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Gold Beach Area Benefits from Pacific Northwest Conservation Crews

July 18, 2006 (Eugene, OR) – For the past two weeks, Northwest Youth Corps conservation crews have been helping native plants make a return to the area and contributing to wildlife habitat restoration.

Made up of teens age 16 – 19, the ten person crew works long hours each day to eradicate invasive weeds near Agness. Crews brave poison oak and trek through the dense vegetation to get their hands on noxious weeds that are displacing local fauna.

While the rest of us shed layers as the summer heat sets in, Northwest Youth Corps crew dons their bright blue hard hats, gloves, thick pants, and long sleeve shirts in the name of conservation. Along with their work clothes, the blue crew utilizes McClouds, hoghoes, handsaws, and loppers to dig and pull the invasive species out by their roots.

Nearby at Lobster Creek and Boice-Cope Park, another Northwest Youth Corps crew is improving hiking trails utilized by local Curry County residents as well as visitors to Gold Beach. Like their blue crew counterparts, the red crew wakes early to beat the heat of the day and repair scenic hiking trails.

Once back at their camps, the crews have time to swim in the river or take a quick nap before cooking dinner. As the day's work settles into their muscles and bones, one by one they head to bed to prepare for another great day on the trail.

To visit the blue or red crew the week of July 17 – July 21, please contact Stephanie Stano at Northwest Youth Corps by phoning (541) 349-5055 x 206.

Northwest Youth Corps is a non-profit youth development organization whose mission is to create leaders through teamwork, education, and outdoor conservation work experiences. Northwest Youth Corps has served more than 10,000 youth nationwide. For additional information contact Northwest Youth Corps at 2621 Augusta Street, Eugene, OR 97403, phone (541) 349-5055, or visit www.northwestyouthcorps.org.

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