












Tracking Tips

Wilderness Awareness School
The *NatureMapping* Program

-  You can see tracks best when you are facing the sun
-  Once you find a track don't move until you see the other tracks, or you may step on them.
-  Look at patterns, shapes, size then the number of toes
-  Determine the direction the animal is moving
-  Look at more than one track to find the pattern.
-  Where is the animal coming from and where is it going?
-  Ask yourself, what are the most common animals in my area, when you are looking at the tracks. For example, a large dog print in downtown Cle Elum is more likely a dog than a wolf.
-  Look around you for other signs such as scat, fur or scrapings on the ground to help identify the tracks.
-  Put yourself at the height of the animal. See what it would see; trail choice, cover, etc.
-  Look at a track(s) from all perspectives. Vary your view
-  The track you can't find holds the most lessons. Find it.