

## MAY 2010 OVERVIEW

### SHASTA-TRINITY BACKCOUNTRY TRAIL CREW

#### DAN BROWN

They say that April showers bring May flowers...Our experience is that April showers, sleet, snow and scattered days of sunshine and warmth brought strength to us as individuals and a community that will better face our challenges in the Stanislaus this season. It has been a full month for us on the trail. Outside of Denny we brushed and logged out the New River Trail, the East Fork of the New River Trail and the Jim Jam Ridge Trail. Due to snow fall along Jim Jam Ridge we were forced to gather tools (buried in 6 inches of snow) and call our assignment in Denny complete. We packed up camp and moved over to our next camp at Hobo Gulch. Our work at Hobo Gulch focused on brushing, logouts and treading along the Backbone Creek Trail and the North Fork of the Trinity River Trail. Additionally we were able to put in some cedar water bars, a causeway and a long multi-tier log wall that we constructed to keep the trail from collapsing into the Trinity River. Highlights for the month included the removal of a horde of Madrone trees (3-5' in diameter) near the Russell cabin site off the Backbone Creek Trail using cross-cut saws.

**CURRICULUM:**for the month was varied, ranging from trip planning, a stove class, weekend backpacking instruction, developing the crew mission statement, drafting our crew sobriety pledge, a KP class, crew biographies, readings out of Jack London's "To Build A Fire" and Rashomon's "In A Grove". Additionally, Larry Notheis came to teach Conflict Resolution, Team Building, and Wilderness Survival. Russell Juncal treated us to an eye opening introduction into the world of poetry and short stories we will be reading this season, then topped his visit off with an informative session on geology. Overall, a productive month.

Special thanks go out to a lot of folks this month. To Larry Notheis, the class was awesome, our crew wants to see you again. Russell Juncal, thank you for the classes on geology, poetry and short stories. Johnny Calkins, your wisdom and heart are greatly appreciated, see you in the Stan. Tessa, thanks for the encouragement, advice, help, presence and paperwork. Leif Lastine, we will miss you as our foreman. It's been a great season with you, thanks for the good times and song solos on the grade 9 Phil, thanks for keeping the program alive. Peter Lewis thanks for the heart that beats wherever we go and for the impact you left on so many. Michelle Huang, thanks for the great cooking! We'll miss you. On the crew, thanks to Dan Potts for going above and beyond in tool maintenance. Jenn Anderson (Amazarorian beauty), Angel Villalva, Geoff Kober, Melanis Pinos, Gabby Rubalcava and Mariana Muñoz thank you for putting on the greatest Werewolf Party ever! (Michelle, the "bloody potatoes" topped it off!)