



MAMMAL TRACK & SIGN WORKSHOP

With Jim Lowery of Earth Skills

NOVEMBER 14-15, 2015

Hosted by the San Joaquin Valley Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Wind Wolves Preserve

\$120 for SJV Chapter members

\$145 for non-members

16 Spaces available, Sign up now!

Overnight camping at Wind Wolves Preserve

Rinetail and badaer tracks in Bakersfield

Your registration includes the option of purchasing *The Tracker's Field Guide* \$18 (revised color 2013 edition) and "Distinguishing Canid Tracks \$6 (Coyote, Domestic Dog, Gray Fox, Red Fox, Kit Fox)", both written by Jim Lowery. These publications are an excellent value!

Refine your mammal tracking skills with expert Jim Lowery in this two day workshop that combines classroom sessions using casts, photos and videos with abundant field practice in fantastic tracking areas accessed in Wind Wolves vehicles. The nuances you will learn take you far beyond the basics as you discover methods to bring tracking into survey work and research.

Saturday November 14

8:30 am Arrive at Wind Wolves Preserve, registration and coffee/snacks
9:00 am to 11:30 am Indoor session at HQ with Powerpoint, plaster casts
11:30 am Caravan to Crossing
11:45 am Begin track aging study
12:00 noon to 1:15 pm Lunch and set up camp
1:15 pm to 4:30 pm Field tracking work in the vicinity of the Crossing
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm Dinner at campsite
6:45 pm Caravan back to HQ
7:00 pm to 8:15 pm PowerPoint on research methods, viewing of gait videos

Sunday November 15

7:00 am to 8:00 am Breakfast
8:00 am to 12:00 noon Tracking field work in the "backcountry"
12:00 noon to 1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm Field work near the Crossing: trailing, transects, track interpretation
2:30 wrap-up
3:00 pm Departure

Mammal Track and Sign Workshop Outline

- Track Identification, methodology & details, with abundant field study as well as practice using casts, photos and videos, including:

Kit fox vs. gray fox vs. red fox vs. domestic dog vs. coyote
Cougar vs. domestic dog
Bobcat vs. feral cat
Rodent genera & fine points
Feral pig vs. deer

- Gaits and Track Patterns

Significance in verifying tracks
Significance in evaluating behavior and individuality
Visualizing gaits from track patterns

- Interpretation of Motion in Tracks

Significance in verifying gaits & therefore track ID
Significance in evaluating behavior & individuality

- Survey Methods

Overview: track stations, substrate preparation, transects

- Track Aging

Experiments & field practice in aging tracks

