

Tracking Evaluation Sheet

Tracker:	Specie:
Evaluators:	Group Size:
Location:	Group Composition:
Date:	Wet/Dry
Time Started:	Windy: Yes/No
Time Completed:	Cloudy: Yes/No
Time Duration:	Animal Found: Yes/No

(1) Spoor recognition

- Not looking down in front of feet, but looking for signs five to ten metres ahead.
- Moving at a steady rate, not in stop-start manner.
- Recognising signs in grass or hard substrate.
- Recognising when there are no signs when no longer on trail.
- Ability to recognise signs after losing spoor.

(2) Spoor anticipation

- Looking well ahead, reading the terrain to look for most probable route.
- Interpret behaviour from tracks.
- Using knowledge of terrain (water, dongas, clearings) to predict movements of animal.
- Not over cautious (too slow), but not too confident (too fast).
- Anticipate where to find tracks after losing spoor.

(3) Anticipation of dangerous situations

- Awareness of wind direction.
- Knowledge of behaviour, e.g. animals resting at mid-day.
- Animal behaviour indicating danger.
- Avoid danger by leaving the spoor and picking it up further ahead, but not over cautious.
- Determine the position of dangerous animals without putting him or herself at risk.

(4) Alertness

- Looking well ahead for signs of danger.
- Stop to listen when necessary.
- Warning signs, alarm calls and smells.
- Signs of other animals.
- Seeing an animal before it sees the tracker.

(5) Stealth

- Minimise noise levels (walking, talking vs hand signals, etc.).
- Low impact on other animals.
- Use of cover to approach animal and exit route.
- Appropriate proximity to animal (close enough to observe, but not too close).
- Animal unaware of tracker

Comments: