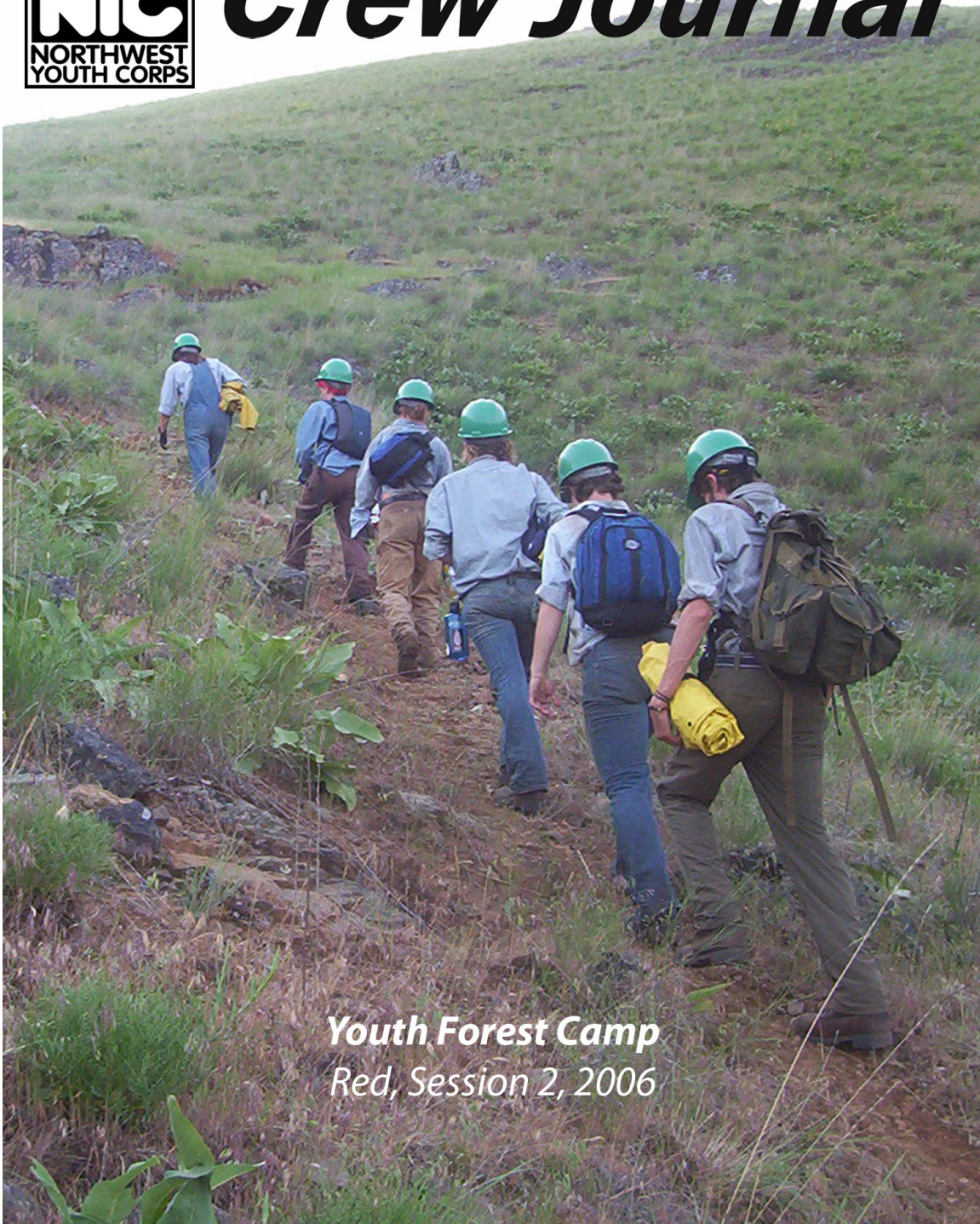




Crew Journal



*Youth Forest Camp
Red, Session 2, 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: Umpqua NF
Ranger District: North Umpqua RD
Project Name- Wolf Creek Nature Trail #1508

Week 1: Date July 31st-Aug 4th

Monday: This last weekend was orientation. Everyone learned the basics for living out in the woods. They assigned us crews and drove from Sweet Home to wherever. Our crew went to Glide and stayed in a pavilion. – Thomas S.

Tuesday: We are at Wolf Creek campground. We are staying in our tents next to a pavilion. We are still learning how to live out here but It's pretty cool. We are working across the campground to get some experience in living in the outdoors. –James T.

Wednesday: Still in a Pavilion camp ground a BIT more work to be done on trail but coming along smoothly. Tension seems to be normal and attitudes lively. Nothing of great importance to report. Tyler E.

Thursday: The crew learned the importance of quality not quantity and what happens when people steal others personal things. With the loss of so many members the crew is in dyer need of encouragement and understanding. –Sam H.

Friday: The challenge was that we needed to dig a ditch but it got hard to do but we finished it. We finished the whole trail. Besides logs. –James T.

National Forest or area that the work took place: County Parks
Ranger District: Linn County Parks
Project Name- Whitcomb Creek and McDowell Creek County Parks

Week 2: Date Aug 7th-Aug 11th

Monday: We went to a water fall and climbed lots of rocks. We went and hung out with friends that came back from work. Then we hung out with friends in the tents. Then we watched the yellow crew leave for 2 weeks to the back trails. –James T.

Tuesday: Make trail through some brush for a winter trail at McDowell park that is the whole project for the week. We will cut the ground, level it and gravel it. We are doing it for a back up trail for winter. Today we had the most fun brushing the area and chopping up an old log the most of us were working on brushing and the rest worked on the tread. –Evan C.

Wednesday: We went to a trail, a really hot trail. We laid out gravel, cut and trimmed trees. It took a while to put the gravel down and to flatten up the trail. 5 people I'm the one of 5. We hike a steep trail and there was barely any shade. We could have easily fallen off of the trail. It was fun. I can't but can wait for tomorrow. –David C.

Thursday: Our project this week involved several different worksites and jobs including spreading gravel, repairing and doing some tread maintenance on a few old trails and brushing and swamping some others. We completed a re-route, which was our first piece of new trail. From all of these, we learned technical skills, such as how best to wheel barrow the gravel properly. Brushing techniques, etc. But I think the biggest lessons we learned were about teamwork and getting things done as a group. We are learning to pitch in and help each other with things, although some of us still have more to learn than others. –Brendan F.

Friday: Took a short day today but we had a rough week. Andrew quit and I've been limping around for three days. Erick hurt his back hauling gravel so we were down another member. But it's my first week here and the only complaint I have is not being able to shower all week. J

National Forest or area that the work took place: Umpqua NF
Ranger District: Diamond Lake RD
Project Name- Diamond Lake Trails

Week 3: Date Aug 14th-Aug 18th

Monday: On Sunday we arrived at our camp at an elevation of 5,000 feet. We are clearing trail for 5 miles. We had a parent weekend at basecamp. Every ones parents showed up. We also went on a rafting trip, it was nine miles and up to class 3 rapids! -Tyler E.

Tuesday: We are going to Umqua River where we are cutting out huckle berries and we had to hike very far. It was very tiring. –Eric

Wednesday: Our crew's goals for the week were to not fall off the cliff of our work site. Another goal for the week is to finish our job for the week, we have about 1 ½ miles left. We also are trying not to lose anyone to injury or to them quitting. We also want to grow as a group and socially unite. We also don't want to run into a bee's nest, but that one was failed today and 2 people got stung by yellow jackets. That was Chad S. with our goals for the week. Till next time!!! Chad S.

Thursday: The crew is working together fairly well this week. We have been hiking a lot but it's kind of nice in the morning. We are learning a lot about each other this week. We had a lot of personal histories and I feel the group is getting closer. –B

Friday: The crews challenge was finishing the 5 mile trail and we almost won and got done. It didn't look as good as we wanted to. We got camp down in about an hour and maybe in half hour we finished what we needed to. –James T.

National Forest or area that the work took place: Willamette NF
Ranger District: Detroit RD
Project Name- Tumble Ridge Trail

Week 4: Date Aug 21st-Aug 25th

Monday We went rafting it was really fun but it was a long drive. We had a war against the other raft and we won. I almost go hypothermia but I had the first stage. We have been ripping out huckleberries and brushing –Eric F.

Tuesday: We are near Crater Lake and we had to hike 10 miles today. Hopefully we don't have to again because every one was tired especially Tyler. I thought he was going to die. Today we had to fix up all the bad work we did on Monday. Also Joe worked with us. To–Eric F.

Today we had to fix up all the bad work we did on Monday. Also Joe worked with us, so we had to do a good job to impress him. In this work site we have to make rock water bars. This week we are at, or as Deverton says, “just outside of Detroit, OR.” We have no toilet or anything here, so we had to make a latrine. I think it's weird being outside but what can I do. This project is fun!!

Wednesday: Our goal for the week is to put rock water bars on the trail, also clip, brush, and swamp the entire trail we are doing well I think. The hike out is hard it is very steep and difficult with equipment. No problem. –Tyler E.

Thursday: We were trying to get to the lake while brushing. We got to the lake and we went swimming. I didn't. I wanted to chill. So I got done this week and I am happy. –James T.

Friday: This week was a difficult one for our crew. But also one in which we came together and got things done. Our project, brushing and putting in water bars on a trail, was made more difficult by the fact that the trail was extremely steep and the footing was some time treacherous.

The hikes were difficult, but many members of our crew stepped up, especially when it came to packing heavy loads.

Building the water bars was another challenge for us this week. We hadn't built any before and so we were not familiar with the specs. Working on them was fun, however and we finished quite a few and high quality bars.

One of our major goals this week was to brush all the way to the lake, which we reached on Thursday right at the end of the day, we were then able to go swimming after work, before our hike back. In all, this week was constructive for our crew. We came together to get things done, and helped each other out when we needed help. –Brendan F.

National Forest or area that the work took place: Umpqua NF
Ranger District: Tiller RD
Project Name- Rogue/Umpqua Trails

Week 5: Date Aug 25th-Sept. 1st

Monday: Our crew made dinner for all the other crews and some of us went to house rock and the rest went to Cascadia. Friday we came to base camp we were the second crew. Sunday we went to our new location in the Umpqua divide and we were very very late and had to eat in the dark. –Evan C.

Tuesday: The project this week mainly includes cross-cutting hiking, and digging drain dips. We are just outside of Tiller Oregon. The project all together has about 10-15 miles of trail. It is a very feet tiring project. There is hardly any lopping or brushing, so this project is moving very fast. –Chad S.

Wednesday: Our project this week includes a total of 15 or so miles of trail for us to clear with crosscuts and on which we are supposed to fix the drainage. Our goal from the beginning has been to finish the entire thing, although at times we have questioned the plausibility of this goal. At this point however, we are looking forward optimistically. We've been working at a pace which will allow us to finish our assigned trail by the end of Friday or even a possibility of finishing on Thursday. Our crew's mental attitude has improved dramatically over the last week or so. We've learned to enjoy working hard and the feeling of accomplishment that comes with it. We are now doing our best work so far, which is as it should. –Brendan F.

Thursday: leaving tools behind is really not a good idea! We have done this at least once daily but through this we learned perseverance. Well some of us I hope we do good tomorrow. We also learned a new sea chant from Ryan. It was pretty sweet. I hope all the young men leave here with a sense of accomplishment and new found work ethic. –Brent K.

Friday: Finishing the 15 miles of trail and making through the last week- we finished it and we got through. We also needed to all bond together

and keep a positive attitude about everything and it sort of workd. Hey Dev. We made it through! Woo Hoo –James T.

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was...

Week 4 when we had to hike back from our job site when it was all basically up hill. – Chad S.

My first week when I did not know what I was supposed to do. –David C.

Definitely the last weeks jobs. People were getting excited and careless about tools.

Week 5 on Thursday it was up hill for at least 2 miles.

First week when my wallet money was missing.

The most difficult day was when we had to go up hill like week 4. –James T.

My most difficult was everyday after I hurt my back. Evan C.

I think my most challenging day at NYC was Tuesday or Wednesday of the first week. We had some attitude trouble and we lost a few members that week. –Brendan F.

Is hiking because it hurts my feet.

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were...

My 3 favorite experiences at NYC were white water rafting, hiking long distances and making new friends. –Chad S.

My three experiences at NYC was making new friends, learning new things and finally, getting along with everyone, -David C.

Meeting the group, hiking on top of a mountain side, rolling rocks down the mountain side.

Making friends, rafting and getting to hike. –Tyler E.

Friends; work, rafting Sean H.

Friends, the views and just flat out working. –James T.

The work, the friends and the van rides. –Evan C.

We made guacamole on a rec. trip that was definitely number one. After that, carrying gravel and the longer van rides. –Brendan F.

Work, friends and cooking for people

One Thing I Will Always Remember...

I will always remember the time I brought my friend Tyler back into the raft when he fell over. –Chad S.

I will always remember the good times with Deverton and the other people on red crew. –David C.

Working with such positive people.

The friends I have made. –Tyler E.

I will always remember the boys. –Sean H.

The friends and crew leader and Rovers. –James T.

The friends and the crewleader. –Evan C.

I will always remember my crewmates and making guacamole with my friends. –Brendan F.

I will always remember that you need to take care of the environment because you need it later on!

From Now On I Will Always...

From now on I will always jump on my chores at home instead of stall on them. –Chad S.

From now on I will always be a good person and help on what ever needs help on. –David C.

From now on I will be more helpful. –Tyler

Be me. –Sean H.

Also be me. –James T

Be the same as I was with a better work ethic. –Evan C

I plan to take more of an interest in preparing food, so that at some point I will be able to cook for myself. –Brendan F.

My hardest challenge is getting done with this program. It is very hard because you'll miss everyone. –Eric F.

At NYC I Learned...

At NYC I learned how to co-exist with people I don't know. Have fun with nothing to do and learn how to cook without a timer. –Chad S.

At NYC I learned how to cross cut, how to meet new people and learned more traits. –David C.

“patience” –Brent

I learned how to camp properly. Work hard and have patience. –Tyler

I learned to cope. –Sean H.

Learned how to use a tool. Talk to people and work harder. –James T.

Learned to work hard, learned that there was more to the water cycle and how to interact. –Evan C

I learned a lot about dealing with difficult social situations. About trail spec and about cooking from scratch. –Brendan F.

About the forest.