

Survey Protocol

Before you leave the vehicles

- Fill out as much of the COVER SHEET as you can.
- Set the GPS to record the route you will travel.

When you find tracks or sign

Level 1 species

- Record each trail you cross in the TALLY LOG. Trails within 15 ft of each other can be treated as one.

Level 2 species

- Record each trail you cross in the TALLY LOG.
- For the first trail of each species, and any subsequent trails that you suspect might be a different individual: *(to keep from having to fill out too many track logs, we are assuming it is the same individual unless we can tell otherwise)*
 - Fill out a TRACK LOG
 - Take pictures. Take photos of both the track and the trail, be sure to include scale measurement. Take pictures under several different lighting conditions.
 - Take a GPS waypoint.
 - Fill out the GPS LOG sheet with the waypoint number, species, and number of pictures taken.

Level 3 species

- Same as level 2, except if you see a second trail, treat it as a separate individual, and make doubly sure everything is filled out completely & accurately.
- For red fox, trail the animal and search for genetic samples.

Level 4 species

- Do everything described for level 3 species.
- Trail it out. Be sure to record the start and end of the trail on the GPS.
- Include as much detail as possible in the TRACK LOG. Take many different measurements, such as size with and without claws, size of proximal pad, etc. Take multiple measurements and show your calculations in averaging them. Give detailed information on why you think it is this animal.
- Take photos of both the tracks and the trail pattern, with a measurement reference, from various locations. Make plaster casts of the tracks from various places.
- Search for genetic samples while following the trail.
- CALL Alan Dyke to let him know!

At the end of the survey

- Save the 'track' on the GPS.
- Finish filling in the COVER SHEET.
- If anything unusual happened during the day, write it on the COMMENTS SHEET.
- Get gear back from everyone.

NOTE: If the GPS does not pick up satellites or turns off for some reason, be sure to write in locations on a map.

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