Groundwork USA Green Corps Experience

Dispatches From Yellowstone

Update: Monday, August 26th, 2013

The trip continues to awe and inspire. Once again, our youth have proven the “content of their character” by wildly exceeding work expectations, engaging fully in extracurricular activities, and being their own unique selves.

The last few days were spent touring Yellowstone National Park’s many wonders. This two day trip around Yellowstone’s many natural wonders included stops at the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, touring lots of thermal features and scenic beauty. A highlight was camping in the backcountry, complete with a pair of bison that wandered between the tents.
The National Park Service, and especially the YCC staff, have gone out of their way to organize a number of speakers who gave special presentations to our youth. These park professionals have talked about their jobs, and more importantly, their passion for this park and their hope that some of the youth would follow in their footsteps. One of the presenters was even David Barna, retired Chief Spokesmen for the National Park Service.

At the culmination of our two day tour, the youth climbed Bunsen Peak; a 4.2 mile journey to watch the sunset. Then, it was back to work. And despite busy days (and playful chatting into the wee hours), our youth dived back into the work with uncommon devotion to the task. I have been extremely impressed by the professionalism, maturity, and wonderful spirit demonstrated by our youth.

Our crew even made it to the front cover of Yellowstone’s internal newsletter to all its National Park Service employees.
More to come....

Regards,

Curt Collier
National Youth Program Director