

Log Steps

The Official Newsletter of the Junior Ranger Program

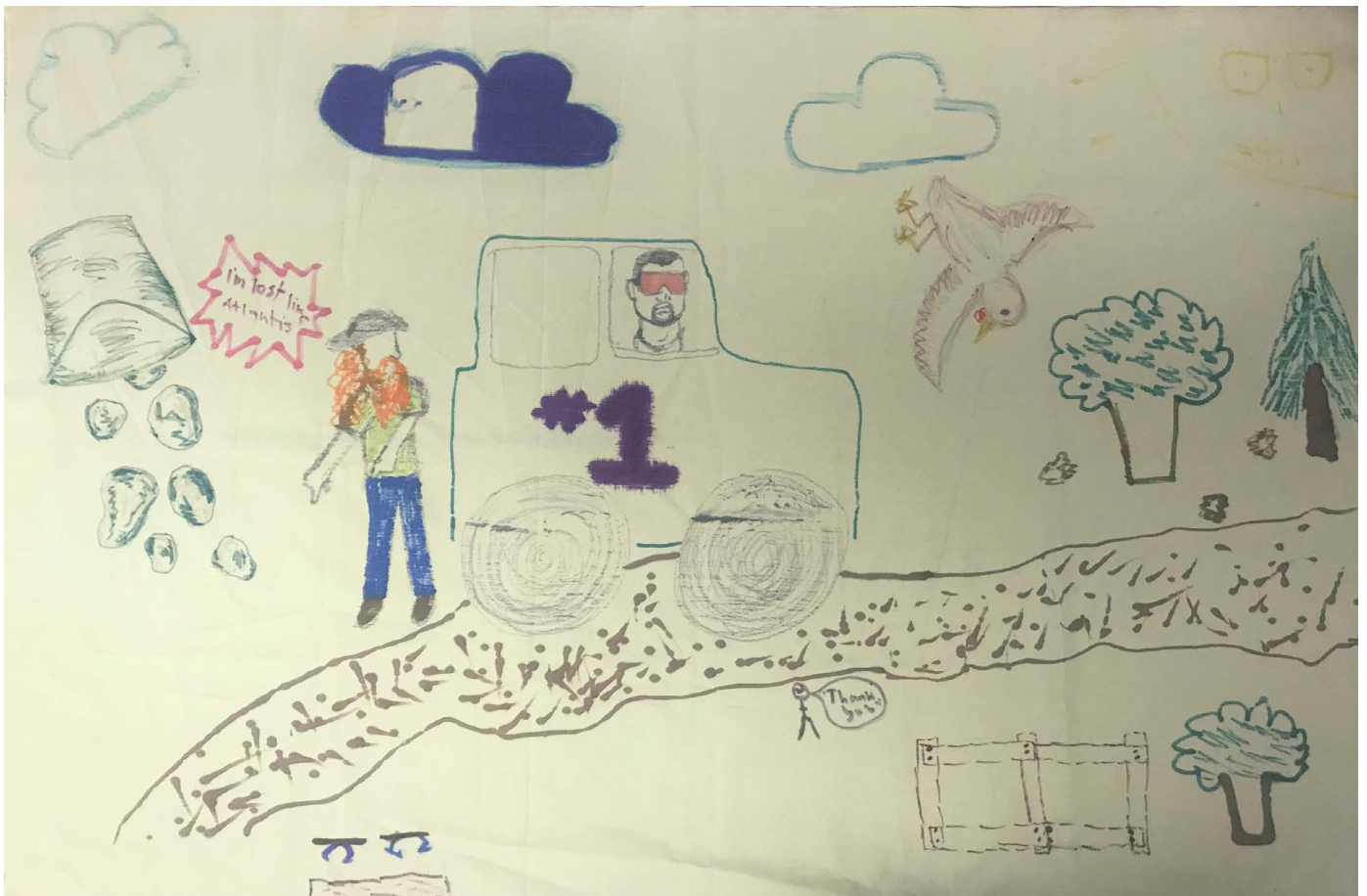
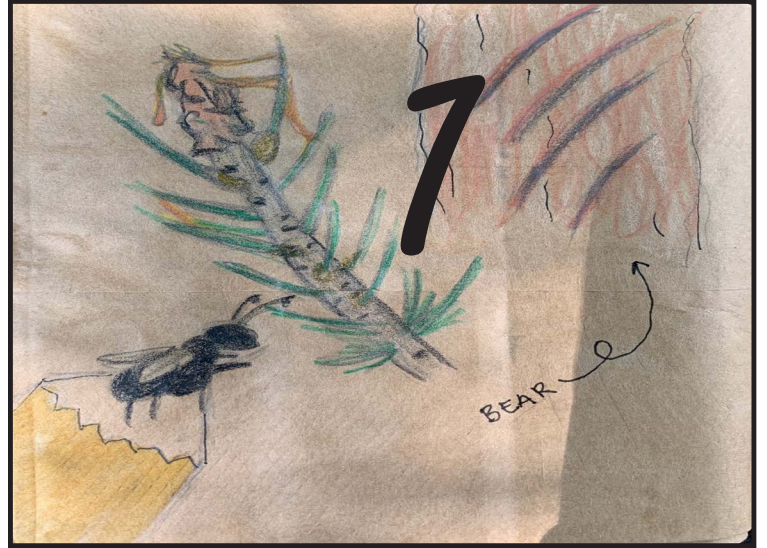
Session 1 June 1st - 25th



CREW



Crew 1 participating in environmental education:
(from left) Sathya R, Simon L, Trevor L, David P,
Vanessa A, Anna G, (front row) Brennen M.
Not pictured: Ailish M, Evelyn M, and Paddy H.



Crew 1 crew flag



What is Crew 1's favorite tool?

The log pick - turned the hard task of carrying logs to an easy one.

Crew 1 mascot?

Henry the turkey on Tenderfoot trail was super chill and even used the trail we had just built, making him our #1 supporter and mascot

Proudest crew moment?

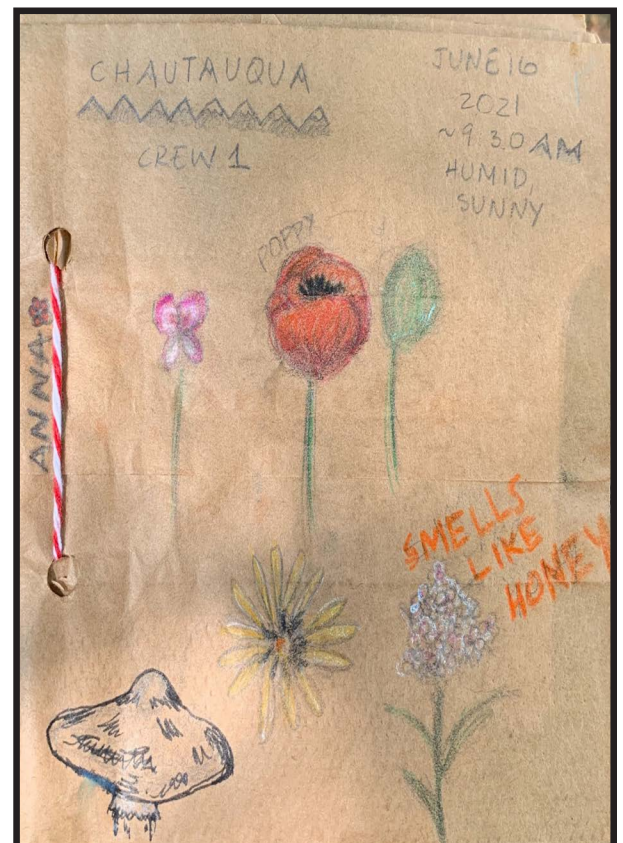
Building skills on Springbrook was a unique experience and we were proud to work on a brand new OSMP project.

Toughest moment?

Carrying rocks for multiple weeks was grueling. However, we persevered in the end.

Funniest moment?

A trail user asked us where we were from and Sathya said "thank you" because he missed the question.



CREW 2

*this rock will see
many things such
as people, animals, and
amazing weather pat-
terns*

*the ripple rock
is amazing and
will see many
things. ripple rock
tells stories*

-Willie F



Crew 2 with 'Ripple Rock' on Springbrook Trail



*What has the ripple rock seen?
The ripple rock has seen so much
I'm so grateful just to touch
the water, dinos, people, and
more.
Don't treat this as a chore
This rock is so cool
I might drool
In order for it to form it needs
to be perfect
It was created by a storm.
XOXO, Ivah*

Crew 2 crushing the Springbrook project: (from left, clockwise) Eve GJ, Ivah R, Brigid L, Sasha L, Valeria A, Aidan R, Jose Z, Willie F, and Quinn K. Not pictured: Max D.



Max with Crew 2



found by Ivah R



Willie, Ivah, and Aidan showing off their work gloves.



Art by Valeria A



Crew 3's band: The Sacred Edge. Album art by Suntali

CREW 3

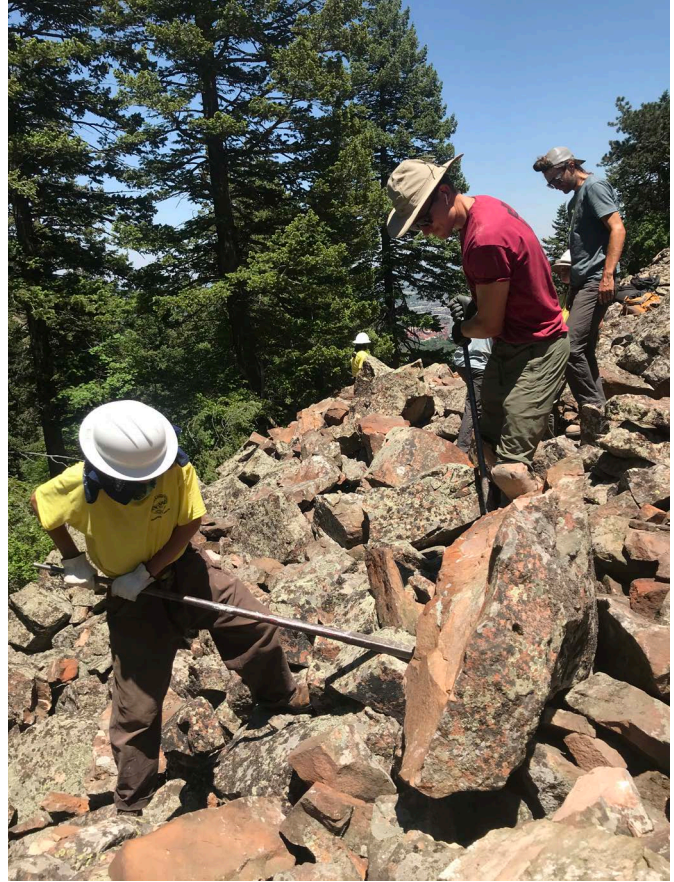


Crew 3 working with FEMP (Forest Ecology Management): (from left) Suntali D, Elliot F, Noah L, Kyleigh M, Sophia GJ, Jake J, Malachi B, Elias S, Carson W. Not pictured: Molly D.

CREW 4



Amaya on Vegetation Management



Crew 5 and Front Range Climbing Stewards on Royal Arch re-route

Highlights of Crew 4:

- Smashing rocks on Week 2 at Royal Arch
- Encountered very close BEARS
- Finished dirt moving in 1.5 days
- Moved massive rocks
- Snored and jammed in burb
- Outside weather
- Kat ate dirt
- Ate some pinecones
- YEE HAW

Crew 4: "It's just a mindset"



Poem from Crew 4

*This session is fun,
but not like a hot dog bun,
I am tired when the
day is done,
we water barred, moved,
hecka rocks, did some FEMP
and that was fun.*

Haiku

*Crew 4 memories
We are bad at rhythmic games
Beast at water bars*

*Crew 4 blazing days
smashing big big rocks to crush
learning earth and life*

*Crew 4 multi-miles
pulling pink dame's and thistle
trekking far and high*

*Crew 4 bonds and builds
while K & H look over
built our homes and hearts.*



Crew 4 Group photo: (from left top row) Hailey B, Amaya K, Arlo P, Dulce S, Isa S, Sam M, Kat L (bottom row) Iolus S, Noah D, Alban B.

Junior Ranger Testimonials

*"Soup for your soul
compared to customer
service" -Isa*

*"A good balance of being able to
work and socialize... getting paid
to have fun." - Dulce*

*"My hatred for cicadas
has diminished" -Amaya*

*"I definitely, like, don't
mind dirt any more." -
Noah D*

*"If you're a people person,
this job is for you" - Amaya*

CREW 5



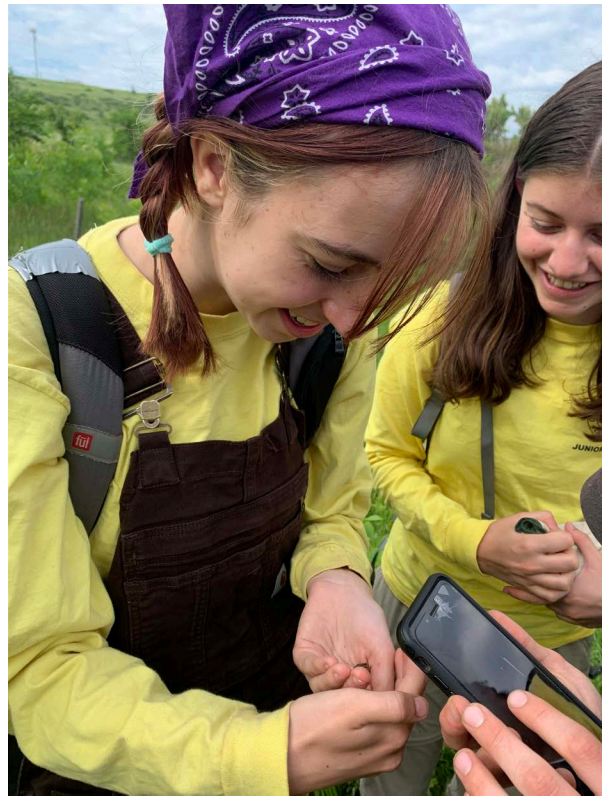
Crew 5 group photo with the 'ripple rock' at Springbrook Trail



Very successful Fishing environmental education



Crew Lead Hannah P with June H (center) and Marley S (right).

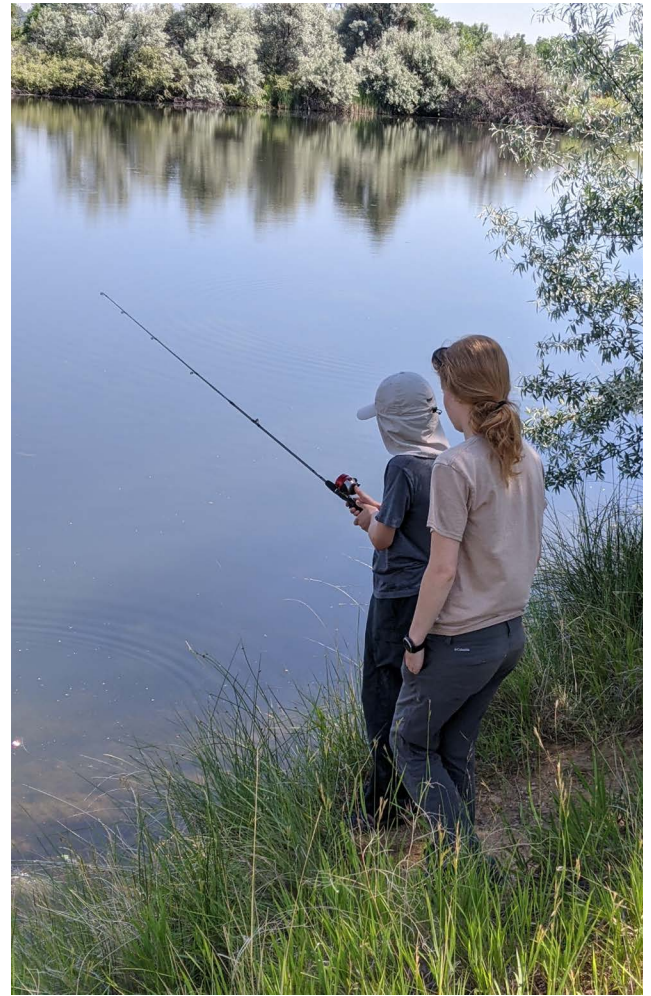


Carrying lumber!



YOUTH RANGER





The Youth Ranger crew works alongside OSMP Rangers, participates in environmental education, and assist on work projects. They learn the skills of interpretive rangers - how to develop, plan, and manage a public program. This year's Youth Ranger crew had a great time and learned a ton!



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Session 2, July 2021

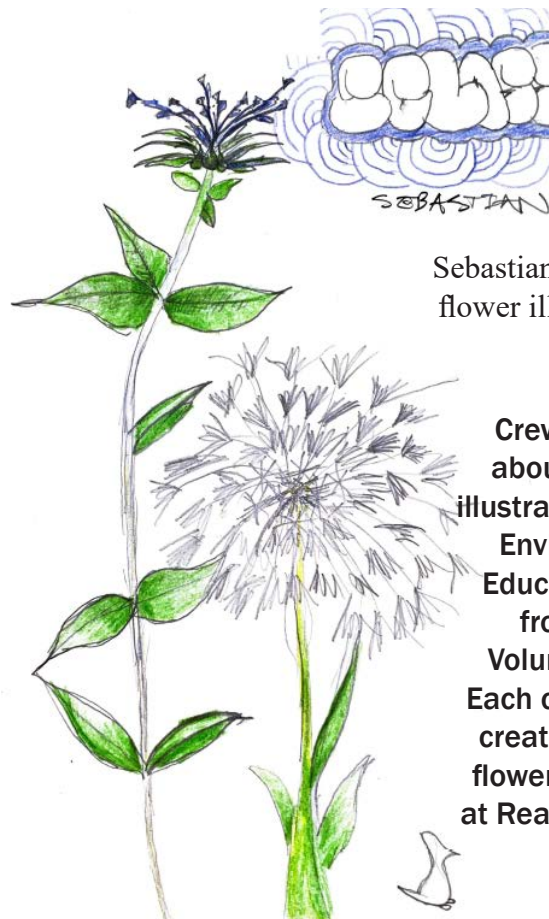




Crew 1



Crew 1 Junior Rangers working hard to dig a new trail. The crew spent their entire 5 week session on the Tenderfoot Trail - a new trail re-route of the original Tenderfoot trail near the Flagstaff summit.



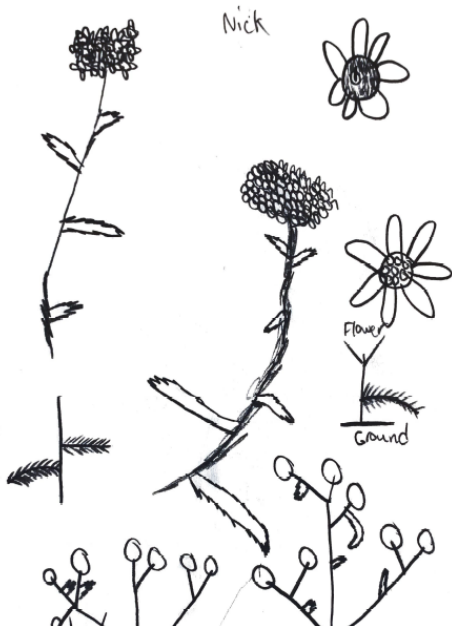
Sebastian Rinosa's flower illustration

Crew 1 learned about botanical illustration during an Environmental Education lesson from OSMP Volunteer Linda. Each crew member created their own flower illustrations at Realization Point.



Written by Nataly Villa

This summer, I was fortunate enough to be part of a Junior Ranger pilot experiment. We set out to test the efficiency and effectiveness of having a JR crew stick to only one set project for their whole session. Our big project was the Tenderfoot re-route. Over the course of five weeks, I got a very solid trail eye because I had so much time to learn and grow. Each day, I got better and better with my trail building as I became more confident in my environment. Another great thing about this Junior Ranger pilot program was the focus on career building, like leadership and public speaking. For me, the most helpful part of this career unit was getting to hear the life stories of various OSMP members. You find that many of these people were unsure of their career path. I've learned that trying new things can lead to great opportunities, and most importantly I've learned that this journey of self discovery is going to be a difficult one but not one I can't overcome. With societal pressures and high expectations, all we wish to hear is that everything will be okay. If only we heard this more often, then maybe we wouldn't be so hard on ourselves. All in all, I am very grateful to have been part of this life changing and eye opening program.



Nick Aasmundstad



Teia Lita



Owyn Wyatt





Celebration day! *From left:* Lily Mastrangelo and Cy Sokolov

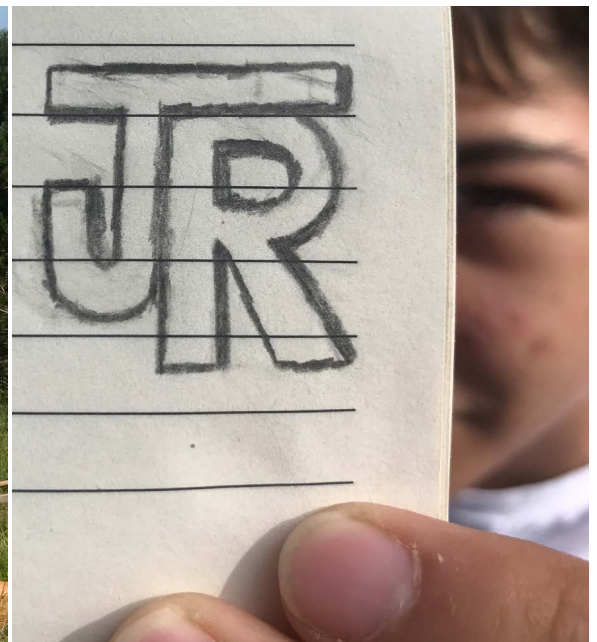


Crew 2 always looking out for nature moments

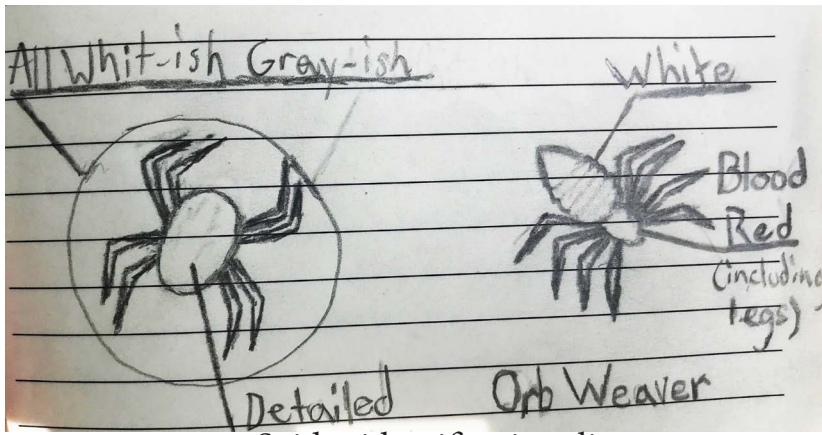
Crew 2



Crew 2 moving lumber to prepare for building the puncheon (bridge) on the Marshall Mesa trail



Alex Valdovinos showing off his Junior Ranger spirit



Spider identification diagram



Juan Valle



Group photo on Day 1. From left: Max Donovan, Caroline Sieper, Auden Ketallapper, Brigid Lavender, Giselle Chavarria, Jasper Hale, Cy Sokolov, Lily Mastrangelo, Alex Valdovinos. Not pictured: Juan Valle

Cy broke his pencil on a
 Grubs apple
 broken pencil in one hand
 banana peel in the other
 I am covered in dirt
 Jasper is covered in dirt
 We are all covered in dirt
 Jasper is actually reflecting
 I am making observations
 Cy keeps looking at me
 hi Cy! How are you
 Cy looked away



Crew 2 on Community Ditch trail, hanging out with the cows

Dear future citizen,

The environment is fascinating. That's why I'm here. At Junior Rangers we work to protect the environment by building trails sustainably and strongly so they can be used by you, far in the future. All our work is going into making our land and our trails sustainable, whether that means working on a causeway to allow trail users to avoid a muddy spot, or building an entirely new self draining trail. We want people like you to keep that in mind when you use the trail. It's more than a dinky wilderness sidewalk. It is many hours of hard work to protect the land and the trail user. I hope you remember that when you experience the trail. Enjoy the trails, they'd be meaningless without you.

Sincerely,
Marco Salomone



Crew 3



Crew 3 group photo. *From left:* Zoe Mertz, Nina Litman King, Brooke Sanson, Eric Dixon, Zach Vozoff, Blake Davis, Marco Salomone, Beck Charron Puccia.

Bottom row: Molly Delandsheer, Carson Williams

Crew 3 Snapshot:

Favorite trail - Springbrook

Favorite tool - Flathead

Greatest accomplishment -
Completing 300+ ft of Anemone trail construction



Best crew moment - Eric's penny whistle performance -&- FEMP day

Crew Motto - "Trails, am I right?"

Toughest challenge - Hiking up to Anemone every morning

Crew fun fact - We run a strong lunchtime economy -&- We hide the clothespin on each other all day long.

Favorite crew activity - Listening to tunes in the car

Funniest moment - Eric eating a pinecone -&- Cragel and beam cheese -&- Molly stand-up.

Best trail story - Deer sitting on Anemone trail -&- Blake chased a bucket downhill, we all had a great time.



Brooke Sanson



Crew 3 showing off the finished Springbrook trail project. Junior Rangers built this causeway (wooden raised trail) from start to finish over 2 months this summer, with Crew 3 completing the final touches at the end of July. Now, hikers and bikers won't need to navigate this muddy section of trail.



From left: Lucia Bona, Severin Gilbert, Cameron Hanson, Michael Vandebos, Julia Salomone, Thomas Senseney, Morgan McCuen, Abe Adamson

Crew 4

“You’re a clown but you don’t say anything funny”

- Abe A

“M is for magnificent, I’ll take it.” - Micheal V

“Dang, that shepard pie was insane” - Morgan M

“She is classic, she is iconic, she’s got something to say, she is the moment.”

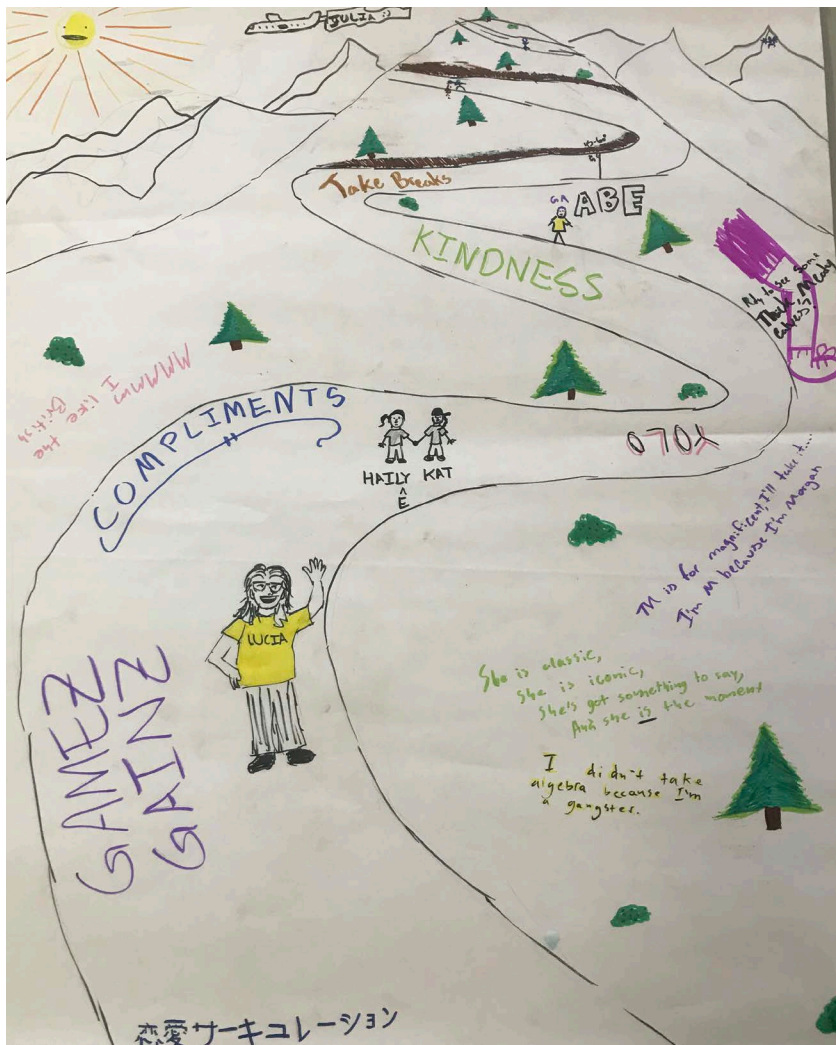
- Abe A

“Cicadas don’t live in Colorado.” - Thomas S





Morgan McCuen and Kat Lapp



What did you learn as Junior Ranger?

“I learned that compliments and positivity can only give others a higher opinion of themselves and each other.”

“I learned you won't earn help until you are ready to listen”

- Abe A

“I learned that you can get so much more out of this job than money. You can work another job but you won't get the personality.”

-Thomas S

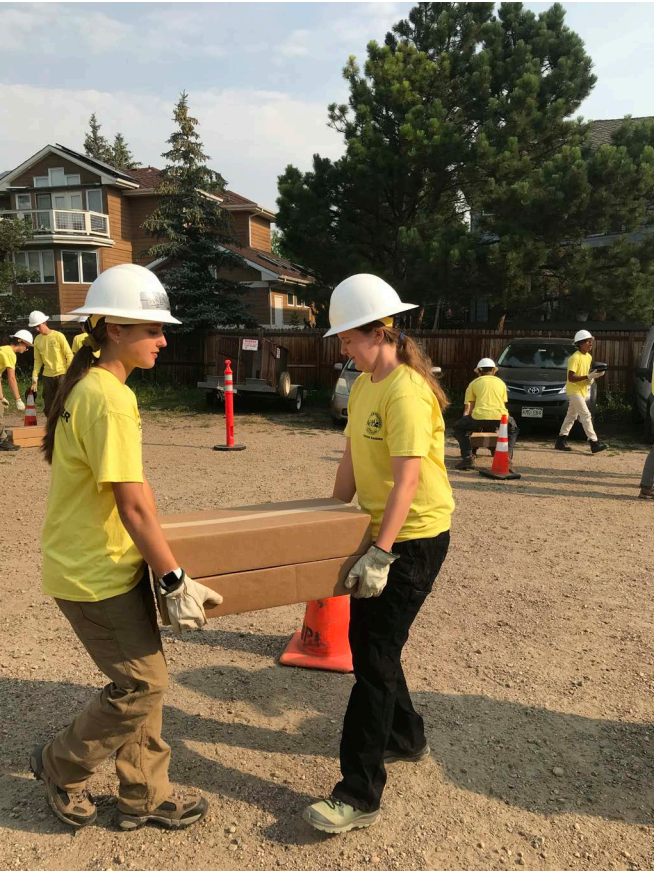


Crew 5! *From left:* Hannah Pritchard, Alex Rudawksy, Elizabeth Gatten, Helena Johnston, Ezra Drace, Jaden Scutero, Landryk Holmes, Thian Callahan. *Not pictured:* Cal Augustoni, Noah Bookman Urroz

Crew 5



Building rock steps on the Anemone trail re-route



Practicing good ergonomics

Stages of Building the Marshall Mesa Puncheon



Setting sills in the ground by hammering in rebar



Drilling planks onto the sills to build the walking surface



All of crew 5 joins in to sand down the wooden planks



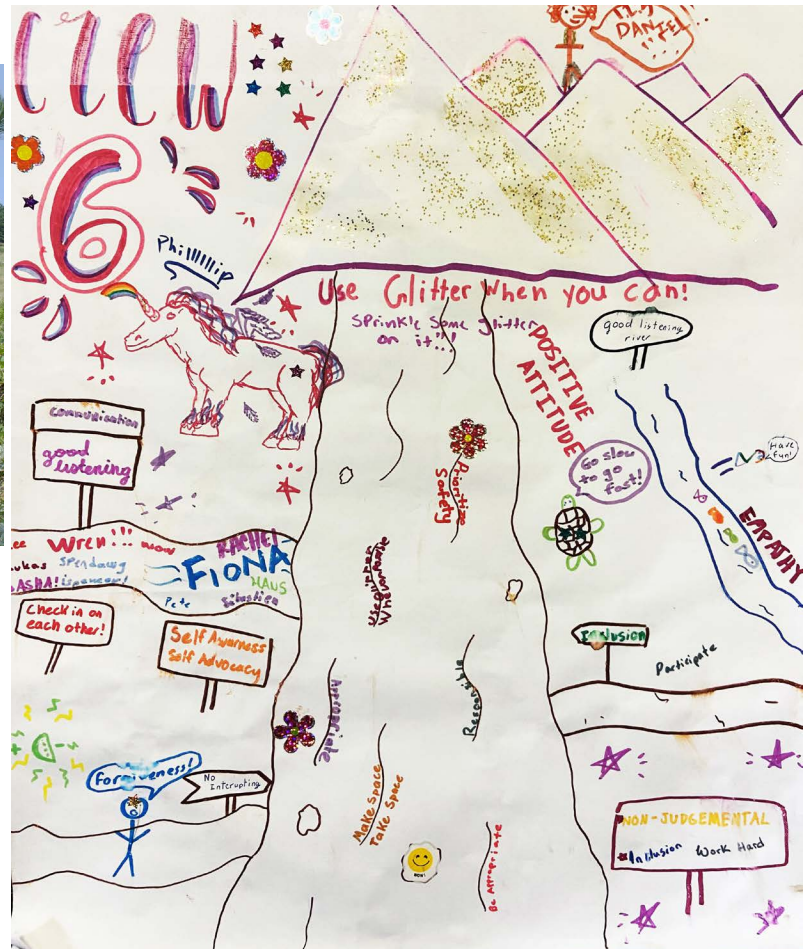
Finished! Now hikers can use the puncheon instead of walking in the mud on Marshall Mesa trail.



Crew 6



Crew 6 removing cattails to protect native Northern Leopard frogs. *Top row from left:* Fiona Robinson, Sebastien Long, Lukas Le Desma, Spencer Rask, Peter Berbaum, Lee Stayton. *Bottom row from left:* Rachel Herrera, Sasha Laugen, Hans Vandervlugt. *Not pictured:* Wren Hybertson



Crew 6 flag

Dear Crew 6,

I don't know how I got so lucky
 To finish my time as a Junior Ranger
 On a crew like this one.
 You all showed me what
 A team looks like
 By showing up everyday.
 You came to every project,
 Ready to give it anything.
 You kept this program alive and thriving,
 By being true to yourself.

I know I'm gonna feel the pain of losing this later
 But now I can feel nothing but joy and contentment
 Because through all of you I have become
 the Junior Ranger I always wanted to be.
 Thank you for the passion, caring, curiosity,
 Trust, respect, and hard work many won't see.
 Sadly my work here is done and I must go
 Say goodbye and turn in my yellow
 But I am confident I can say
 I helped another the way someone helped me,
 And found myself along the way.
 Crew 6, you will be a legacy,
 Thanks for every single day

- Sasha Laugen



Fishing environmental education

Collecting Data

This year, Junior Rangers piloted a new program - Youth in Science - in partnership with CU Boulder. The program gives all JRs a chance to get involved in the scientific method and study microclimates in Boulder. JRs collected a small sample of climate data across Boulder by placing “Kestrel Drops” in select locations at their project work sites.

(Right: Crew 3 showing where they placed their Kestrel drop)



Youth in Science: Data Science Crew



These “Kestrel Drops” are small devices that measure weather data, like temperature and humidity, and record measurements every 5 minutes. Some kestrels were placed in the sun, others in the shade, some near the water, and some on higher elevation slopes. Every week, Junior Ranger crews would check in on the kestrels and take individual measurements with more complex data, like windspeed.

(Left: Junior Rangers taking and recording individual measurements)



Data Analysis

After the end of their four week sessions, three Junior Rangers committed to an extra week of work to analyze the Kestrel weather data. With the support of Team Leaders Max Donovan and Molly Delandsheer, the JRs organized the data from the Kestrel drops, cleaned the data, analyzed it based on Kestrel location, and graphed their results. The JRs - Elizabeth Gatten, Suntali Donahue, and Brooke Sanson - learned how to use Excel and RStudio on this week long data sprint. They presented their data visualizations and conclusions about Boulder microclimates for the whole Junior Ranger team at the end of their data science week.

