

Yosemite I CCC Backcountry Trails Crew
July 2013 Overview
Supervisor: Larissa Fullmer

Overview:

Yosemite 1 is back with another greeting from Florence Falls. We started off July right with a fully set-up camp and kitchen; although the coffee pot is still MIA. As the weather heats up so does our bathing water. It has also brought on special guest appearances of mosquitoes, biting flies and other insects. During the work weeks we've shifted gears from maintenance to rock construction. We have also been introduced to cross-country travel on weekends.

Once camp set-up was complete, we all knew this was home for the next three months. We hit the trail with maintenance on the trails that run from Vogelsang and Merced High Sierra Camps. The trail sees a lot of traffic over the years: mules, trains, and hikers. But the trail hardly sees a trail worker. As you hike down the trail, you could hear it screaming for help. We completed the maintenance in a timely manner. Sponsors and C 1 provided us with a rock construction class that covered basic knowledge & skills to begin our rock projects. We built miniature models of check steps, walls, and rip-rap that all looked fantastic. With that, we threw everyone out on the trail to see what we're all made of.

July Work Production Totals:

Maintenance: 6.5 miles

Water Bar (Each): 1

Checks (each): 5

Log structure (Wall): 4 YD (12 ft.)

Riprap: 536.6 LY (1,610 sq. ft.)

Multi-tier wall: 553 LY (1658.6 sq. ft.)

Single-tier wall: 4.5 YD (54 ft.)

Curriculum:

Continuing our corpsmember-facilitated classes, the month of July was packed full of interesting topics. These included an introduction to photography class, community journaling food memories class, creative writing class, an overview/refreshers of Wilderness First Aid, and splinting limbs class.

Corpsmember Chris Untiedt gave an instructional class on basic function for digital camera and ways to capture moments. Corpsmember CM Tena led the community in a story-telling narrative about culture, history, and the exploration of the crew's fondest memorable food memories from back home.

Corpsmember Andrew Munoz class focused on expressions of one's imagination. He reviewed types of

creative writing styles and encouraged the crew to write and share their ideas. Corpsmember Liz Moran led us with a wilderness first response class, and we revisited some key WFA training and situations. During the scenario training, the crew practiced hands-on splinting techniques.

Aside from the corpsmembers leading classes, the crew also intertwined biographies/life story into a class. I would like to acknowledge Corpsmember Chris Maine for being the first to share his life story with the crew. Next corpsmember David Rogers shared stories from the south followed by Liz Moran sharing stories of her many travels. Corpsmember Steven Dominguez told his stories of back home, bringing much wisdom to the crew, and Amy Ricciardi's life story, which has touched the hearts of other corpsmembers.

The month of July was also filled with awesome first experiences of climbing peaks and cross country through the beautiful landscape of our very own backyard in Yosemite. Some experienced Peak fever; others found exhilaration of finding their own way without the guidance of trails. Nearby peaks Amelia Earhart, Simmons, Parsons, and Fletcher Peak were all conquered. Groups also explored beautiful Ireland Lake.

Fourth of July weekend groups headed to Isberg Pass on a long trek to explore the Clark Range Red Peak Pass area. A beautiful sunset was witnessed and peaks of Isberg, Red, Merced, and Ottoway were visited by daring "Yos Uno" corpsmembers. The crew enjoyed Red Devil Lake, and Washburn Lakes, where crew enjoyed a night of laughs, card games, and bedtime stories by the fire.

Following weekend nearby Vogelsang Peak was explored and corpsmembers found it appropriate to bust out in tune singing on top of the mountain top. Time was spent at Babcock Place where fishing and much relaxation took place. Up and coming trips to Mount Lyle & ladies weekend to Florence Peak is set in place.

Month of July has been filled with celebrations as well, celebrating Fourth of July with a well-deserved long weekend. Also, the crew has a new weekly tradition of mustache Mondays, where everyone brings their mustache to work, including the ladies. Yosemite I hit the runway with our very own backcountry fashion show. Corpsmember David Rogers won for best dressed with his patriotic super hero team America outfit. We are currently planning our biggest holiday of the year, "Tha Hallow-Mas" (Thanksgiving, Halloween, and Christmas). More to come next month!

This month "Yos Uno" was also graced with their first visitors from outside the program. Kyle Russell (brother of CM Kelsi Russell) and Cashmere Conklin traveled from Silverdale and Leavenworth, Washington to immerse themselves in a week of the backcountry life. The crew would like to thank our guests for their company, elbow grease, gifts of sweet treats, and willingness to join us in this incredible lifestyle.

Words of Wisdom from CM's Steven Dominguez & Tera Lopez

"Actions turn to reactions."

"Don't be quick to judge."

“You may not know the hardships that people don’t speak of.”

“It's best to step back and observe with truth”

“Because we all must realize our moment of truth.”

Supervisor Note:

This overview report is the hard work of collaboration, community, and contribution of each member of our crew. I enjoyed observing my crew, come together collectively and with enthusiasm, to create this report. Yosemite 1 CCC crew continues to be a shining light in my eyes as a supervisor. Muchas Gracias to my awesome possum crew for their collaboration, hard work, and always keeping me inspired.-Larissa Fullmer

Overall our transition from front country into the backcountry has made for an exciting month of July. The arrival of the halfway point of the season has only brought us closer as we realize that the rest of the summer will fly by. We are ready to continue to cherish every moment and truly live in the present, enjoying every second of this unique opportunity. We are all truly grateful to be out here and once again would like to thank our family and friends for all the continued support.

"We've got 99 problems but the city ain't one." -Yosemite 1, CCC Backcountry Trail Crew 2013