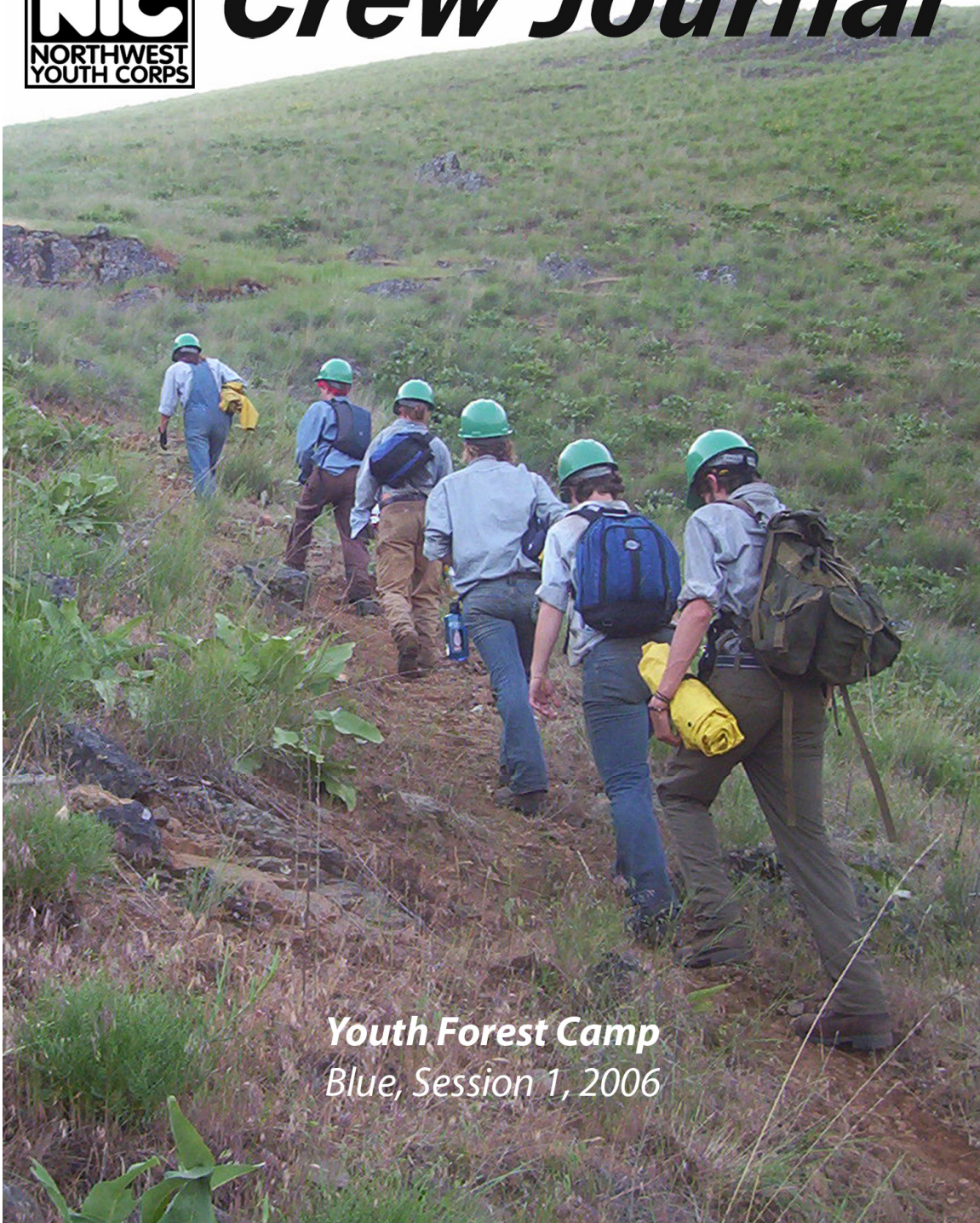




# *Crew Journal*



*Youth Forest Camp  
Blue, 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 set against a light blue, textured background.

Joe Waksmundski  
NYC Field Director



**National Forest or area that the work took place: OPRD  
Ranger District: Humbug Mt. State Park  
Project Name- Humbug Trail**

Week 1: June 19<sup>th</sup>-June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006

Monday: Saturday-Orientation, learned what were doing, got to know everyone a little bit. Sunday- Found out what crew we were in. Worked on blackberries, went to the river, went swimming and had SEED, Chores, found out who's doing what. Monday- Got up early, packed all of our stuff. Worked at Humbug Mountain for eight hours. Chores, found out who's doing what. -Randy

Tuesday: This week our project is building and doing maintenance work on a trail. The trail was at Humbug Mountain. We worked for 8 hours and did this because the trail was becoming overgrown with plants. Today we mostly worked on some trenches and walls.

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for the week are to finish from the re-route forward. Our other goals are to finish the projects we have started and start another set of projects. Today was a good day, we almost finished the re-route and the switch back. -Mitch A

Thursday: We learned about leave no trace, fire hazards, don't judge people by their appearances and chemical hazards. We also finished all of our OSHA, all six of them. Today we worked on retaining walls and a new part of the Humbug trail. –Chris G.

Friday: Our challenges this week were going without shoes, getting the trail done and making time for free time getting clothes washed. Our accomplishments are taking a shower, actually getting our trail done and going to the beach. We got our chores done each day, sometimes on time. Our free time we just hung out around camp, sleep, and enjoy ourselves...  
Jason

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Siskiyou NF**  
**Ranger District: Chetco RD**  
**Project Name- Chetco Divide Trail #1210**

Week 2: Date June 26<sup>th</sup>-June 30<sup>th</sup>

Monday: On Saturday we had a rec. trip to the beach. Evan and I found a fort and called it Evan's fort. We took pictures of sand sculptures too. On Sunday we had a long, hot, miserable hike into a beautifully rocky meadow. –Alex D

Tuesday: We are at the Chetco Divide trail and we are clearing the trail by cutting out the logs crossing the trail and taking out the plants and big rocks that are in the way. It was caused by a huge fire and we are clearing it out so that people can hike it. –Randy M.

Wednesday: Today we got halfway on the trail, the sun was out, we were all tired. This was the longest day we worked yeahhhh so mostly we cleared the trail, moved rocks off trail and trees. Also midget and Josh were in the worst shape cause Josh had poison oak and midget had really bad blisters and are goals for tomorrow are to get a lot done and work hard. –Michael

Thursday: This week we have learned how to tell what and how clouds/water works. We also learned what not to say in camp and what is NYC appropriate, also found out how fun big long hard heavy packed hikes are like with the fact that iodine makes you toot and makes your poo look really weird. –Keith (midget)

Friday: This week we had to hike around a mountain for about three miles, although it seemed much longer than that. On Thursday we packed our camp and bumped everything we brought up the trail as we walked and worked. Today after camping out and sleeping under the stars, we packed up our van and started heading down the mountain. We got a flat tire part way down. After that we went to Les Schwab to fix the tire. While that was being fixed we headed past Dairy Queen to take showers at the harbor and were witnesses to a small car accident. Through the dairy queen parking lot there were some cute girls that were giggling to us. We pulled through a gas station to turn around and wow were there some very beautiful girls. This week was hard, but today was pretty cool. –Alex

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Bureau of Land Management**

**Ranger District: Coos Bay BLM**  
**Project Name- Hunter Creek ACEC**

Week 3: Date July 3<sup>rd</sup>-July 7<sup>th</sup>

Monday: This weekend we finished our last project, got showers, a store stop and our laundry done. At a better place. Then we went to our base camp and met up with everybody. Next day we had rec. trip and another store stop. Then we found out what our next project was going to be the night before we left. On Monday we made about fifteen slash piles. Yahoo! –Randy M.

Tuesday: This week we are working in Stone Chair Meadow near Hunter Creek. This area is an “Area of Critical Environmental Concern.” We are cutting out encroaching trees mostly Douglas firs so Jeffery Pines which look a lot like Ponderosa Pines can flourish. Also we are not quite sure but there is something to deal with saving some sort of butter fly. We are not to sure. –Evan R.

Wednesday: Our crews goals for the week are to make at least 16 slash piles everyday and by this weekend have an area of the hill all cleared and into slash-piles so that the two meadows will be one and we can see our camp from the hill. –Chris

Thursday: Today we finally got out of the fog, we slashed piles for 8 hours today and are goals for the week would be to get a lot done, what our crew learned was that slashing piles is hard. We learned new cheer from Ryan and how to make a slash pile this week and working in two groups. –Michael

Friday: Today we made our goal of 20 slash piles, as a crew we’ve made great improvements and we work together much better now, were faster in the morning we have more free time then ever, also evening chores go by faster now that we’ve found out which not to mention this is the best work site we’ve had yet. –Josh O.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Bureau of Land Management**  
**Ranger District: Coos Bay BLM**  
**Project Name- Hunter Creek ACEC**

Week 4: Date July 10<sup>th</sup>-July 14<sup>th</sup>

Monday: This weekend we hiked out and re-uped on food stuffs, we went to the swimming hole and had a camp fire with our respectable neighbors Orange crew. Today we learned a new cheer, Pirates! Stick to the code and we made 21 slash piles, the most we’ve made yet. –Josh

Tuesday: This week we are working on slash piles up at hunter creek, Stone Chair Meadow. We made 20 piles today and cleaned up some other piles. We are doing this because, after everything is done, they can do controlled fire in this area. We are also trying to save some butterflies and Jeffrey pines. –Tyler

Wednesday: This week we hope to accomplish a sturdy goal of 150 slash piles. We also are trying to be ready for work in under 30 minutes. We also hope to pack up camp extremely

efficiently when we leave so we don't have any mistakes or delays that will ruin our stops after our two week adventure. –Alex D.

Thursday: This week our crew learned a lot about what it means to be a crew. Now we are going cheering and yelling a lot of random stuff. For example our crew's motto is "I'm Naked, taken from the morning stretch it really is amazing to see the change our crew has made over the past week. Today we finished our 150<sup>th</sup> slash pile making us one of the most successful slash piling crews this session. At the moment and throughout the day it has been absolutely crazy with this coastal rain. –Evan

Friday: We had many challenges this week. They include getting up and being in safety circle in ½ hour and we ended up doing it in 27 minutes. When Josh and midget were LOD's also we made 21 slash piles in one day and beat our goal of 150 slash piles by 4. In celebration Tim is buying the tribe ice cream.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: County Parks**  
**Ranger District: Curry County Parks**  
**Project Name- County Trail maintenance**

Week 5: Date July 17<sup>th</sup>-July 21<sup>st</sup>

Monday: Over the weekend we went on rec. trips and on Saturday night we had Olympics and we placed second. Sunday morning we had strawberry shortcake for breakfast and had our specs and awards handed out. –Christopher G.

Tuesday: We are at Lobster Creak spreading debris and making the bank look good. We are doing this so that it does not grow out into the road and so it looks good for campers. –Mitchell A.

Wednesday: So far this week we've brushed out a 1 mile road towards a camp site and tomorrow we'll start on some short trails. Friday we will put some finishing touches on the walk way that we started on Monday, also we've learned to cope with our new schedule, with our long drive, we eat breakfast in the van and have SEEDS during the ride home to base camp.

Thursday: We learned what it means to be a tribe, how to be team players, work hard, and respect our tribe mates. How to clean rain coats and what the big clean is all about.

Friday: We duffed 1 mile of trail. Our crew also finished all our projects and we finished the session strong. Our projects were easy so we did not have any challenges all our hours were finished and the camp clean up was fun. –Mitchell

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

I would say the first week –Michael

When it wouldn't stop raining slash piling. –Evan R.

I thought the biggest challenge was the hike up the Chetco Divide Trail. –Alex

My most challenging day was the 4 mile hike into the biscuit fire in heat with 50-70lb packs. –Keith

The day it didn't stop raining at the meadow. –Tyler

The most challenging day was the first because no one knew what to do and I was pretty much lost. –Randy

The most challenging day was the 4 mile hike into the Biscuit fire. –Mitch

When we were in a cloud and it was raining at stone chair meadow. –Chris

The hardest day was when we hiked into the burn. –Josh

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

Going to Floras Lake on the first rec. trip, the games and the scenery. –Chris

The hike to Stone Chair Meadow up at hunter creek. The Floras lake trip and the time I got to spend with friends. –Tyler

Going to the beach and discovering. –Evan

My favorite experiences at NYC were laughing hysterically with Josh and some other crew mates, yelling "I'm naked" in the middle of nowhere time and time again, and having a shower after two weeks of slash-piling. –Alex

My favorite is time and time again laughing with Randy and a couple others until it hurt; store stops and getting mail from home. –Keith

My 3 favorite experiences were the store stops that we had, how much I laughed with my friends here and the long car rides with the awesome sites. –Randy M

Making friends, all the cheers and having fun. –Mitch A.

Getting a thousand dollars, becoming a leader, meeting new people –Michael H.

Screaming I'm naked, showering and finishing the hike to the biscuit burn. –Josh

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

What it means to work as a team. –Evan R.

Us becoming a tribe. –Michael

The friends I've made at NYC –Chris G

I will always remember yelling “I'm Naked at the top of my lungs in the idle of nowhere with some other crew mates. –Alex

I will always remember yelling chants and the friends I made here at NYC. –Randy M.

I will always remember all the friends I made and the challenges I overcame. –Mitch A.

I will always remember the friends I have made. – Tyler

I will remember friends and the hard work and everything I've learned. –Keith M.

I remember the characters and good times with my crew members. –Josh

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

From now on I will always remember to not take everyday or things for granted, like toilet paper, showers, soap and friends. –Alex

Appreciate the beauty of a hot shower and clean sheets. –Evan

I will always cherish the little things in life. –Mitch A.

I will always not take things for granted like showers, toilet paper and clean clothes. – Randy M.

I will always take showers and not take things for granted like food, clean clothes and hot showers not in a barn. –Keith

I will appreciate all the little things and have a much better work ethic. –Josh

Take a shower every day and to wear clean clothes. –Tyler

Appreciate my moms good dinner. –Michael

To not take for granted things like showers and clean clothes. –Chris

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

Now to identify plants, how to tie ropes and how to cook. –Tyler

I learned how to cook some pretty good meals, how to work as a team and how important it is to have good communication. –Randy

How to work as a team, deal with problems, and have fun –Evan

I learned how to push my limits, deal with inside problems and how to make the best of difficult situations. –Alex

I learned how to work on a team to do the best I can and not take things for granted. –Chris

I learned how far I could go on the job. –Michael

How to be part of a team –Mitch

I've learned to make friends and cook some mean meals. –Keith

I learned what poison oak, black berries and running water is. –Josh