Hello NYC’ers,

It is said that a small group of determined people can change the world. For five weeks this past summer you were part of that group. From pulling invasives on top of a mountain, to digging new trails in river valleys, you made a difference. Each swing of the hazel and each drop of sweat off your brow and into the soil made the world a better place. I hope that each member of the red, blue, yellow, and orange crews realize what a wonderful place this world is, and how you have and can still make a difference.

I hope each one of you arrived back into the “real world” with a feeling of accomplishment and wonder. You spent five weeks of your life braving the forest, the desert, the heat and cold of the outdoors, with your home each night the stars above. The five weeks at NYC this past summer is an experience that nobody can understand, or even comprehend; it is something alone for you to cherish and remember.

When you look back I hope you see the times we laughed, the smell of pine and sagebrush, the early morning chill and the dazzling sunsets.

Jeff Olson
Field Director
North 3-2012

CREWLEADER: Travis Magaluk

CREW COLOR: Blue

WEEK # 1

PROJECT NAME: Mt. Baker

NATIONAL FOREST: Snoqualmie National Forest

Sunday – What did your crew do this weekend?
We went to Lake Wenatchee and did orientation. Then the next morning we got our crew colors and drove to our campsite and set up camp. We set our camp up at Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest. We had to drive for four hours to get here and during the drive we played a lot of contact and slept.
Written By: Jimmy Maben Steeber

Monday –
Our crew was thrown together on an early morning, we shook hands as we wiped the night out of our eyes. The names of each other
member escaped me. Though none of us were close, all of us came together on our 3 hour bus ride through games and the ever present smile of our great crew leader. This comradely was evident in the speed that we set up camp. All of the chores that needed to be done were divvied up and quickly knocked out of the park. Games were played and friends were made. The long day was complimented with an early night; we were all in our sleeping bags before the sun had sunk below the tree curtain that surrounds our camp.

A rap and a tap from the hand of our trusted crew leader brought us to the Monday from a deep sleep. During the night a sea of clouds rolled in and enveloped our camp. Cold dew ran down the sides of our white wall tents. While my crew jumped up I rolled back to sleep. My alarm clock creamed 5:45am and I pulled my boots, blue work shirt, fresh new wranglers, and 2 pairs of socks on and ran to breakfast. We started our first day of work this morning. Trail works no joke, but we had plenty to tell by the end of the day. We made perfect tread on the trail and hill slope. We even got to cut fallen trees with a cross cut, an antiquated system that evokes certain nostalgia and that is so pleasant. We are all pooped but had a great time; gotta run, dinner time and we are made burgers!

Written By: Landon Spencer

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**Tuesday – What did our crew do today?**

Today was the blue crews second day at work. First we got our tools from our work site yesterday. After that we started our work on the PCT! My work on the PCT starts out a little rough. Jimmy, Sarah, Jon, and I carried buckets of gravel to the work site. We took three trips and then finally got to switch with our other crew members. After we had our lunch break Sarah and Travis started introducing us to drainage ditches. The crew then split up and all worked on different drainage ditches. I started by hacking at a log with a hazel but it was dead so the people I was working with were pulling away the dead pieces. We cleaned a good solid path but unfortunately it’s not even yet, but it’s fine because we’ve got two and a half more days! 😊 All in all I think we had a very successful an productive day. My crew follows directions and we were all working very hard.

Written By: Emily 😊

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**Wednesday – What was your crew’s greatest challenge?**
This week I think our crew’s greatest challenge is carrying large amounts of gravel up and down the trail and as much as we enjoy this week’s project it’s still hard to do. We are all excited that it is hump day and are looking forward to the weekend. We are all still getting along well and are enjoying and our relax time together after a hard day’s work.
Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

**Thursday –**
Today, Thursday, was our last full work day of the week. It’s easy to say that all of the blue crew is sore, bruised and blistered, and oh so happy. Despite all of the trials and tribulations of our week on the Pacific Crest Trail an ear to ear grin still on all of our faces. We’ve almost finished the last of our projects; all that’s left if a stepped turnpike which the majority of the work left will require maybe a ton of gravel, all of which will be hauled up the root infested trail. Tomorrow we’re going to have to “rage” as Travis would say, because we need to finish the last few steps of our turnpike. Tonight’s been a mad dash to cook and eat all the food we have left. A feast of corn chowder, bread, tortillas, pie, and cookies was a grand faunally to a great week of dinners. We’re going back tomorrow and I can’t wait till our next week.
Written By: Landon

**Friday –**
I’m Zynia Chapman and I am so pumped because this week (last three days including today) I did 19(!) wheel barrow loads. The week was absolutely bomben. Blue crew has officially become a tight knit team of awesome. This week we made the best tread possible for a first day so soft and even. Yet, an amazing turn of events happened and we worked the rest of the week on the PCT! Not only were levels of excitement through the roof, but our hard work mirrored the high energy. We worked hard in the basically two and a half whole days to crew at drainages, trenches and drum roll ( bum, bum, bum, bum) a step turn pike. Luckily we had help from John 2 and two foresters (which I referred to as “Buff McGruff” and “Lone Wolf”). We accomplished a great first week feat.
Back at camp we played just as hard if not harder than we worked. Chores were collectively completed by all and stories and laughs were plentiful.
Today, we all have enjoyed the awkward showers that we so desperately needed, the laundry sharing and group run to the stores and of course brief rocky van naps.
Written By: Zynia Chapman

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Travis Magaluk
CREW COLOR: Blue
WEEK # 2

Today was blue crew’s first day working on the PCT... this week. We worked on the Pacific Crest Trail most of week 1, and pretty much kicked way too much butt for them to let us go. So today and for the rest of the rest two weeks, we’re back country on the PCT building bridges and drainage and falling trees and kicking double butt! Despite the hike out, I still can’t stop admiring how awesome this trail is. It’s going to be a great two weeks.
Written By: Jessica GJ

Tuesday –
Today was kind of a rough day for me. My crew got split into two teams. My team went with James we hiked up about a mile and a half digging drainage ditches the whole way. I’m pretty sure we got 47 done. 😊 Then we started in on making check steps. We used pretty big sized logs. My team worked very hard the whole day. It was very tiring work though. The hike back down was what got me. It was probably one of my toughest days so far but all in all it was an extremely productive day and I’m super excited for my team to work on the bridge tomorrow! I’m sure with a little rest and some good laughs with my crew I’ll be all ready to go again! 😊
Written By: Emily

Wednesday –
Today blue crew used a grip heist to move two down trees across the project site and firm stringers and sills for the bridge we’re constructing. We also used multiple claw-like tools called hand –
hooks to move those giant logs into position. They look like this.

We then used rocks to prep and level the holes for the logs. After that work was finished and now we’re roasting cheese over the fire.

Written By: David Lehr

Thursday –
This whole week has been trying for the blue crew. We’ve been split into two different teams and have been working on bridges and drainage ditches. Our bridge is nearing its completion. The massive trees that we fell are going to ensure that our bridge is extremely stable. The William O. Douglas wilderness area, where we are camping, is absolutely stunning. We camp at the base of a snowy peak that sits in its own blue sea. Every morning the sun shines on its north face. Even if the plain oatmeal isn’t a good enough wake up call, the peaks illuminating brilliance certainly is.

Written By: Landon

Friday –
Today, as yesterday, our crew split into different teams to accomplish tasks related to building the bridge on the PCT. The first part of the day one team worked to collect rocks for the bridge’s approach while the other team worked on the stringers of the bridge. We then switched tasks so that one team worked with the stringers, another team worked to remove the existing approach logs, and a final team worked to move a large log that will act as one of two new approaches. The final part of the day consisted of more rock collecting for the approaches and the moving of logs into place for use in the bridge.
With much hard work and heavy lifting this week, it is needless to say that we are all looking forward to a relaxing backcountry weekend before returning next week to finish work on the bridge.
Written By: Desiree

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Travis Magaluk
CREW COLOR: Blue
WEEK # 3

Monday –
What we did today was, we hauled rocks for a few hours then we started working on water bars and building the bridge. Over the weekend we went to the lake and swam and hung out and played 500 in the water. On Sunday Travis took a couple of people on a hike while the rest of us went to the lake and shwed. On the bridge we have both sills set in place and both stringers and tomorrow we are going to get the decking in place.
Written By: Jimmy Maben

Tuesday –
Today blue crew split into two groups; one group travelled up the trail to work on drainages while the other group worked on the bridge and approach to the bridge. The day raced by quickly as we prepare to finish the bridge as well as the week. Tomorrow is the half-way mark of the session, known as “super hump day” reminding us that the session is flying by and will likely progress at an exponential pace. The bridge is coming together quite nicely and all of blue crew is anticipating the finished product. Our next steps are to put on decking and build rails, then finish the approaches.
Written By: Unknown

Wednesday –
The last two weeks have been pretty good. Building the bridge, hauling rock and dirt, and building drainages and check steps have all been tough but fun. I think being 2 weeks backcountry on the
PCT has brought our crew closer together. It has certainly been a great experience for us all and we are all curious on what we will be doing for our next two weeks. We are all sad but excited to get out of here. Where showers and laundry await us! This weekend is also visitation weekend and some of us are very excited to see friends and family. It will truly be awesome.
Written By: Sabrina

Thursday –
Today we went to work a bit later than usual because the bridge was almost finished. We worked a few hours to finish the bridge and clean up. After the bridge was done we went to camp to grab our packs and hike out. It was flaming hot out and all up hill at first. At the end of the hike it was downhill and really nice. We unpacked our packs and loaded up the rig.
Written By: Clay

Friday –
The past two weeks in the back country have been quite the experience. Our project first of all was amazing. It really made me feel proud of not only myself but my crew and Travis as well. In these past two weeks I was able to open up a lot more with my group and I really to love them all. Of course they all get super annoying but every family does. 😊 I would trust them all with my life at this point and I wouldn’t want to look and feel disgusting with any other group of people. The effort I saw all of them give these weeks was truly moving. I know they have my back and I have theirs. I can’t wait to see what kind of impact our next project will have on me and my beautiful blue crew! 😊
Written By: Emily

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Travis Magaluk
CREW COLOR: Blue
WEEK # 4

Monday –
Today was the first day of fourth week, and our first day away from the PCT. We woke up late (6:30, whaaat!); ate some real food (yogurt and granola, so basically this was just the best day ever.) and headed off to a relaxed workday of lopping. It got less relaxed when we realized we’d lopped for almost two miles and had to walk back up a rather steep and funky trail, but compared to our hike in yesterday – with two weeks’ worth of food and crew/personal gear – it was an easy stroll.

As I’m writing this, most of our crew is sitting at the table (a picnic table in the back country; yes that happens) doing the last of the daily chores. Overall, this site is wonderful. It isn’t too hot when we get back from work, there’s nice flat ground for setting up tents, and there are barely any mosquitoes at all! I can tell this is going to be a fun two weeks. 😊

Written By: Jessica

Tuesday –
Today we started making rock bars and more drainage ditches. It was definitely nicer than brushing all day. Our hike to and from work is kind of intense but I think it will definitely be easier by the end of our 2 weeks. We are getting so close to the end of the session which is sad but exciting. We are all talking about what it will be like when we get back and how great our NYC experience has been so far. We are all curious to see how the rest of the session goes.

Written By: Sabrina

Wednesday –
Today we started working on making a big drainage with some huge logs we found in the forest. Each day we hike up a steep hill back to camp, everyday it gets a little easier. It’s been getting really cold here early as well as dark so we’ve been heading to bed early.

Written By: Jon A.

Thursday –
Today was spent doing the preparations for building our 3rd turnpike. So many steaks were cut, so many legs were hauled. Though preparing isn’t always the most fun of tasks it is a necessity. Hopefully tomorrow we will be able to start building. I heard we’re roasting hotdogs over the fire tonight; maybe we are even doing a
PH! Only setbacks we’ve had are we are going to lose Susan as our Rover and our big bottle of bleach ran out. (Really it got stepped on and broke) Hopefully we will have clean water.

Written By: Landon

**Friday –**
We got up on Friday and followed the typical morning routine before heading off to work. We split up into a couple groups and brushed as well as began construction on a one-sided turn pike. In the interest of front loading work hours for the project, we worked a 10 hour day.
After work we returned to camp, ate dinner and went to bed.

Written By: David

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**North 3-2012**

**CREWLEADER: Travis Magaluk**

**CREW COLOR: Blue**

**WEEK # 5**

**Monday –**
Last Monday of the session! We are all getting anxious. School is starting soon and people are talking about what we’re going to do after all this. Some people are excited to go spend their money and things. I personally am looking forward to sleeping in. We are getting so close to being done with this trail! Today we worked on building an awesome one-sided turn pike. When we’re done with that there should only be some small projects left. Our weekend was very relaxing: filled with card games, sleep and more games. It was nice looking forward to the next one. But I will also miss all the people I’ve had the pleasure to meet here.

Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

**Tuesday –**
Today we went down and finished up a stellar turn pike. After we finished that we started another turn pike! We were killing it! This is
the first night Zynia isn’t cooking dinner, and we’re all a bit worried. We may have a P.H. tonight. 5th week bluetang clan reppin the hood. Written By: Clay Walker

**Wednesday –**

Wednesday was interesting. On top of working a full 8 hour day, we packed up camp and hiked out 4 miles while correcting drain dips. It ended up becoming a 12 – 13 hour day and we reached the rig at about 7 o’clock. We then ate and slept.

Written By: David

**Thursday – Quoted commonly heard around Blue Crew Campgrounds:**

“Whatever dude, we’re camping.”
“There’s a snake in my boot!”
“Yoga Paaaants!”
“I’m NOT doing any push-ups!”
“Snaked”
“LNT. Bro.”
“Safety Bonus!”
“Dude, my hair is dreading”
“David, you’re such a thespian”
“Shake n’ Bake!”

**Friday –**

Today was the big clean. It was a little stressful but kinda fun. It’s hitting me a little today that this is almost over. Looking back even in the hard times I loved it all. I’m sad I will never be around this group of people again. I can tell that this experience has changed me but I’m unable to really tell what that change is yet. I know I will look back all the time and wish I could live this experience again. I have nothing but good memories of my crew and all of our projects. I’m so thankful I found this program and I will forever be grateful for everything NYC has given to me.

Written By: Emily Milhomme

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were…
My three favorite experiences were being in the woods for 5 weeks, and meeting new people, and becoming friends with my crew leader and rovers.
Written By: Jimmy Steeber

My three favorite NYC experiences were hiking to and from backcountry projects, staying up late reading, and listening to music in the rig.
Written By: David Lehr

Building a bridge, swading at Dewey Lake and seeing new places.
Written By: Jon Altomare

My favorite experiences were returning to the rig triumphantly after finishing backcountry, meeting appreciative hikers along the Pacific Crest Trail, and hanging out with my fellow crew members.
Written By: Desiree Anderson

My three favorite NYC experiences were Turtle learning, finishing our first hike, and building a bridge.
Written By: Landon Spencer

1. 19 wheel barrows
2. Creating crew pairs (coed)
3. Being a leader of the day 😊
Written By: Zynia Chapman

My 3 favorite NYC experiences here have been meeting new people, watching the mountains as the sun sets behind them, and reaching the rig on our last day of work.
Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

My 3 favorite NYC experiences were:
  • Sharing good and hard times with my crew
  • Finishing the bridge
  • Finishing after every hard hike.
Written By: Emily Milhomme
1. Finishing our bridge
2. Being leader of the day
3. Going to Dewey Lake
Written By: Jessica Coffee-Johnson

My 3 favorite NYC experiences were building a bridge, going to Dewey lake, and making friends.
Written By: Clay Walker

**From Now On I Will Always…**

From now on I will always tell myself I can do something and I will always push myself to do more.
Written By: Jimmy Steeber-Maben

From now on I will always take a minute to think about the effects of my actions.
Written By: Jon Altomare

From now on I will always appreciate experiences as opportunities no matter the difficulty.
Written By: Desiree Andersen

From now on I will always appreciate showers. A LOT!
Written By: Jessica Coffee-Johnson

From now on I will always still cook, always. For I am superb!
Written By: Zynia Chapman

From now on I will always appreciate the little things in life.
Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

From now on I will always appreciate the beautiful wilderness areas.
Written By: Clay Walker

From now on I will always try to go into things with a super positive attitude.
Written By: Emily Milhomme
My Most Challenging Day at NYC Was…

My most challenging day at NYC was the first day of our second; 2 week backcountry project. We hiked in 4 miles carrying our entire tool compartment and 2 weeks’ worth of food.
Written By: David Lehr

My most challenging day was the first day of week four, when we had to hike into our campsite for the next two weeks. It wasn’t a long hike, but yellow tops and heavy packs were things a little harder!
Written By: Jessica Coffee-Johnson

My most challenging day was my second back-country hike in on Summit trail. Mentally I was very aware; however physically I struggled and pushed my body toward empty, struggling with a useless body I felt happy I made it and it was so fun.
Written By: Zynia Chapman

My most challenging day at NYC this session was probably hiking about four miles into the back country with super heavy packs and a lot of uphill. It was tough but I was able to push through it and keep hiking and had a great 2 weeks back country.
Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

My most challenging day at NYC was the second back country hike out. I don’t have great stamina and I’ve never had to push myself that hard.
Written By: Clay Walker

My most challenging day at NYC was our first hike into the back country!
Written By: Landon Spencer
My most challenging day was my day as a leader when I had to deal with some stressful people.
Written By: Jon Altomare

My most challenging moment was the 4 mile hike backcountry with big backpacks.
Written By: Jimmy Steeber
My most challenging day at NYC was hiking to the second backcountry site with a very heavy pack.
Written By: Desiree Andersen

My most challenging day at NYC was the second day of week 2 when our crew split into two groups and my group hiked 3 miles to do drain dips and check steps.
Written By: Emily Milhomme

At NYC I Learned…
Describe 3 things you learned from your NYC Experience.

I learned to work with others. I learned to adapt to my surroundings quickly. I learned I can trust others and depend on them to help me out.
Written By: Clay Walker

I learned to stop and take a moment to collect myself, especially when I have to do something under a time restriction. (Also I learned that Shel Silverstein is awesome)
Written By: Jessica Coffee-Johnson

At NYC I learned how to push my limits beyond my comfort zone.
Written By: Jon Altomare

At NYC I learned how to manage my tone in a large group of people.
Written By: Desiree Andersen

At NYC I learned how to act in a small community and be productive.
Written By: David Lehr

“At NYC I learned that I can make it in the world myself.”
Written By: Landon Spencer

At NYC I learned that I am capable of more than I even thought possible! Which is crazy awesome and motivating.
Written By: Zynia Chapman

At NYC I learned how to be more outgoing and ask questions.
Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

At NYC I learned that complaining and a negative attitude makes challenges so much harder and positivity helps so much. 😊

Written By: Emily Milhomme

At NYC I learned that you can eat stuff off the ground and not die and you can also eat a whole apple and carrot.

Written By: Jimmy Steeber

**One Thing I Will Always Remember:**

I will always remember camping under the peak of a gorgeous snowcapped peak.

Written By: Landon Spencer

One thing I will always remember is LNT, Bro. 😊

Written By: Zynia Chapman

I will always remember my crew and the good times we had.

Written By: Sabrina Carvalho

I will always remember the thanks we got from hikers.

Written By: Clay Walker

I will always remember my crew leader. 😊

Written By: Jimmy Steeber

One thing I will always remember is the great wide open views of the Wenatchee Forest.

Written By: David Lehr

One thing I will always remember are the relationships I’ve formed with the people.

Written By: Jon Altomare

One thing I will always remember is meeting a hiker on the PCT who was writing a plant field guide.

Written By: Desiree Andersen
One thing I will always remember is building a sweet bridge on the PCT and meeting all the hikers.
Written By: Jessica Coffee-Johnson

One thing I will always remember will be the great and wonderful laughs I had with my crew.
Written By: Emily Milhomme
WEEK # 1

Today we were divided into our crews. Issued our matching helmets, became more acquainted with each other, etc, etc. A you can no doubt tell by the heading, I was divided into the Red crew. Cool! I like red. Anyway, the rest of the crew seems friendly, I was initially more reserved around them but I’m glad to get to know them better, especially since it’s about to be tense for five weeks. I’m actually looking forward to work tomorrow. Manual labor tends to be more fun with conversation. We stared out around 8 this morning, for the relatively close Creek, where we’ll be brushing. I will admit I’m a little disappointed at the “civilization” at our campsite; even though we can’t go inside, having buildings around feels like cheating. 5 mile hike aside backcountry sounds like a lot of fun. Ah, well at least we have an outhouse here. I’m not looking forward to the prospect of latrines!

Written By: Gordon Graham
The brink of dawn has set. Truly this time we will never forget. Pacing and racing throughout the land as we continue work until we can’t stand. The demand and unity who knew it would be to understand the time as it should be live life to see to be so an is well do the things for satisfaction just to tell, but of all is good along the way we show togetherness proves the strongest link. Let’s finish before the snow.

Written By: Phillip

Sliding out of the sleeping bag, work shirt, check, pants, check, hard hat, check, cloves, check, bottle, check, boots, check; hurried breakfast, check, bumpy bus ride, check, safety circle, check, stretches, check, division of tools, check, begin work, check, break one, check, lunch, check, break two, check, load bus, check, bumpy ride check, get off bus, check, relax, check, start chores, check. My 2nd day at NYC!

Written By: Kieran Gale

Star trekking across the universe, the mighty red crew made huge distance on the trail. They worked, they talked, they drank plenty of fluids and most of all they had fun. Red crew has conquered all of everything – from trees to the littlest dumps of brush. We are the fire for NYC!

Written By: Ryan Hoyt

We finished brushing trail. Lots of grid work. Started digging out drainage ditch. Hope tomorrow goes well.

Written By: Andrew

North 3-2012

CREWLEADER: Alden Durrant

CREW COLOR: Red

WEEK # 2

In this land, it’s a Survival of the fittest
Don’t meet me halfway

I return after finishing this session’s first week of work, pulling my own on assisting others with theirs. Now 8 days out and we have another front country assignment, I was disappointed, I would have wanted backcountry. Few others agree with me when I bring this up, most tell me to appreciate the luxury, and “I would like to replace luxury with strain”. I need to reach my peak, and then build off of that.

I work my way up
From dirt to trees from stone to
Snow, I’ll reach it soon.

I’m bonding with everyone here; it feels like I should have known them my whole life. I love this work. It reminds me each time that every good dog must be well disciplined. This work and this environment are so natural, away from all that is fake and manufactured. Nothing artificial, just wild! Still, I think of loves I have back home, and how the work is worth the longing.

I found a nice view
Of lush fields and a mountain
When can I see you?
Written By: Zacharath

We’re still getting in the swing of things as a crew. We’re brushing again but this time it’s a bit thicker and we’re only doing specific sections. We finished the first section today and we started on the second section today. So far we’re making decent progress.
Written By: Kieran Gale

Today was the first work day at the new camp; we have a 1.4 mile hike into the work site. We had to follow arrange flagging to the destination. The hike up was fine and the work wasn’t too bad mostly lopping and brushing. I also encountered a new tool today called the weed whacker. We ate food at a really nice river spot and by that time my feet were pretty sore and wet but the hike down still wasn’t too bad. Phillip made it up to 50 push-ups today, a new record. Ryan fell into a cesspool and Gordon had two very ironical laughs.
Written By: Henry Belton
Day two on the worksite; the work passed much more quickly today, maybe due to the less intense heat; also working with a great band of young men make this job so much more worth it. The scenery around the worksite is rather amazing, for the partially snow covered mountains to the waterfalls that we camp out next to for lunch. If this is the least scenic place that we have the opportunity to work at, then we have a great time ahead of us. Go Red Meat Crew.
Written By: Jonathan Syed

Today and this week have been tough, especially since I’ve gone through trench foot and sore heals. Today we brushed some more and swamping what make this crew a chugga wugga wagon – stop machine is our obnoxious loud behavior. We may be tired, but what’s tiredness when without tiredness you’ll be awake for eternity. My goal for tomorrow is to finish our work beyond the call of duty and then to enjoy the history of weekend site greatness. To be able to hear other peoples stories.
Written By: Keegan Cole
North 3-2012

CREWLEADER: Alden Durrant

CREW COLOR: Red

WEEK # 3

Monday –
It’s been a long and treacherous journey but the red space cadets have finally made it and settled down into their new space station. 8 light years have passed and the cadets still have enough energy to work and have fun. But it’s not only fun and games, later in the week they were attacked by Santa’s reindeer. The cadets fought hard and won the battle against Santa’s army, and even finished the mission they set out to fight to begin with. In 8 more light years, the space cadets will be home to be with friends and family and will be competing in their home planets own metropolis Olympics. Good luck to you space cadets! Stay safe.
Written By: Ryan Hoyt

Tuesday –
First day on the new worksite, I am surprised that it only took one day to get mostly done with the main trail. Our crew is kicking into gear. Even though we heard about a mile long hike to get to the site, we still pushed through the day. The tread is nearly finished and tomorrow we will begin brushing the upper trail since it is pretty bad. I am excited to see what else Red Meat Crew is capable of.
Written By: Jonathan Syed

Wednesday –
This week has been all about compromise; whether it be sleeping on the side of a trail to rest our bodies; or making extra hours so we can hike out a day early for efficiency reasons. We spent our days building drain dips and shooing off deer from our food. Red Crew invests in hardy meals each night for that. While aching muscles make sleep a blessing, crew has broken through illness and injury. Yet somehow with Lexi’s magic touch the strain reduces gradually as the only sting I feel is the watching eyes of the forest. My feet are hot blistered, they are bleeding, my arms are not scratched, and they are functional. I AM LOVING EVERY MINUTE OF IT! My body is ready.
Written By: Zach

Sunday –
Today was trying. We’re bound for backcountry, 8 miles in from what could be called civilization. We set off around 3. None of us were used to the burden of our packs, so we had to make frequent pauses, either to catch our breaths or to let those flagging behind catch up. Around 9:30pm, we were obliged to make camps along the trail, at least 2 more miles from our goal. We dined on bagels and nursed our foot pains for dessert. Zack got the worst of it. At least we have a clean view of the stars. Hopefully we’ll be able to make it to camp quickly tomorrow. I’d hate to lose even more time.
Written By: Gordon Graham

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Alden Durrant
CREW COLOR: Red
WEEK # 4
PROJECT NAME: NYC Entiat Trail Maintenance

NATIONAL FOREST: Okanagan/ Wenatchee

Monday – Describe what your crew did this weekend.
We got the culverts to the site, have them almost in. Was lots of
digging at work. Took lots of effort but we got mostly finished with the
section. Not sure on what we will do afterwards. Crew more is
bumbling from positive to aggressive.
Written By: unknown

Tuesday – Describe your project this week: Where are you?
What are you doing? Why?
Today was both good and bad at the same time. I learned how to
make a head wall and stabilize the culverts. At the same time, there
was a lot of time spent standing in the water so my boots are soaked.
That along with slicing my elbow dampened the day. Hopefully we
will get the other culvert in and done with by tomorrow so I can
change out of these nasty boots.
Written By: Jonathan M. Syed

Wednesday – Describe your crew’s goals for the week.
The culverts are now part of the past, but the trail work is still ahead.
This is only my 2nd week, I love it.
The other crew members are fun to fool around and work with. So far
this is the funest summer I have ever had. May it last until the end!
Written By: Joshua Majchrzak

Thursday – Describe what your crew learned this week.
Back when red crew had hardly started off our main form of
communication was just to fart and cough. We used to play cards,
work hard and talk and when it came to it was just darting off and
when they said the things would be hard and all we stuck through it
like the great big china wall, but little did they know we’d all have a
ball. Either working or chilling or to the Saturday haul and the things
we were gaming were out.
Written By: Phillip Telles-Ferreira

Friday – Describe your crew’s challenges and accomplishments
this week.
The crow flew too close to the sun and its white wings scorched black
My lovely sister I can’t wait to see you again!
The monkey climbed past his limit for food only grabbing scraps
Baby brother I’ll carry you again soon
The ox smashed its head so many times its body decides to grow horns
Mom I’ll eat anything when I return
The Irish man drank his fill he slept on hardened hay
Dad I’ll fix us both wine soaked beef
The siren sings from her stone land hoping the green echoes
Anna! I miss you! These nights are cold and your hands are so warm
The puma waited for prey to pounce! But it waited too long and fell asleep
You had best done your homework.
The photographer focused on the sun too well and burned his film
Steven there are good pictures for you waiting with me
The maiden keeps with her promise any still has time to read
Autumn, I’ll be back soon! I hope all is well.
The musician plays his strings once, then a second in tune
Schuyior, keep playing, I have some new ideas
The turtle keeps in his shell, but knows the outside.
Zack, we have good business when I get back
The owl watches in wait in the dark, its big watchful eyes held
You know who you are, thank you so much for your guardianship
The artist is seldom understood by his peers
I’m almost there, I’m almost there
Written By: ZKS

Our spies have reported that the humans have finally broken their camp at Snow-brushy meadow, later in the week than we initially expected. They left little trace in their wake, save for two areas of turned earth, and the trembling terror of our spies. Our scouts observed them making excellent time up Emerald Park Trail, towards Pyramid Mountain. They did their best to stay out of sight, and do not believe they were spotted. Unfortunately, the humans were met with more good fortune, before continuing to work on the trail. They discovered a water purifier left by more of their kind. I will attempt to organize a sabotage attempt, but I am unsure whether we should risk more troops in their immediate vicinity. Their incursion into our territory is troubling, but we deer were not made to face such perils
as they can bring to bear. We have harassed them endlessly, and stolen their provisions and yet I wonder how they would fare in open war. I will ponder this further, and keep my generals appeased should the need arise we will show the humans how a deer can fight. Written By: King Long Antler (Gordon Graham)

North 3-2012

CREWLEADER: Alden Durrant

CREW COLOR: Red

WEEK # 5

Today was the first day of pure relaxation. Activities ranging from card games to simply reading were prominent. It feels good to have a day to regain our strength so that the last few days can be filled with hard work devoted to clearing and/or repairing our latest trail. Tomorrow we will be waking up bright and early like always. Our new rover, Sara will be joining us tomorrow as well, let us show her how Red Meat Crew gets things done. Written By: Jonathon Syed

Third and last week is almost completed. We seemed to half beat the clock, all our projects finished and done amazingly well. We are all thinking of what we will be doing after NYC is over. We have all ripped off our sleeves in the last danger circle. Life here is almost over. I am looking forward to the steaks on Friday. Written By: Joshua Majchrzak

The space cadets are at it again! After switching routes halfway through their journey, they finally get to do something worthwhile-TREAD! They seem to get the hang of it and are having a blast! Why just today they saw a five, yes five pointed hantelope. It is all going well with the space cadets. Only a few more days until they return to their home planets. Written By: Ryan Hoyt

It was the second to last day of work today. There has been a lot of talk of home today amongst the crew and everybody has been talking
about what they are going to do when they get back, me for example, I have been thinking a lot about all the eating I'm going to do. It's actually kinda nice because it sort of makes the day go by faster with that on my mind. We worked all the way to the summit today it took a long time and with a feeling of nostalgia all day the view of these spectacular mountains were all that much more meaningful when it took all thoughts out of my head and just got to look at an amazing view that cleared my mind completely. Then I returned to work and resumed too, my thoughts stuck on the food channel.
Written By: Henry Belton

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

Analyze the quality of the trail I'm hiking on.
Written By: Henry

From NYC I've learned to have a great work ethic and keep a work ethic w/out dropping it.
Written By: Kieran

Appreciate the gifts I have and my best with my little activities.
Written By: Zach

Be the best that I can be.
Written By: Josh

Respect the outdoors more and continue to work to the best of my ability.
Written By: Jon

Respect others, nature and myself.
Written By: Ryan

I will always take a moment to wonder at the landscape and what I'm doing.
Written By: Gordon

I will make sure to keep a careful eye for trail whenever I go and or work.
Written By: Andrew
My Most Challenging Day at NYC Was…

Working out with Jeremy
Written By: Phillip

Eating the poison Phillip made for us
Written By: Henry

Being able to have a great crew leader like alto is awesome!
Written By: Keegan

It hasn’t come yet; big clean
Written By: Zach

The first day, I was out of place and had to get the rules mastered.
Written By: Josh

About half way through, I was having trouble controlling my anger
and had to distance myself from everyone.
Written By: Jon

Almost losing it when stupidity was going to hurt others…
Written By: Ryan

The first backcountry hike or maybe the very first day of work
Written By: Gordon

At NYC I Learned…
Describe 3 things you learned from your NYC experience.

Accepting things the way they are working hard, leadership.
Written By: Phillip

Trail maintenance, better work ethic, confidence building.
Written By: Henry

Working hard, trail maintenance, confidence
To get more friends and sustain my work ethic
Written By: Keegan

Tool use/safety be more careful with my body
Written By: Andrew

Better leadership, tool use, work habits
Written By: Joshua

It’s time to grow up, how to use an axe, and that work needs to get done, not be avoided.
Written By: Gordon

I learned to lead when needed, focus on my work and learn more about the outdoors, and not take everything for granted.
Written By: Jon

Anger control, how to cook better, multitasking
Written By: Ryan

Food is heavenly, sleep is blessing, grubbers hurt
Written By: Zach

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were…

Working hard, taking control of the crew for a day, having fun
Written By: Phillip

The people I met, places I went, work I’ve completed
Written By: Henry

Having a cool crew, a sweet adorable crew leader
Written By: Keegan

Cooking, hiking, working on the culverts
Written By: Kieran
Hiking, drinking water, peace
Written By: Zach
Camping, the people, the food
Written By: Joshua

Working with a group, challenging myself and learning to become a leader when needed
Written By: Jon

Hiking, shhwading, meeting new people
Written By: Ryan

Just time on the rig, cooking in the backcountry, and Milham pass
Written By: Gordon

**One Thing I Will Always Remember:**

Enjoying time with my crew
Written By: Phillip

My crew members and color
Written By: Henry

Being able to go further in the NYC experience
Written By: Keegan

My crew (2nd family)
Written By: Kieran

Crew humor
Written By: Joshua

These people each have something in them that makes this crew something more: a really messed up blood red family of mountain men, comedians, artists, athletes, and hard workers. These people are brothers that are something I can’t leave behind, even if I wanted to.
Written By: Zach
This crew and all its ins and outs that only we understand  
Written By: Joshua Majchrzak  

Climbing the last few feet to the top of Milham pass.  
Written By: Gordon  

I will always remember the hard times, but only for how rewarding they were.  
Written By: Jon  

Hard work never killed anyone  
Written By: Ryan  

Working with this crew not matter on the difference in personality I hope to become life time friends with most of them.  
Written By: Andrew
Monday –
Today was yellow crew first work day, although it was a lot easier than yesterday. We spent the whole day lopping and we managed to make good progress. We cleared about five hundred feet of trail, which seemed a lot further hiking back. Early in the day Liam told a riddle and as it’s now going on six o’clock nobody has figured it out. It was a hard first day but everybody worked and nobody complained.
Written By: Aidan

Tuesday –
Today was very much like yesterday, we lopped, sawed, and swamped. Contact helped pass the time and we had some very hard
words. The day went by pretty fast and same the gorp, which we needs to remember to fill to the top. Music was a big conversation and lots of people were singing. I sang “find a pet” Patrick and everyone else sang rov. But all these things made the day go faster. All except that riddle that we need the answer to!
Written By: Harry

Wednesday –
Hey, I’ve got a little wrap so don’t stay away
Or take a nap or hit the hay
With all these comps, lomps, bear hugs
Of swamps no brush was left at bay
We took a big chomp out of our work and still
Went a ways, We probably could have gone
On for days till our water let to the away
As for music it’s hard to say, remembering
Lyrics left most post neigh, as for riddles
They were pretty fun, Jeremy brought
us grub, over all we had a pretty good run
Written By: Anthony

Thursday –
Today was the last full workday of week 1. We split up into two groups; Patrick’s crew worked towards camp while Jeremy’s crew pressed onward. We learned a new game called scenario, which helped us pass a lot of time. This game gave us a glimpse into Aidan’s future as a soap seller, and left us wondering why Anthony would chose to walk into a burning building to his death. Most of us will try to get to bed early tonight to prepare for the 7 ½ mile hike tomorrow, but I’m sure that before we go to sleep we will all enjoy the last evening we have at our first worksite of the session.
Written By: Camoron

We woke up at 4 in the morning today, but we worked harder than we have all week. We lopped 700 feet in on hour. I think it was because we wanted to get out of there and take showers and wash our clothes. The hike was a lot easier on the way down and we had a chance to really appreciate the beauty of the mountain.
Written By: Spencer
After the hike was finished we packed up the bus as quick as we could, which was not very fast considering we just finished an 8 mile hike. The ride was quiet we were all wiped. Once into town we got a lot of stares. We looked like a pack of dirty mountain kids, overall a good day.
Written By: unknown

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Patrick McHeyser
CREW COLOR: Yellow
WEEK # 2

Today we started our next project for week number two. We will be building and installing campsite picnic tables and fire pits in a domestic campsite. I imagine it was quite frustrating for the crew leaders because they seemed to have a hard time finding stuff for us to do. If we finish (which we most likely will) the benches, we will be building stairs.
Written By: Zack Nacke

Later morning start. The contacts wanted to have us working more during the time they were. We started safety circle at seven. Yesterday’s incomplete projects were quickly finished and we began clearing ground for new campsites. Much of the day was spent digging holes for both picnic tables and fire pits. Others continued constructing additional tables. One table remains to be built, a behemoth 16 foot. Some swam in the river; rice and beans for dinner.
Written By: Liam Knudsen

Ok… We got to wake up to the most amazing breakfast ever! Brownie and pancakes thanks to Anthony and Zack. After we got safely in the safe safety circle and talked about safe things to do. Today was a lot like the day before, long day, hard work. We
accompanied a lot of staff today. We put together the really big table. Shot gun had lots of cookies, and for the first time we didn’t run out of gorp.
Written By: Unknown

Dear Priceless Celestia,
Today is Thursday 2012. We found out it wasn’t the end of the world because we woke up quite early. Within twenty min. we were ready to work. The Toppa Brothers worked with Harry to sand the largest table after we all got the table in the trenches. Zac, Rilen, Vex and somebody else worked on the forest trails. 1 Break came fast bye and we ate our fill. After that Lexie and a mix of people wet the tables while the others put the rest of the tables in. After that we had some fun while playing in the dirt. Then we ate lunch and the leader and rover explained the minor jobs. Liam, Bloody T, Hairy and I finished the tent and trail at the NW. Camp while Rilan and Corey Started putting in the camps after the last break and came back to camp. We swam in the cold water and begant chores. A deer walked ten feet from the dinner table. We called him Araris.
Written By: Cameron Wisecaver

Today was a short day we only worked for about 4 hours, which was mostly spent on the stairs. We had to make sure that each of the steps was in the right place. After a couple of failed attempts we managed to get the steps nailed to the side pieces. Once the stairs were done we covered the path with gravel, and did the same for a different one. After everything was finished we left the campsite, did our laundry, took showers, and went to the weekend site.
Written By: Rylan C.

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Patrick McHeyser
CREW COLOR: Yellow
WEEK # 3
Today we started our third week project. We got a pretty sweet project digging drainage and brushing. For the first half of the day the crew worked on building small fjords across a crick for horses and general easier crossing, as well as (started) a French drain which we later found the project sponsor actually wanted a drain dip there. The next half of the day, we switched everyone on drainage with the brushers, then the brushers started widening parts of the trail.

Written By: Zach Nacke

Written By: Zach Nacke

Today half of the group worked mostly on lopping brush to the sides of the trail. The other half of the group worked on making the trail easier to walk on by leveling areas with rocks. By the second break the two halves of the crew were switched and continued to make progress on the trail. The last job that we had to do was to level a ditch with rocks and dirt. Me, Liam, and Aidan started by rolling a large rock up the hill. Once we got that rock into place, we gathered a bunch of medium sized rocks with the rest of the crew. After all of the rocks were in place, we laid dirt over them so that it made a nice slope.
The End!
Written By: Rylan C

In an eroding world where first world problems trouble American hikers, two teams make it their goal to fix their problems for the soul purpose of pressuring the semi-natural land. We spent lots of time shaping the earth to their well-known flat planes so they don’t have trouble placing their feet and to make travel smooth, speaking of smoothing things out we had to slay lots of protruding roots, they came from all sides especially from underneath and wouldn’t go down without a fight.
Sweat dripped from all over our bodies, loosing precious water necessary for finishing the fight! Inevitably they gave up by the foot of our hurling pulaskis and the crushing force from the jaws of the loppers. This task was easy but more challenges were thrown our
way, we were told to step our game up by our ferocious leader and that our Crip of rock was to flimsy and weak, so we went in search of bigger and better rocks guaranteed. It was no trouble, we didn’t mind, it was worth it.

Then I went back to clearing the land till break came and shortly after I was pulled and became a plumber the daze of city life kept me in confusion, lots of clogged traffic in toilets and in Colorado drains, but soon the life of a plumber died out and another bread was called. After leaving my past like behind I wandered to the peoples gathering spot bringing only a fragment of my past self; we talked and ate but I still had something on my mind, who am I really? What was I meant to be? Then it hit me, I was once a happy man full of energy, sweaty and full of achievement so I went back to clearing the land until the day was gone. Then I became a writer. The End!
Written By: Anthony

Today we woke up 2 minutes ahead of schedule so we could beat Orange crew to the project. The day went smoothly except for the fact I ripped my pants. People say the day went by fast, others slow, but either way we had fun and listened to me tell the story of Billy and Bowman.
Written By: Unknown

Wooaaah! This morning was intense! The crew woke up to the sound of a chainsaw wielded by Patrick to wake us up at 4:45am. Vvrrruumm. We raced orange crew packing up camp, and since we had small back country tents, it was faster. The day “work wise” was going to be a half day but both crews together got caught up on a certain track involving moving a massive slippery log, and carrying helmet loads of rocks.
Written By: Vex

North 3-2012

CREWLEADER: Patrick McHeyser

CREW COLOR: Yellow

WEEK # 4
Yesterday was the start of week 4. After a quite steep three and a half mile hike, we set up camp and made, yep you guessed it, rice and beans. We experienced a few mishaps with the bear hang, tarp, etc. Today we started week four and our last project of the session. Our project is similar to last weeks, only we have cooler trail constructions. Sadly, our shotgun didn’t have much in it, thanks to me. Luckily we had enough food to get through the day. We are now back at camp straightening things out. The bear hang is almost up and dinner is almost done. Tonight we’re having beany rice instead of rice & beans. Here t a good night’s sleep and a great last two weeks.
Written By: Harry

After the third day of working in this area I am still taken aback every time I see some of the views. From our campsite you can see a pristine pond and in the distance a snow capped mountain. From the work sight you get stunning views of the mountains and as we’re moving further; the lake. As you’re working it’s nice to be reinvigorated by the gorgeous scenery. All of this attracts a lot of hikers who are very appreciative of the trail work we’re doing. I’m looking forward to the next week and a half of working here.
Written By: Aidan

Last night it rained for the first time all session, and today the crew woke up to a cold and wet morning. Jon hiked up to work with us, and the program director Jeff joined us about halfway through the work day. We had a particularly good shotgun today, which included peanut butter and nutella sandwiches as we as turkey and cheese sandwiches. Some of the projects we worked on included a rock water bar to divert water from the trail, check steps, and a retaining wall. The view of the opposite ridge was as impressive as ever, especially during the morning when we could see fog rising above it. Overall, it was another productive day.
Written By: Harry

Thursday 8/23/2012
Cold morning wake-up. We tried dehydrated eggs for breakfast and were ten minutes late because of it. They were interesting. Throughout the day the crew worked on rock water-bars (or buffalo
bars by Cam’s nomenclature), check steps, retaining walls and various tread. A couple of trees were down and many rocks were roles for building materials. Around midafternoon the fog finally rose and we were able to see the usual spectacular views of the opposing shore ridging and steep rock faces. Nine hours of work today, pushing our chores into the early evening.

Written By: unknown

Friday 8/24/2012
It rained for the second time so the morning was cold and wet but as the day rolled by it progressively got warmer and the skies cleared as it normally did. The rock-wall was finished and needed to be filled, we did so and made many check steps as well as the jobs associated with it. The end is creeping closer, where did the week go?

Written By: Unknown

North 3-2012
CREW LEADER: Patrick McHeyser
CREW COLOR: Yellow
WEEK # 4

Sunday – Describe what your crew did this weekend.
Crew leader Patrick and Lexia aka – corey and harry woke us up today. We had bagels and cereal (raisin bran with water sucks) Today we worked on steps. Cutting trees, shaving, sawing then putting them in place were the other half made places for them. They put rocks around them then put dirt on it. In between and around this there was collecting small rocks which was tedious. Breaks were good but a lot of complaining about going to the bathroom.

Written By: Cameron Wisecaver

Monday – Describe your project this week: Where are you? What are you doing? Why?
Today everyone woke up pretty early and got to safety circle five minutes earlier. Liam and Aidan were the leaders today, and had people working on the steps more and fixing up trails farther down.
When people were trying to get more logs for the steps, the log ended up breaking the p-card and falling down off the trail. Before that we realized that the log that was left on the trail overnight had also somehow fallen. The day was over quickly and the same can be expected for the rest of the week.

Written By: Rylan C

**Tuesday – Describe your crew’s goals for the week.**
The leaders of the day were Anthony and Rylan. This morning we had rice and brown sugar for breakfast because we ran out of bagels, oatmeal and cereal. More work was done on the check steps, which we hope to finish up tomorrow. Also, some of the crew worked on retreading sections of the trail that were particularly gnarly. Today’s shotgun was larger than usual; because we are trying to use up the rest of our lunch food. Tomorrow is the last full day of work and most of the crew is excited to reach the end of the session.

Written By: Unknown

**Wednesday – Describe what your crew learned this week.**
Today was the last full day of work, and you could tell what was on everybody’s mind. There was lots of talk about things we were looking forward to after the session. But despite this everybody stayed focused and worked hard thanks to Zach. Zach was the only leader today and did a stellar job of keeping people on task and appropriated. The majority of the day was spent wrapping up projects on the trail and towards the end of the day we bumped up back to our campsite to do some work around there.

Written By: Unknown

**Friday – Describe your crew’s challenges and accomplishments this week.**
Today was an unspeakably glorious day; it is also our last work day. We finished all our mandatory work and were just putting hours in doing what we could to make the trail better and we did no less than we would any other day of the week while knowing soon we wouldn’t need to do any more trail work. John came to help us but left on his own soon after work, he was a big help to me finding a rock and always a joy to have around. While hiking down after cleaning up camp I couldn’t help but feel the walk was like a coming down a red carpet and some hikers were even thanking us while we crossed
them. After that, what can I say? We packed up and headed to town where we enjoyed the luxuries of big stores and stuffed ourselves with food, on the ride back we were treated to more food and listened to some NPR, after that we found camp for the night and the next hours will be played through.
Written By: Anthony H

**At NYC I Learned…**
**Describe 3 things you learned from your NYC Experience.**

Throughout the session I learned many new things that had to do with trail maintenance, and campground work. The 5 weeks spent out in nature showed me and improved my work ethics as to before I came to the camp. I also gained more appreciation towards nature, such as leave no trace, following along the trails that are meant to be walked on, instead of going off trail.
Written By: Corey

I learned how to cope with a lack of privacy, new ways to communicate and how to repair trail.
Written By: Harry

How to leave no trace, how to work on trails, have good team work and communication and have a good work ethic.
Written By: Vex/ Riley Babbitt

In addition to learning about things like forest cycles and plant identification I acquired real life skills such as better initiative and work ethics.
Written By: Aidan

How to not be picky, how trails are made, and how to work harder.
Written By: Rylan

I learned how to be a better leader as well as I have gotten better at trail work.
Written By: Zach Nacke
Throughout this session I improved my teambuilding skills. Essentially I learned a large amount about my fellow crew members. Most of all, I learned to work harder.
Written By: Liam

I learned laundry and underwear aren't necessary.
Written By: Anthony Harrell

To look for trails that were fixed in ways I worked with. Enjoying the little things. Understanding many different people.
Written By: Cameron Wisecaver

**The Most Challenging Day at NYC Was...**

The first day, 7 ½ mile hike was pretty hard after 3 months of not doing much.
Written By: Zach Nacke

The 2nd week was kind of fun. We had an easier job as construction workers. It served as a nice job after our 7 ½ mile hike the first night.
Written By: Corey

The first day when we hiked 7 ½ miles
Written By: Harry

The very first day
Written By: Aidan

The first day at the weekend site
Written By: Riley Babbitt

The 7 ½ mile hike. I felt like quitting.
Written By: Rylan

The hike up on the first day was pretty tough but we powered through
Written By: Anthony H
Drink mix is awesome, but I feel nausea forming with each sip by the 5th week.
Written By: Corey

Orientation evening and the last day.
Written By: Liam

From Now On I Will Always…

Appreciate things more such as the outdoors, wild-life, and other people.
Written By: Riley Babbitt

Practice, leave no trace principles and appreciate things I used to take for granted.
Written By: Harry

Push myself and actively find things I can help with.
Written By: Aidan

I will try my best and do my part to reduce the impact I have on the environment.
Written By: Zack Nacke

3re week was fun cause we got to shore camp with orange crew. Even thou we didn’t get much social time, it made for a good hump day.
Written By: Corey

Have more confidence in my abilities and self-determination.
Written By: Anthony

Work harder on things that need to get done
Written By: Rylan

Be Serious
Written By: Cameron Wisecaver

Be more structured during my daily routine.
Written By: Liam
My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were…

Being in a group, trying different foods, and working hard.
Written By: Rylan

Making new friends, learning about trail building.
Written By: Harry

Playing, Hacky sack,
Written By: Cameron Wisecaver

Making really cool friends, meet the crew, singing Aidan’s metal song and achieving the end of the session.
Written By: Zach Nacke

Completing the physical aspects described in Aidan’s metal song, crew members PH’s, and chillen in the bus.
Written By: Anthony

Lots of great hikes, superb views of the constellations, and locations in the cascades.
Written By: Liam

Was a good learning experience cause I think it will push me to look for a job when I get back.
Written By: Corey

Meeting new people, trying new work and learning to cook.
Written By: Riley Babbitt

The 3 rec trips
Written By: Aidan

One Thing I Will Always Remember:

The crazy first week that we had. It was the toughest out of all of them.
Written By: Rylan
The long hike and the people
Written By: Riley Babbitt

The 7 ½ mile hike that we had on the first day of the session
Written By: Harry

Aidan’s awesome metal song he wrote
Written By: Zack Nacke

Completing the physical aspects described in Aidan’s metal song.
Written By: Liam Knudsen
Today has been a day of big change. The whole gang split into 4 crews and went their own ways. Us orange crewers had about a 2 hour hike to our destination. Pretty sure I sweat my body weight trekking with my huge backpack. But it's all good, we all made it! There’s a lovely river right at camp for cooling down I’m really happy to be surrounded by the people I am. It’s really starting to hit home that these people are going to become great friends and fellow workers and not to mention we’re living in the most luscious NW Forest. The views don't get better and personally it is very homey and comforting. I can tell this is going to be a hard workin’ accomplishment filled with many memories. Much love from the Orange Crew!
Written By: Olivia
Monday –
Doooodles! Today was the dopiness’, first day of work and I think we made some groovy progress up the trail. I’m really digging the ora of our crew so far. We were singing and swinging and having some fun. We also didn’t lose a tool but we looked cunningly and swiftly for its whereabouts anyway haha. Its redonkoulosly gorgeous out here and I can’t wait to get it done with so I can tell my friends and family about it.
Written By: Jake Peal

Tuesday –
Today we reached our one mile marker! Every person on the crew gets along great and works hard! We enjoy singing and doing riddles on the trail. We have seen some beautiful sights and we are hoping to see even more. Camp is very pretty and so far week one is off to an amazing start.
Written By: Shay Steeber

Wednesday –
Today we reached our two mile marker. Making that over 1 mile of trail worked today. Christian (our contact) came today and gave a demo of how to put in water bars and drain dips. We all learned a lot today, especially about walking down hill! Today was a great day and we had a lot of fun. We are all looking forward to tomorrow, kinda.
Written By: Spencer Harris

Thursday –
Today was our last day of trail work for our first week. We made it you guys! Our first working days are over 😊 Tomorrow we hike down with all our stuff. We get showers, laundry, and a store stop. Today’s hard work paid off.
I can say we all are tired, including Jen and James… We hiked up pretty early this morning. Pretty far up. As soon as we reached where our tools were stashed we got straight to work. It’s been a long day for all of us. But there’s always that great feeling at the end of the day. When we finally reach camp and take off our work boots and let our bodies rest for a while. And in our minds, we all know we did a great job. We all feel proud and that feeling is irreplaceable.
WE GOT THIS MOLDY ORANGES!
Written By: Brenda Regino
We got back from a really long hiking trip. Today we split up into group and went on our rec-trips. My group went to the lake we got to go wading and we played some card games. Then on Sunday we woke up and got our new jobs. We got it and we are going to Eugene Oregon. The ride was fun and tiring we slept, laughed and sang. We were so happy to get to our destination.
Written By: Johnathon Weiller

Today was the beginning of a new improved tight knit crew, and a willful family. We are still strong in our work and our moral; we have continued to strive to our horizons. If only to see what’s on the other side. The trail we worked on today was the following of the fantastically well done painting of the beams. Seeing the happiness on Jen’s face while revving the chainsaw put a shine on my day. We got down and dirty towards the end to complete an Amazing Day. I am proud of my crew and cannot wait to get the last few weeks in so we can all graduate, as the infamous Moldy Oranges. The eerie jungle like surroundings brings me closer to myself today. Giving me time to think, while still bustling away; happiness and reconcile beyond all recognition, tucked away in the safety of my head. Showing only to the people I love, My Crew.
Written By: Jake Pearl

Today the moldy oranges started on an adventure of 10 people going into Shotgun Creek. Each individual striving on this long journey of NYC for their own reason, as the day went on they fought through the blazing sun, and continued on our second stage of building the bridge to the middle of nowhere. Now do to thirst the earth is spinning backwards, the alphabet is in my soup and I wonder who will be voted off first. Well waiting for the next day.
Written By: Virginia Green
Today, some really great guys woke up early and made potatoes for breakfast. It was pretty bomber. Hump day. Once we got to work we went back to the trail we were working on the day before. We made several re-routes, removed trees, and widened sections of trail. We've face a lot this were, so we are determined to finish our projects.

Joe Waksmundski came today to help us with our hours. The Moldy Oranges shall prevail, later in the day, we moved to another trail that had several ruts through the trail.

THE MOLDY ORANGES are looking forward to the last workday of the week, and also to the rest of the session.

Written By: Tanner Graham

Today we went back to a trail to fill in some ruts. Then, we brushed a short trail before heading back to where we started this week. We built two bridges to finish off the week. Tomorrow, we'll get two more crew members, and then we have a long drive together to the weekend site.

Written By: Samantha Raingarden

North 3-2012

CREWLEADER: Jen Gradisher

CREW COLOR: Orange

WEEK # 3

Sunday –

Today started off great and progressed to awesome! We found out where we were going and with our 2 new crew members, Mitch and Christine, and our Rover Jeremy, we headed out. We got to camp and set up quickly. We then went to town for our store stop. We got back to camp went over our crew contract to remind us of things we
need to work on. The connections on this crew grow stronger every day.
Written By: Spencer Harris

**Monday –**
Today flew by! Everyone worked very hard and stayed in a great mood all day. Our two new members are fitting in perfectly and getting to know how we do what we do. Our crew is still getting along fantastically and really enjoying the work and places we are doing. Third week is off to a great start.
Written By: Shay Steeber

**Tuesday –**
Today was our second day of work for week three. I can say we all worked hard today. We had to make some tough drainages, and some major brushing. We also worked 15 minutes extra, for yellow crew. 😊 Helped make up their hours. We all are looking forward for tomorrow… Super Hump Day! Tomorrow we will be half way there. We got this moldy oranges, stay strong! 😊
Written By: Brenda Regino

Today was hump day! We got off of work early and went swadding. 😊 It was fun even though the water was freezing. So far it has been a great day and now were about to celebrate with yellow crew.
Written By: Christine Paulino

This was a great day. It’s Thursday so tomorrow we start the weekend, yay! Today we finished most of the drains and hauled lots of rocks in our helmets. We were supposed to stop work at 2:45pm abut didn’t head back to the rig until 3:30pm. Now we have lots to do and pack to prepare for the weekend. I think all of us are looking forward to our backcountry trip starting Monday. We are all also excited to have fun with the other crews.
Written By: Michandra Malin
North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Jen Gradisher
CREW COLOR: Orange
WEEK # 4

Sunday –
Today was the day that my crew became one again. Looking our into the Valley of mountains in from of me, I finally feel whole again. The infamous PCT is at our fingertips, and beauty in the eye of the beholder. This is by far the most visibly out laddish physically humbling of trails I’ve seen this session. I’m looking forward to the laughs, immense work, and power held by our replenished moldy oranges.
Written By: Jake Pearl

Monday –
Today was the first day everyone started work on the PCT. We carried boards and tools up the trail to the place where our bridge is going to go. Along the way, we saw some great views, and we got to know the trail a lot better. For the last half of the day we worked on drainages and brushing. Tomorrow we have to slide a log down to the trail to use for our bridge. It’s going to look really good!
Written By: Samantha Raingarden

Tuesday –
Today the first thing we did was slide two heavy logs down a hill that we are using for the bridge we are making/ building this week. We later moved some smaller logs that we also are using to build the bridge. 3 amazing crew members stay a little later after final “tool count” was called and finished starting the bridge for all of us to work on. Today all of us worked hard. We still have the rest of these 2 backcountry weeks to enjoy the beautiful amazing trail, work hard and become closer.
Written By: Brenda R
Wednesday –
Today we split the crew in two. One half to work on the bridge the other half to work on drainages. We got the stringers in place and rebarred in. After lunch we worked on brushing more of the trail. This week is off to a great start. And its hump day! The 4th week mark is almost here. Keep it up moldy oranges!
Written By: Spencer Harris

Thursday –
Today was just another workday. It was cold, after work Jeremy gave us a seed on ecosystems. We had to make a raft out of things that were found that were dead like trees. My team won. It was great.
Written By: Jonny

Friday –
Today is the ending of week 4! This past week has been great. Every member worked very hard, even when each day continued to be cold. We have all finished every day exhausted, hungry, and very tired, but that never stops us from working even harder the next day. Today was a great day. It started out pretty cold, but surprisingly got very warm and stayed warm. Each morning and night is very beautiful. It is sad to think that the end is very soon. 3 ½ more work days and we get to hike out.
Written By: Shaylyn Steeber

North 3-2012
CREWLEADER: Jen Gradisher
CREW COLOR: Orange
WEEK # 5

8-25-12
Today is Saturday. We had a backcountry day off. So we got to sleep until eight. We spent a lot of time at the lake, relaxing and getting ready for our last work week. Tomorrow, we go back to work on our
section of the PCT and we start LOD’s. It’s hard to believe this experience is almost over. On Thursday we'll hike out and be finished. Hopefully week five will be the best and everyone will have good memories to take home.
Written By: Samantha Raingarden

8-26-12
This beautiful Sunday was warm and sunny by first break. Everyone worked really hard. Drains were started and finished, trenches were dug. Headway was made in putting in the retaining rock wall. Half the planks were secured onto the bridge. I think we all agree that today was a great day.
Written By: Mitch Malin

8-27-12
Today the moldy orange fought against mosquitos, giant spiders, and rock monsters. The fight against the rock monster involved 3 Nero’s, Captain Jake Sparrow, Jear bear, and Virginia. As each member tagged teamed the monster Jear bear was suddenly thrown to the bridge where the moldy orange crew pave the way to safety with hazel hoes/hammer. Needing help the terminator fell from the sky (aka Samantha) *GASP* She used her strength to flip the monster, while Captain Jake and Virginia pinned him down. The monster was buried, Jen was proud. *YELLS* Now I am freezing at cam and hungry. What a day! 😊
Written By: Virginia Green

8-28-12
We’ve feared it, some have praised it; it’s here. The last work day of the session is upon us. Tomorrow is the day that we become whole. Our fears are set aside, and we are reminded of how far we’ve come. The clouds strike rain, yet the sun strikes warmth, and the combination is something only the **MOLDY ORANGES** can take on.
Written By: Tanner Graham

8-29-12
We foresaw the end and now the inevitable is upon us. The hike to come next is the last of long steps to our session’s completion. We worked hard to our best so that the end we fought well. In celebration to our success I will throw my hat down in satisfaction and accomplishment. GO MOLDY ORANGES!!!
Written By: Jake Pearl

From Now On I Will Always…

Wash my hands before I eat?
Written By: Virginia Green

Leave no trace
Written By: Samantha Raingarden

Swing tools correctly
Written By: Michandra Malin

Push myself to work my hardest
Written By: Shay Steeber

Share my ideas and thoughts
Written By: Spencer Harris

Motivate myself without needing anyone else to push me
Written By: Brenda

Be myself and give my all
Written By: Christine Paulino

Work harder than I did
Written By: Jonny

Work hard, be honest to myself and others, and do work.
Written By: Jake Pearl

Swoop my hair to the left
Written By: Tanner Graham

My Three Favorite NYC Experiences Were…

1. Ronda (van) dance parties
2. Awkward rock
3. Beatle position ah ha
Written By: Virginia Green

1. The last day of work
2. Crew calls
3. Watching the sunrise
Written By: Samantha Raingarden

1. Van parties
2. Social time/rec trips
3. Crew calls
Written By: Michandra Malin

1. Backcountry!!!
2. Olympics
3. Driving to the weekend site with my crew.
Written By: Shay Steeber

1. Dancing in the van
2. Being smelly
3. Finishing all 5 weeks
Written By: Spencer Harris

1. Dance parties in the girls tent
2. Backcountry
3. Watching the stars
Written By: Brenda R

1. Rhonda
2. The whole experience
3. People
Written By: Unknown

1. Dancing in the van
2. Singing with Virginia and Tanner
3. Hanging out with the crew around the fire
Written By: Jonny

1. The views
2. Tanner and Virginia
3. Driving to projects
Written By: Jake Pearl

1. Rhonda
2. Burnt out hikers
3. Trampled

Written By: Tanner Graham

At NYC I Learned…
Describe 3 things you learned from your NYC Experience.

1. Take time for yourself, your crew will understand
2. Sometimes you need to risk looking up.
3. Friends are closer than you think

Written By: Virginia Green

1. The most challenging experiences are the most memorable
2. Everyone can be a leader
3. If you respect others, others will respect you

Written By: Samantha Raingarden

1. Pushing yourself on day, you will feel better the next
2. The respect you give is the respect you get
3. Everything gets better when you get along

Written By: Michandra Malin

1. How hard I can push myself
2. The friends you make are real
3. I can be a leader

Written By: Shay Steeber

1. I am capable of anything
2. My ideas are worth sharing
3. I can be a leader

Written By: Spencer Harris

1. Anyone can be a leader
2. It’s ok for others to push you
3. Always challenge yourself

Written By: Brenda R
1. Be yourself
2. Have fun
3. Work hard
Written By: unknown

1. Living with people is a challenge
2. Work hard
Written By: unknown

1. You have to work hard
2. Be courteous
3. Be a leader
Written By: Jonny

1. Trailer ropes aren’t long enough
2. Passenger vans aren’t meant for Forest Service roads
3. Leavenworth isn’t very Bavarian
Written By: Tanner Graham

One Thing I Will Always Remember:

Getting donuts on the last day
Written By: Samantha Raingarden

Always being Dirty
Written By: Michandra Malin

Waking the guys up on our last official day!
Written By: Shay Steeber

The great friends that I made
Written By: Spencer Harris

Watching the stars
Written By: Brenda R
Everyone having fun on Rhonda
Written By: Christine Paulino

The dance parties in the van
Written By: Jonny

A missing pair of loppers that didn’t exist/ James can’t count.
Written By: Tanner Graham

Tanners quirky comments
Written By: Jake Pearl

MOLDY ORANGES enough said…
Written By: Virginia Green

My Most Challenging Day At NYC Was…

The day I shared my P.H. due to the fact it was a new group of people and it was a bit scary to be the first.
Written By: Virginia Green

The day of our last hike out
Written By: Samantha Raingarden

The hike into backcountry
Written By: Michandra Malin

Saying goodbye to my family
Written By: Shay Steeber

Seeing my family during the visitors weekend
Written By: Spencer Harris

My first hike, first week into backcountry
Written By: Brenda R

The day I had to carry planks and my first hike
Written By: Christine Paulino
Having to leave my family
Written By: Jonny

When Shay and I began fighting
Written By: Jake Pearl

Trying to deal with others emotions/ my own
Written By: Tanner Graham