

Host a
**Track & Sign
Certification**
SHARPENING FIELD SKILLS SINCE 1994



A geologist went to the Galapagos and noticed finches. Science was forever changed.

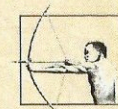
His wasn't just a brilliant, inquisitive mind. Charles Darwin also had great field skills.

www.trackercertification.com



The international standard for assessing wildlife tracking skill is an unparalleled training tool to strengthen the field experience of anyone learning to observe wildlife closely.

EXCELLENCE
in the
Field
MATTERS



**CyberTracker
Conservation**
FIELD SKILLS MATTER

Why Host a Track & Sign Certification?

In wildlife training programs, there is an increasing emphasis on the importance of high-tech methods of observation and analysis. Some educators see the resulting loss of field time as a limiting factor in how they can stimulate curiosity in their students, the kinds of questions that are asked and the types of students they attract.

In response to the increasing call to reintegrate field skills into conservation training as well as to the need for certainty about data accuracy, CyberTracker Conservation is making its Track & Sign Certification available as an inspiring and rigorous training tool to improve the field experience and skill level of your group, whether you are biology students, naturalists, park rangers or outfitters.



For educators and students:

- Precise observation
- Field-based learning

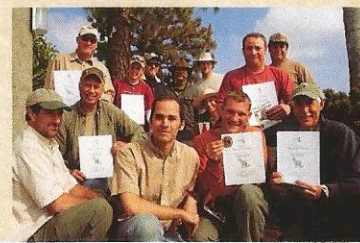
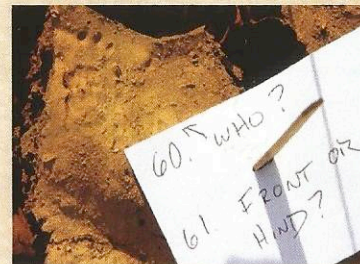
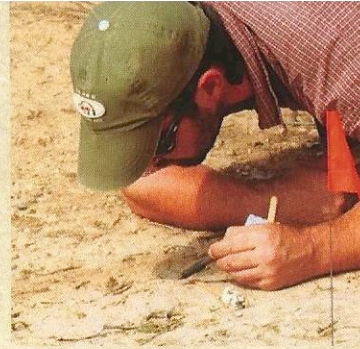
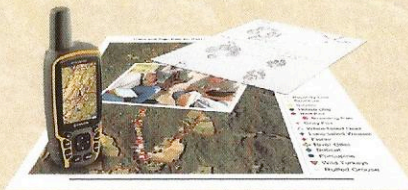
For state wildlife officials, biologists and researchers:

- Testing observer reliability
- Engaging trained observers
- Gathering specialized data

For citizen scientists, park naturalists and outdoorsmen of all stripes:

- Environmental monitoring

The thorough and intensive scrutiny of local landscapes provided by Track & Sign Certifications enhances one's general working relationship with local landscapes, and it improves any group's ability to assess sign accurately, collect data and educate others.



certification process

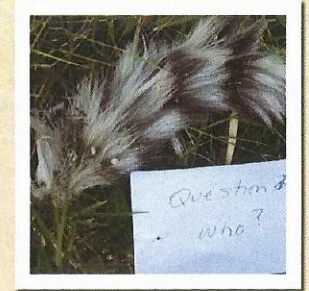
The Tracker Certification is a two-day practical field test that emphasizes open, honest dialogue and real learning. The tracks and sign of any species are asked, whether big or small, clear or obscure.

Typical questions include:

What species made this track? What gait were they travelling in?

Who fed on this nut? Who left this scat/dropping? Did this twig come to be on the ground as a result of animal activity, and if so, who was it?

After participants give their answers, all questions are explained in detail so everyone learns the field marks for identification. Evaluations are limited to 10 participants and certificates are awarded to those who qualify.



certification levels



69-79% Level I

80-89% Level II

90-99% Level III

100% Track and Sign Specialist**

**An External Evaluator must be present

contact information

Please refer to www.tracker certification.com to

- **Host a Track & Sign Certification** or
- **Find a certified tracker near you**

Pricing for certifications depends on the evaluator's travel expenses and whether your group wants to include a second evaluator, which increases learning opportunities without doubling the cost. Host organizations may add additional fees to cover their own expenses.

qualifications

All evaluators achieved 100% on the certification in two different geographic areas and were required to demonstrate mastery of the evaluation methods and standards before earning their evaluator certification. Evaluators in North America:

Mark Elbroch – External Evaluator

www.wildlifetrackers.com

Author or Co-Author: *Behavior of North America Mammals* (Peterson Reference Guide), *Animal Tracks* (Peterson Field Guide); *Stackpole Field Guides: Practical Tracking, Animal Skulls, Mammal Tracks & Sign, Bird Tracks & Sign; The Value Limitations, and Challenges of Employing Local Experts in Conservation Research* (Conservation Biology, Vol. 25, Issue 6); *Determining Observer Reliability in Counts of River Otter Tracks* (Journal of Wildlife Management, 73(3))

Jonah Evans

www.naturetracking.com

Co-Author: *Field Guide to Animal Tracks & Scat of California* (UC Press); *Determining Observer Reliability in Counts of River Otter Tracks* (Journal of Wildlife Management, 73(3))

Nate Harvey

George Leoniak – External Evaluator

www.leoniaktracking.com

Co-Author: *Testing GIS-Generated Least-Cost Path Predictions for *Martes pennanti* (Fisher) and Its Applications for Identifying Mammalian Road-crossings in Northern New Hampshire* (Northeastern Naturalist, in press)

Casey McFarland – External Evaluator

www.wildlifetrackingsouthwest.com

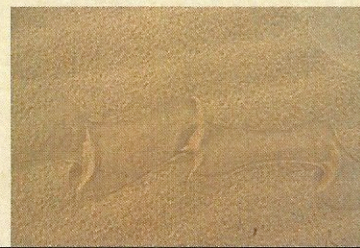
Co-Author: *Bird Feathers: A Guide to North American Species* (Stackpole Books)

David Moskowitz

<http://www.davidmoskowitz.net/>

Author: *Wildlife of the Pacific Northwest* (Timber Press); *Wolves in the Land of Salmon* (Timber Press)

www.tracker certification.com



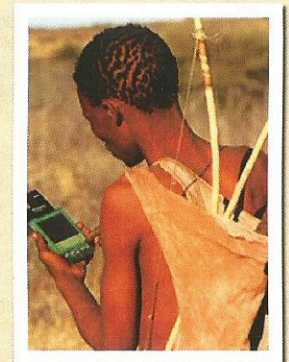
CyberTracker Conservation

CyberTracker Conservation is a non-profit organization whose vision is to promote a worldwide environmental monitoring network.

Since 1994, CyberTracker has certified trackers in South Africa for work in eco-tourism and wildlife monitoring. Since the certification process came to North America in 2005, it has established itself as the international standard for assessing wildlife tracking skills.

Track & Sign Certifications are now in use in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Congo, Canada, United States, Spain, Germany, Scotland and England.

With an emphasis on precise observation and field-based learning, the certifications have become unparalleled field trainings for a diverse audience of biologists, educators and naturalists.



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