CyberTracker Conservation

Track and Sign Certification

"In my 31 years in the wildlife profession, this is by far the best training I have ever attended."

Gene Miller
Texas Parks & Wildlife Biologist

"This was one of the best, may be the absolute best, field training exercise I've ever been to during my 24 year career. I strongly encourage you to consider this kind of training... it will not be forgotten."

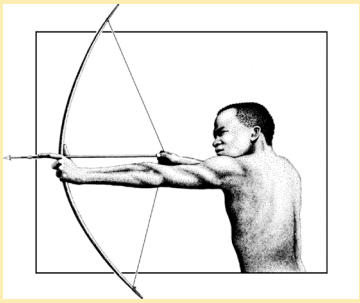
Ruben Cantu
TPW Regional Director

"This was one of the best training experiences our staff have had while working for TPWD. This is the type of training that allows us to hone our naturalist skills and become better biologists."

Chip Ruthven
TPW Director, Matador WMA

"The CyberTracker Evaluation is the most accurate indicator of an individuals' tracking skill yet devised."

Barry Martin
San Diego Tracking Team



Why a Track and Sign Certification?

In wildlife research and monitoring, the accuracy of collected data often relies upon skilled field observers. The CyberTracker system is a rigorous standard for evaluating and certifying wildlife trackers and has proven to be an excellent measure of skill and an unparalleled training tool. Tracker certification improves the credibility of field observations while strengthening participants' tracking skills.

Who Benefits from the Certification?

The Tracker Certification is used by more than just wildlife professionals. Because it serves as an powerful learning experience, anyone interested in tracking- from outdoor educators to hunters to nature enthusiasts- will find it a valuable experience.

Origins

The CyberTracker Certification was developed by Louis Liebenberg in South Africa to qualify trackers for research and ecotourism. It has since grown to become the only international standard for wildlife tracking. See: cybertracker.org for more information.

The 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. 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.

Common questions include: What species made this track? Which foot made this track? Was the animal moving in a slow or fast gait?

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Qualifications of the Evaluators

All evaluators achieved 100% on the certification in two different geographic regions 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
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Jonah Evans
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George Leoniak
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Casey McFarland
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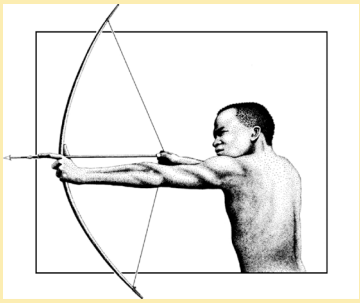

Pricing

Prices cover all evaluator costs, including travel, lodging, food and expenses. Host organizations may add additional fees to cover their own expenses. When the location of the workshop is distant from the evaluator and requires travel the distant rate is used to cover travel expenses.

Local certification:	**$1500**
Distant certification:	**$2250***

There is also a 2-evaluator option that provides participants with a diversity of expertise & teaching styles. This option is often used by agencies desiring the highest level experience for the participants.

Add an additional:	**$800**

**For 2 consecutive evaluations distant from the evaluator, the second is billed at the local rate.*

Certification Levels

69-79%	Level I
80-89%	Level II
90-99%	Level III
100%	Track and Sign Specialist**

***The External Evaluator must be present to award participants this level.*