



# Tracker III



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# BASIC TRACKER CERTIFICATION

## REQUIREMENTS

- Basic Search & Rescue Training
- Personal Equipment- 24 Hour Pack
- ASARCA approved Tracker III training, minimum 4 hours
- Field Evaluation: Follow tracks and sign, identify tracking team positions and functions, clue awareness and track preservation, obtain and record GPS coordinate of a track, create and save a route traveled
- Field Training – Actively participate in four actual or training missions

# Teaching Objectives

- Mental Preparedness
- Fundamental Tracking Techniques
- Clue Awareness and Preservation
- Tracking and Personal Equipment
- Line Searches
- Tracking Team



# Mental Preparedness

## Potential Outcomes

The outcome of the search and your tracking efforts may be one of the following:

- Subject is located alive and uninjured
- Subject is located alive and injured
- Subject is located deceased, potentially by criminal means
- Subject is not located

You must be mentally prepared for any of these potential outcomes.

# Mental Preparedness

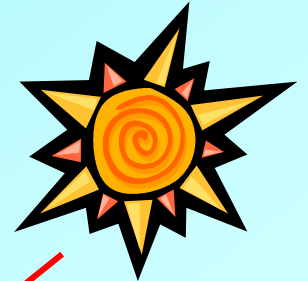
- Who is the subject of the search? Is it someone close in age to a relative, or one of your children?
- Are you mentally prepared and fully vested in the task?
- If the subject of the search is going to be a difficulty for you there are other ways to help
- You will never be asked to do something for which you are not trained or comfortable doing
- It's possible to internalize the subject of a search
- Resources are available for traumatic events

# Fundamental Tracking Techniques

- Basic tracking technique
- Basic tracking terminology
- Tracking tools

# Basic tracking technique- Lighting

The best position to view tracks is for the sun to be on the other side of the track so that the small features of the tracks produce shadows.

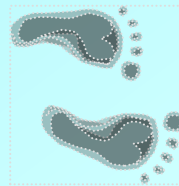
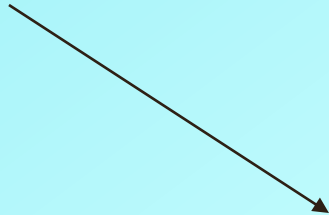


The sunlight produces shadows.

When is the worst time to track?



The worst time to track is when the sun is directly overhead.





Lighting is important.  
This track is difficult to  
see because of the low  
lighting.







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Controlled lighting  
creates shadowing



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Track with no illumination is very hard to see

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Same track with overhead lighting

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Same track with “side” or “low angle” lighting

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# What are clues?

- Clues include anything that is a disturbance to the normal layout of the land and vegetation.
  - Track
  - Broken twig
  - Toe dig
  - Flattened grass/leaves
  - Shine on grass or soil
  - Candy wrapper
  - Depressed rock
  - Turned rock
  - Track in dew
  - Article of clothing
  - Cigarette butt
  - Drink cup



The first track we will begin with is called a Signature Track, this is one of the easiest tracks to follow.



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# Pristine Track



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## Texture Change

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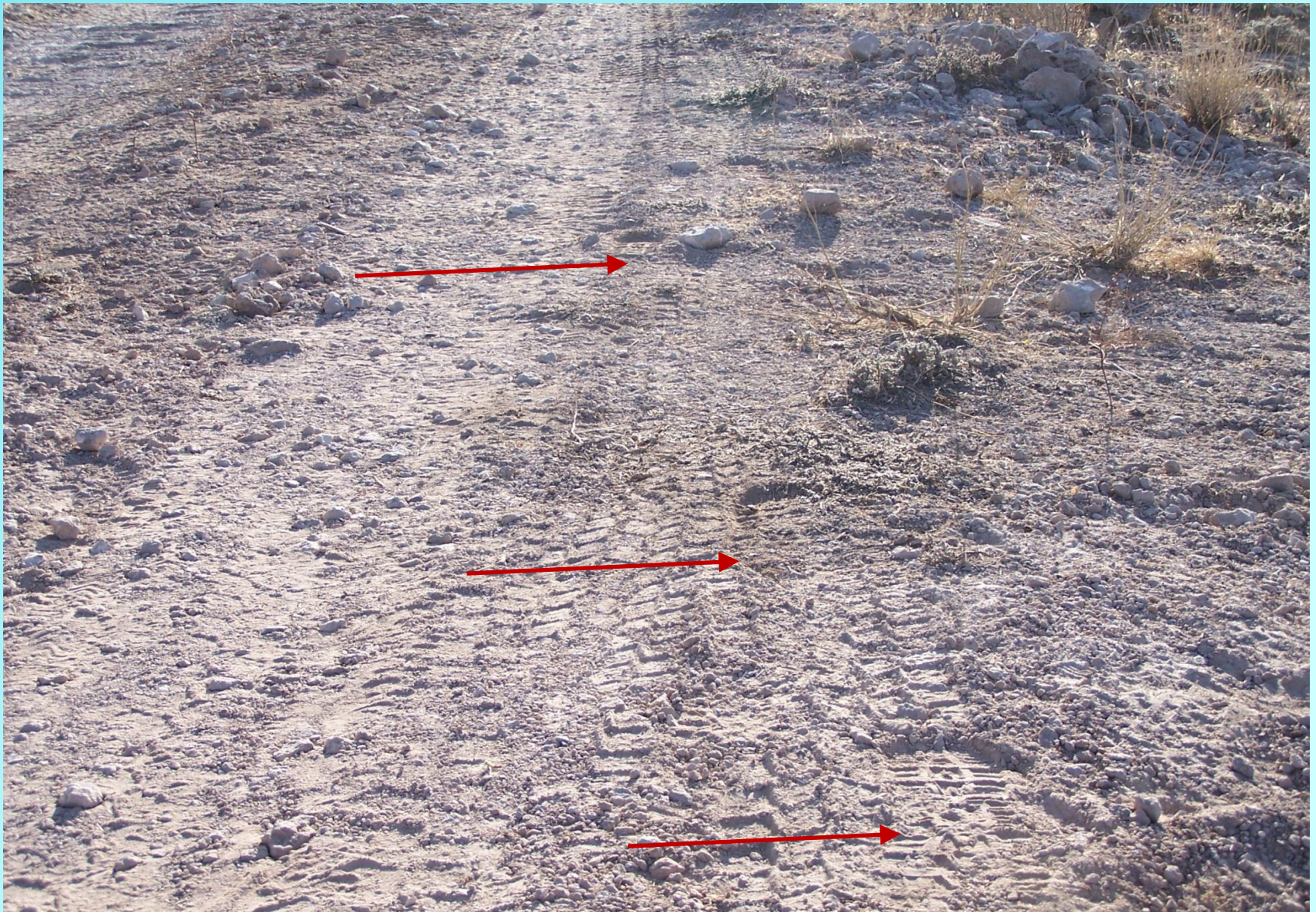


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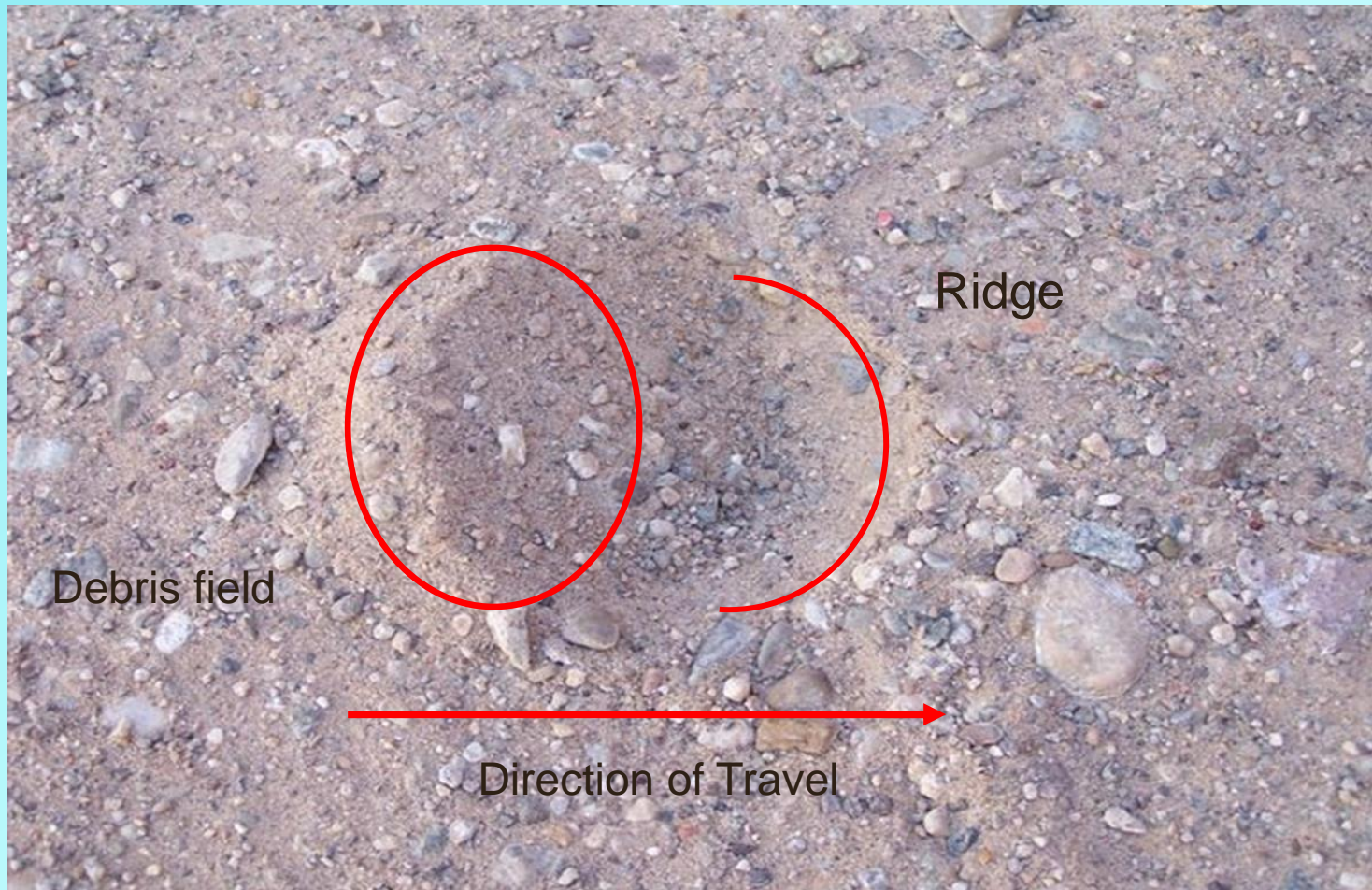




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# TOE DIG





# TOE DIG



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# TOE DIG



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# No Disturbance



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**Pay Attention To This Rock**





**Disturbance**



**Slight Disturb**





# Tracking Stick Uses

- Measuring stride
- Foot Print
- Locating track
- Identifying Trackers





# Measuring Track



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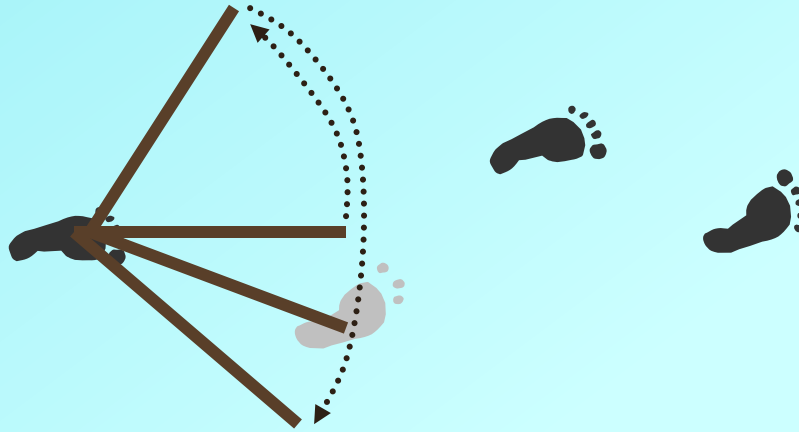
# MEASURING STRIDE



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# Sweeping of tracking stick to find faint track





# Review

- Practice & develop your Tracking
- Put together a team and work with them
- Discipline yourself to use proper tracking technique



# Track Preservation

- Marking a track
- Tools for preservation
- Flagging

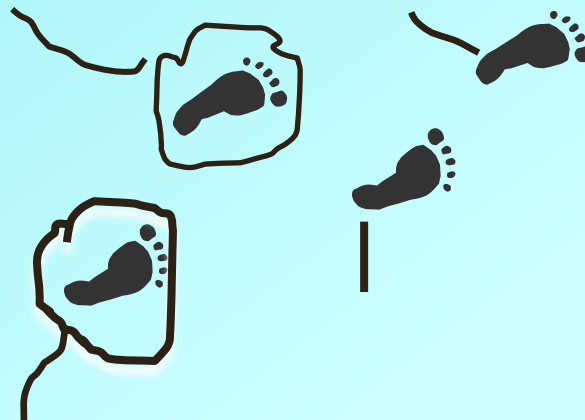


# Marking a Track

## Circle Track

Marking which foot

Left or Right





# Tools for Preservation

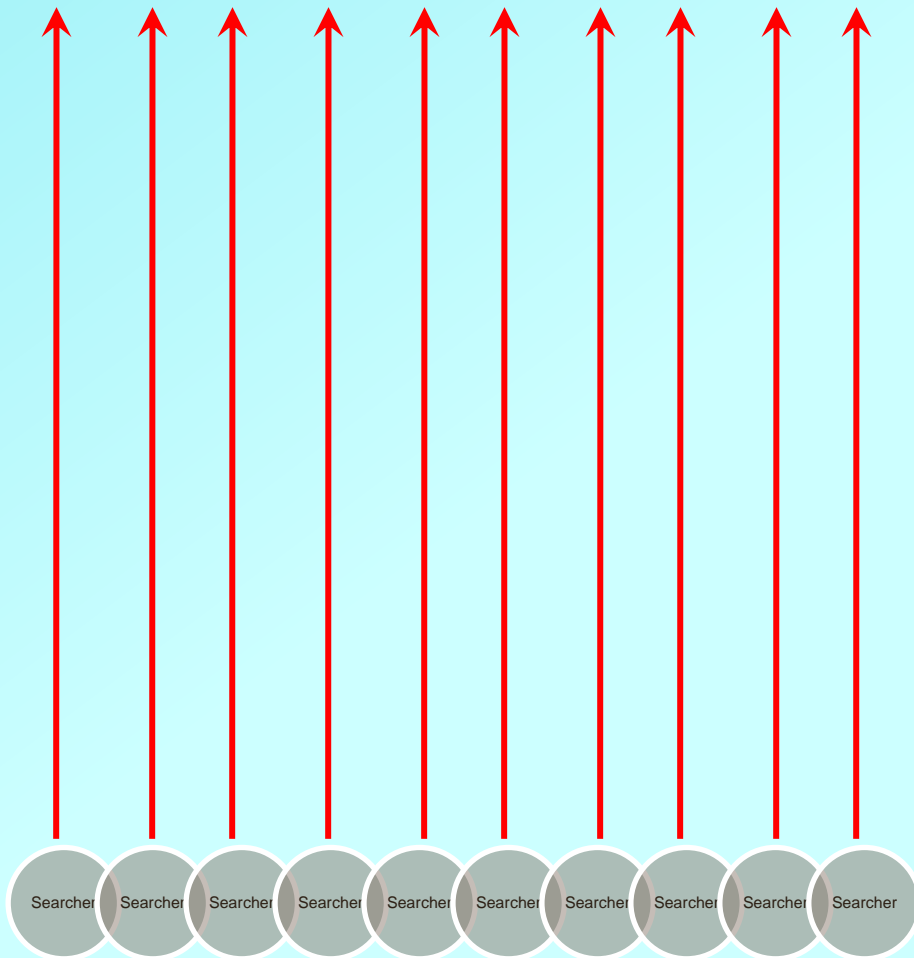
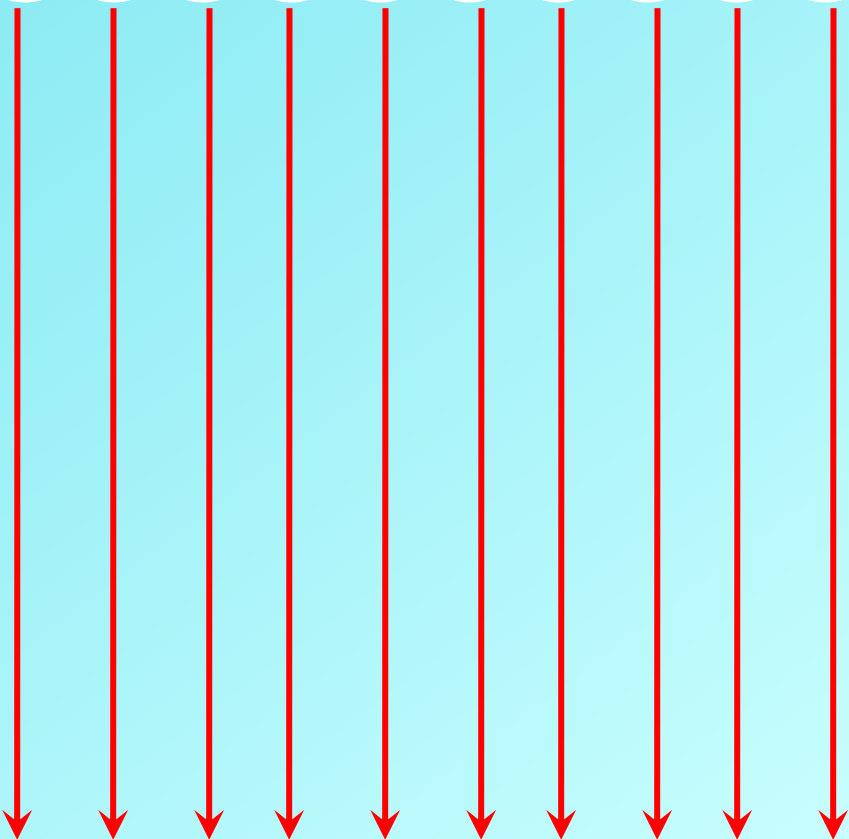
- Aluminum foil
  - Tooth picks
  - Plastic bag
- Survey markers
- Survey tape
- Caution tape



# Line Searches

- Locates Clues
- Uses large number of personnel
- Gives 100% coverage





Line Shifts

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# Tracking Team

- Team Structure
- Team Leader
- Tracking Method



# Three person tracking team consists of:

Point man- main task is to follow the track.

Flanker



Flankers-

1. Checks to see if tracks turn
2. Looks ahead for clues or subject
3. Stays oriented as to location
4. Reports to command as required.

Point man



Flanker



Point man should change out every 20 minutes- because of eye strain, he will start to miss clues.



# Tracking Team

Flanker



Flanker

Point

Flanker

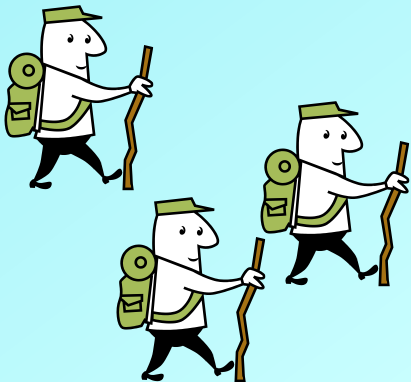
Point



Flanker

# When approaching a vehicle of a missing subject:

1. Only one searcher should approach.
2. He should establish how long the vehicle has been parked.
3. He should attempt to identify track or tracks leaving the vehicle and how many people there were.

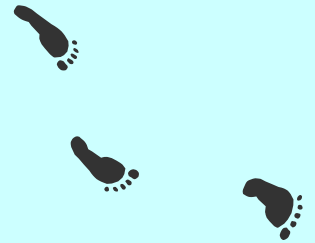




# Flankers

- How flankers assist
- When flankers move
- Stick Dragging

If point man loses track,  
he should remain at last  
track and flanker should  
make sweeps in an  
attempt to re-acquire  
track.





# Leap Frog Method

Team 1

Team 2



Team 2

Team 1 is following track

Team 2 intercepts track starts following track

Team 1 jumps to new location and finds track

Team 1



# Review

- Tracking Team
- Tracking Method
- Flankers
- Tracker's Mark



# Tracking And Personal Equipment

- Equipment is essential to trackers
- Carry only the absolutely necessities
- Navigation

# Personal Equipment - 24 Pack

- **First Aid Kit**
- **Space Blanket**
- **Water 2-4 qts**
- **Flashlight**
- **Food, candy, nuts, jerky**
- **Mirror (metal)**
- **Tourniquet**
- **Map of Area**
- **Scissors or Shears**
- **Camera**
- **Poncho or Trash Bags**
- **Cord 1/4"**
- **Toilet Tissue**
- **Compass**
- **2 locking carabineers (can be aluminum to reduce weight)**
- **Lighter and Matches**
- **Dental Floss**
- **Flares, Smoke**
- **Knife, Forceps, or Tweezers**
- **Hand Soap, Antiseptic**
- **Surveyors Tape**
- **Thread and Needle**
- **Fishing Line and Hook**
- **Binoculars**
- **Leatherman**
- **Extra Batteries**
- **Comb**
- **Whistle**
- **20 feet of 1 inch tubular webbing**



# Over Night (36 Hours)

- **Backpack include day bag**
- **Sleeping Bag**
- **Ground Pad**
- **Tarp and Head Lamp**
- **Stove Pack and Fuel**
- **Mess Kit or Canteen Cup**
- **Tent-Tube and Head Lamp**
- **Extra Water 2-4 qts**
- **Food-Dehydrated, Canned**
- **Glow Stick, Flare Strobe**
- **Filtration System**
- **Iodine Tablets**
- **Lantern (Micro)**
- **Extra Flashlight and Batteries**

# Vehicle Pack

- **Water 5 Gal. Plus (one gallon per person per day)**
- **Flashlight (large)**
- **Shovel**
- **Jumper Cables HD**
- **Jack-2**
- **Tire Pump or Air Can**
- **Tow Strap or Chain 20ft.**
- **Radio SAR and or CB**
- **Maps-extended**
- **Tarp**
- **Leather Gloves**
- **Surveyors Tape**
- **Duct and Electrical Tape**
- **Spare Tire**
- **Extra Gas 5 Gal.**
- **Spare Parts**
- **Fan Belt**
- **Oil 5 qts.**
- **Brake Fluid**
- **Hoses**
- **Heater, etc.**
- **Extra Cloths**
- **Blankets**
- **Tool Kit**
- **Flares**
- **First Aid Kit**
- **Car Repair Manual**
- **Tire Plug Kit**



# First Aid Kit

- Gauze Pads Misc. Sizes
- Eye Pad
- Space Blanket
- CPR Mask
- Scissors
- Forceps
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Tweezers
- Vinyl or Latex Gloves
- Mole Skin
- Band Aids and Tape
- Triangular Bandage
- Compress Bandage LG.
- Personal Medication
- Aspirin, Antihistamine
- Antiseptic Cleaner
- Thread and Needle
- Neosporin

# Review

- Inventory your equipment
- Include your team in what you carry
- Don't be a liability



# Presentation End



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