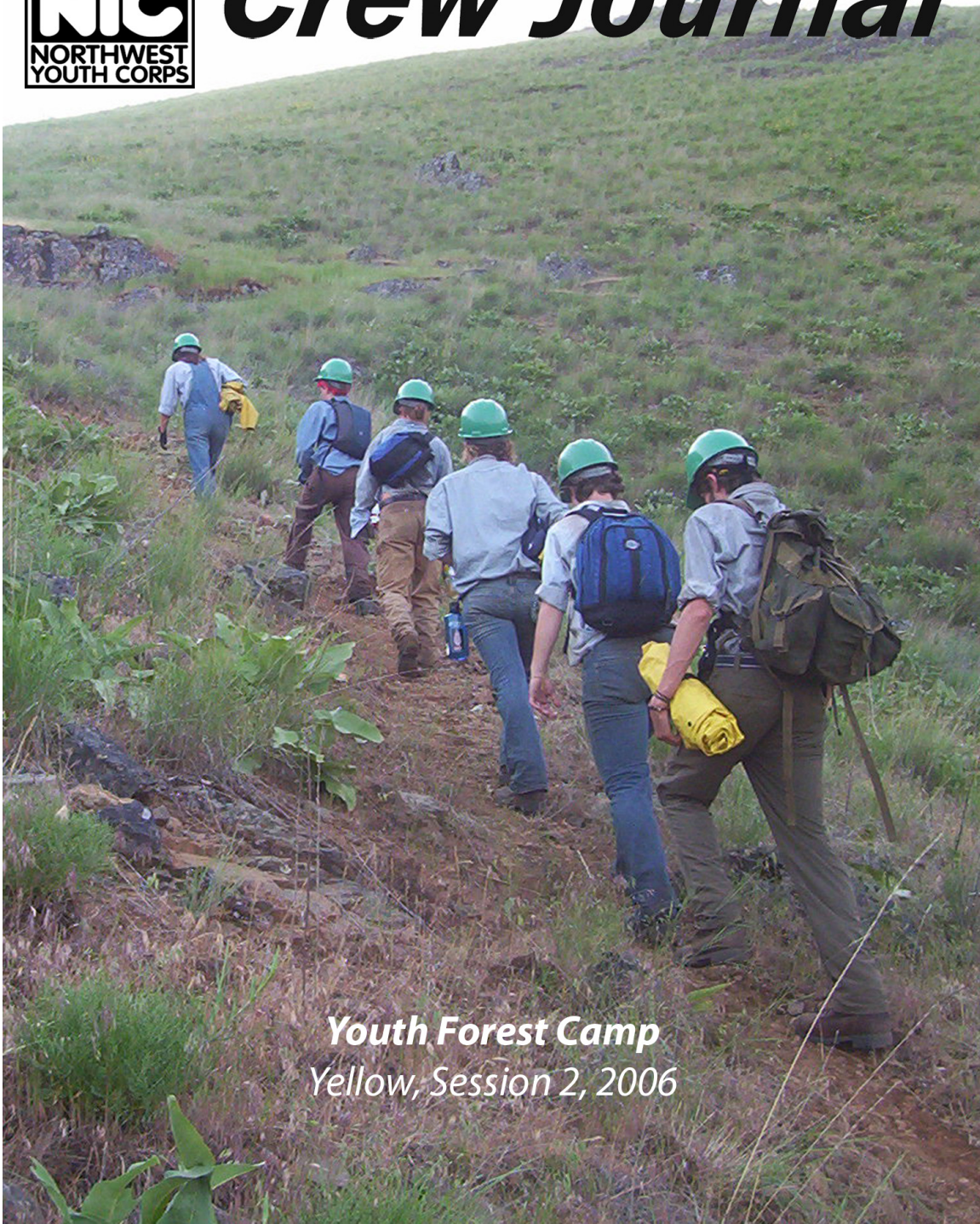




# *Crew Journal*



*Youth Forest Camp  
Yellow, 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: Willamette NF**  
**Ranger District: Sweet Home RD**  
**Project Name- Browder Ridge Trail**

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

Monday: When we got separated in our groups (crews) we got separated into a group full of excitement! When we got to camp Sunday We set up camp really fast and played football and “one fish two fish red fish blue fish.” We really came together as a crew and I think it made us closer and made us be able to work hard today. –Brandi C

Tuesday: This week we are hiking up a trail and doing repair on it. So far we’ve been doing switch backs and repairing drain ditches also we’ve been repairing the edges of the trail and trimming branches. It’s a great setting just outside of Sweethome. We can see a few different mountains from the camp. –Erik L.

Wednesday: Slowly but surely, we made our way down the trail after a long day of hard work. Sore feet all around. Singing songs from movies and un-popular and popular t.v. shows to keep us going. I like to drink a little bit of my water while walking, it’s like a little bit of Heaven! My head is full of sweat and dirt...I so look forward to showers but now no one can make fun of others for having had B.O.! We shall stink together! Everyone pulls their weight. –Michell L.

Thursday: This first week at NYC my crew has learned a lot, pretty much everything we know about what we do. Things like setting up camp are still coming slower, as we have only done

them once. The basic mindset of a labor and crew member has set in and we have learned to stop complaining about the little things. Our bodies are still adjusting to the change from sitting around to working full time. Every night we sit in a circle and learn something educational, from racism to camp rules to tying knots... it rocks! –Paul G.

Friday: I think that our challenges this week were hiking up 3 miles and not being able to take a shower for about 4 days which is totally gross if you ask me. My hair is so full of dirt it is not even funny. However I think that Paul and Land got into it more and I just don't mean the working part of it. They got the dirtiest. Anyway, I think our accomplishments this week were actually making it through the week because I think I speak for anyone when I say that we are so not used to hiking 3 miles up and down for 3 days straight. Another challenge is and might be for the rest of the five weeks is patience with each other. We still get along for the most part well I do anyway I don't know about anyone else. Another accomplishment is none of us got dehydrated or anything like that. –Olivia H.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Willamette NF**  
**Ranger District: McKenzie RD**  
**Project Name- Cabin Meadows Trail Restoration**

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

Monday: We started building a new trail and we got pretty far. We have a 10<sup>th</sup> kid named Kyle. We're learning lots of things about how to build trail. For the first time building a new trail we're pretty good. Everybody was still tired from Sunday. But we all had quite a bit of fun. –Arianna O.

Tuesday: We are building a trail to keep people off the old trail because there are endangered frogs on the old one. So if we get the new one built in time and the big honcho guy says it works then everyone will use it. It is supposed to be so big that it gets put on the map. I personally feel privileged to be doing it its awesome. –Olivia H.

Wednesday: My “wolfpack's” goals for this long back country week are quite a huge amount of focus, determinations, will power and muscles. My wolfpack's goals for this going to be memorable week it to get as far as possible making a re-route trail, and doing a spectacular job at it. Hopefully when we are done our contact will be so thrilled with our new trail that he will be delighted to close the old one. The work will be rough going, and we will have the hard jobs of smashing through tough duff, colliding gigantic boulders, tear down monstrous trees, chop our way through stubborn roots, as well as going head to head with blood thirsty mosquito's. It's a tough Job but someone's got to do it. –Katie C.

Thursday: Today the yellow crew learned about different kinds of clouds. We learned about different kinds of map, how to cook good food. Nellie taught us about iodine water treatment to get the bacteria out of the water. –Kyle K.

Friday: This week we started to make a large re-route. Most of the crew is excited and trying hard. The only real complaint is the lack of showers. We have learned how to lay trails down quickly and efficiently. We have removed several massive rocks and are currently working on

two more. Both of which weigh easily more than 200 pounds. So far we have had no major injuries. –Tressa J.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Willamette National Forest**  
**Ranger District: McKenzie RD**  
**Project Name- Cabin Meadows trail restoration**

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

Monday: Made a sexy trail and had fun on some days. We came back to our camping site and did our jobs and ate dinner and had more fun then went to bed. –Ryan B.

One day we went swimming in a lake –Land

Tuesday: Our project is the same as last because it's a two week back country. We are building trail and we only have 50 yards to go till we are done. Then we will do QC work. We were doing this to save some kind of frog, however we can't open the trail till next year. So we can only build the trail and not the bridge. But I still feel good about it.

Wednesday: I've been working on the trail...All the live long day...!" Oh my goodness I have this song stuck in my head. We wrote a very weird but awesome song in our own yellowish ways. Everyone pitched in and wrote a section and it all goes together somehow. PB & J! PB & J! Ooh baby those really taste good after a long wait for break. Most of all our tummies are barely full of cream cheese and bagels. It's fun when everyone plays or makes up games. So far our favorite would have to be...20 questions. Everyone like it but not too many care. To play. Everyone in our crew has a little bit to offer. Paul offers strength. On the trail he really pulls out those guns. Erik, he likes to be the awkward silence one. When no one has anything to say, he pops out with a so!...and says something we already had discussed & we're done discussing. Olivia is our jukebox. She loves to sing whatever song pops in her head. Tressa is intelligent. Really is smart. Arianna is 1 of 3 comedians. Katie is a hangout girl. You can tell her anything. Land is our #1 comedian. He's our personal. Brandi is like a sister. Hard to get along with but you still love her. Our crew leader. Man she's da bomb! She's actually like our mom! Just kidding. She takes care of us if we don't feel well but she really knows how to put up with 10 teenagers. We are the weirdest Brady bunch! - EOT -Michelle L.

Thursday: One of the things that we learned that was important to everyone was that we really could do that whole trail ahead of schedule. We were all kinda bummed that it won't open. But we're excited that Nellie's name is gonna be on the trail and we will be very happy that people from a different crew will know how hard that our yellow crew worked for 2 weeks on the trail. We worked hard and will be appreciated for it. –Brandi C.

Friday: Today we completed our hike and made it to the van. I am very proud of myself and the rest of the crew, with the way we completed our 2 week back country trip with little incident. We all came out mentally and physically stronger than when we went in. Now after we have accomplished all these things, we are on our way to get ice cream. I think this is a fitting reward for all the hot and sweaty work we've done.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: Willamette NF**  
**Ranger District: Sweet Home RD**  
**Project Name- Browder Ridge Trail**

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

Monday: My crew this weekend split up and went on a rec. trip swimming and had a store stop on Friday we got to take a shower after two week back country. On Saturday we got to see are parents and our crew made dinner for everyone that was “Awesome” then we got to sing are song we made up. We totally won but it wasn’t a contest so we didn’t get anything and Sunday I did my PH oh and Saturday I made a new good friend “Hemie” or James Town. I get introduced to a lot of parents and my dad made cookies for everyone. The bum for the weekend for me was I found out my grandma died on Thursday. That night I cried but I had everyone to comfort me and made me feel a lot better. I am glad I am on this crew. I wouldn’t choose any other way. That did not make sense but that’s ok. I am done writing now. EOT. –Olivia H.

Tuesday: Today was another “painful” day. More bee stings, but we made it to the meadow. Also, me and my fellow crew member Michelle are the (Lod’s?) It is not easy as most people suspect. Through this I have become way more appreciative of Nellie the rover in my crew. I don’t feel that I did the best I could. It was difficult. The only thing that I enjoyed about it was realizing new things aren’t as easy as they may seem. Good lesson for me and Michelle. –Katie C.

Wednesday: Our goal for the week is trying to get all of the work done maybe a day earlier than expected. We have been working fast and hard but with a lot of quality in our work. We’ve got almost a quarter of the way till we have hit our first day of work, because we only hike a little ways from the beginning of the trail and worked a while up and then today we hiked all the way to the top and we worked almost all the way to the part where we ended on Monday. –Brandi C.

Thursday: This past week has gone by really fast. We have learned so much in SEED. We have learned how to make a resume and how to present ourselves and dress for an interview. It’s interesting how a couple of sentences on a paper can help a person decide if they want to hire you. We’re almost there. Not much left to do on the trail. Had a lot done today. The way everyone fits together kind of makes us our own family. We all get along...mostly and we help each other a lot too. –Michelle L.

Friday: This week yellow crew has a lot to be proud of. Not only did we bust our butts on the trail, we did super awesome drain dips and brush like no crew has ever brushed before, BUT we also got a surprise visit from the head honcho, the big man on top the guy behind the magic, MR. Art Pope himself! Man was he impressed. As Art headed up the trail he was all smiles about the beautiful trial work he was seeing yellow crew bust out. THEN he got down and dirty with the crew to dig a few dips. Pat yourselves on the back Yellow Wolf Pack,that was a day to remember.

**National Forest or area that the work took place: OPRD**  
**Ranger District: Cascadia State Park**  
**Project Name- Cascadia State Park Maintenance**

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

Monday: This weekend Yellow and Orange crews went rafting. We rafted the McKenzie River for 3 hours. After rafting we came back to base camp and started the crew Olympics. Blue crew got 1<sup>st</sup>, red and us tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> and orange crew got a 3<sup>rd</sup>. We all had a great time and laughed a lot. – Arianna O.

Tuesday: This week we are spending our first week brushing full time. It is a total change from the re-route/trail maintenance we'd been doing in the past, but by the end of the second day we have gotten a pretty good eye for what it needs to be at. Also today we had two leaders of the day and they were the 1<sup>st</sup> ones to be given responsibility on the worksite. That was gnarly. –Paul G.

Wednesday: Our goal as a crew for this week is get everything ready for the big clean. Have lots of fun and don't fight with each other because Nellie gets mad when we do. If there's not a happy Nellie then there's not a happy crew. Today we got to have another rave if we got our chores done and it will be bomb because I have techno with me. So how many crews do that. We all got presents from Nellie and it was great. –Olivia H.

Thursday: This week we learned about how much an area could support of a species and how predators can effect a population of pray. We also learned about global climate change. –Tressa J.

Friday: We accomplished our goal of getting most of what we wanted to do. We got through a rain storm. We had a lot of fun. We all were excited to find out that everyone on our crew made it to the end and we're all happy. –Arianna

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

My most challenging day was the first time we hiked all the way up to Hart Lake Trail. – Tressa J.

My most challenging day at NYC was the first day of backcountry we had to hike miles on to get to the camp site they had planned for us. –Olivia H.

My hardest day was the day of the 8 mile hike into the backcountry, it was fun though. – Paul G.

The hardest thing I did at NYC was the 8 mile hike into our campground. But it felt good to get it over. –Eric L.

The hardest experience at NYC was my eight mile hike back country. –Michelle L.

The hardest thing for me @ NYC was a 8 mile backcountry hike. –Brandi C.

The hardest thing for me was the 8 mile hike into back country. –Arianna O.

The most challenging thing was hiking 14 miles both ways. –Kyle K.

Is waking up at 6:30 in the morning. –Land

The hardest thing for me was keeping focused at work. –Katie C.

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

I don't have a favorite experience I like most of my NYC experiences. –Tressa J.

My favorite NYC experiences would have to be...I actually have more than one. Anyways one would have to be when Art Pope came to work with us for a day. My other one would have to be the rave that we did that same week. –Olivia H.

Art Pope coming out to the worksite, listening to Bob Marley in the van and finishing our re-route. –Paul G.

To see how good normal activities felt after hard work like sitting down. Having a rave in the middle of nowhere. The food is really...good, after work. –Erik L.

Finishing our back country re-route. 3 mile hike to Heart lake Trail and meeting new people at NYC. –Michelle L.

Art Pope coming to the worksite, meeting new people, and hiking 8 miles out. –Brandi C.

Art coming to work with us, making new friends and having fun. –Arianna O.

Making new friends, working with Art and being friends with the crewleader. –Kyle K.

Making new friends, hiking a lot of miles and working with Art. –Land

Making friends, playing games and getting physically stronger. –Katie C.

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

I won't really remember this because it was mountains. –Tressa J.

I will always remember: The people I met, the friends I have made and the crew leaders I spent time with. I will also remember all the hard work we did as a crew in the trail that we built. –Olivia H.

I will remember the hard times I had and all the work experience. –Paul G.

Having a rave in the woods with like 12 people, yeah! -Erik L.

I will remember the relationships I have built with people. Some better than others. Also working with cool crew leaders. –Michelle L.

Having the rave and different relationships I've built. –Brandi C.

I will always remember the friends I made. –Arianna

My crew, the Wolf Pack and Nellie AKA mom. –Kyle K.

The friends I had. –Land

I will always remember the laughter. –Katie C.

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

I will always lothe farts. –Tressa J.

From now on I will always respect the trails and the forest that is around me. I will also always respect people because each and every one of us is different. –Olivia H.

I will know how much work went into making the miles upon miles of forest in our country. –Paul G.

Enjoy food a lot more than before. –Erik L.

Respect my peers and my employers, and co-workers because if one has it bad we all do. –Michelle L.

Respect all people no matter what. –Brandi C.

Respect people for who they are and what they believe in. –Arianna

From now on I will remember the Wolf Pack. –Kyle K.

I will always remember how to handle, store and carry tools. –Katie C.

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

I learned how to make a trail with a cut bank. –Tressa J.

I learned quite a bit of things here, not only about trail work but about different people and myself. On the trail work part of it I learned everything. Before I came I didn't know anything about trail and now I do. With people I learned that everyone comes from a different background so you should treat them with respect. What I learned about myself is my limits that I can go through. I now know my boundaries. –Olivia H.

I have it easy at home, Time goes fast when your working, how to build trails. –Paul G.

How to make trail; how to cook; and how to deal with difficult people. –Erik L.

Learned how to properly use sharp tools, how to deal with problems on my own and how to make new friends. –Michelle L.

I learned how to use different tools, how to work with different difficult people and how to have fun and work. –Brandi C.

I learned how to use tools properly, I also learned how to live with people from different backgrounds. –Arianna O.

I learned how to work in the forest, the new tools I had never seen, and the new animals.  
–Land

At NYC I learned that things do not always go the way you think or plan. –Katie C.