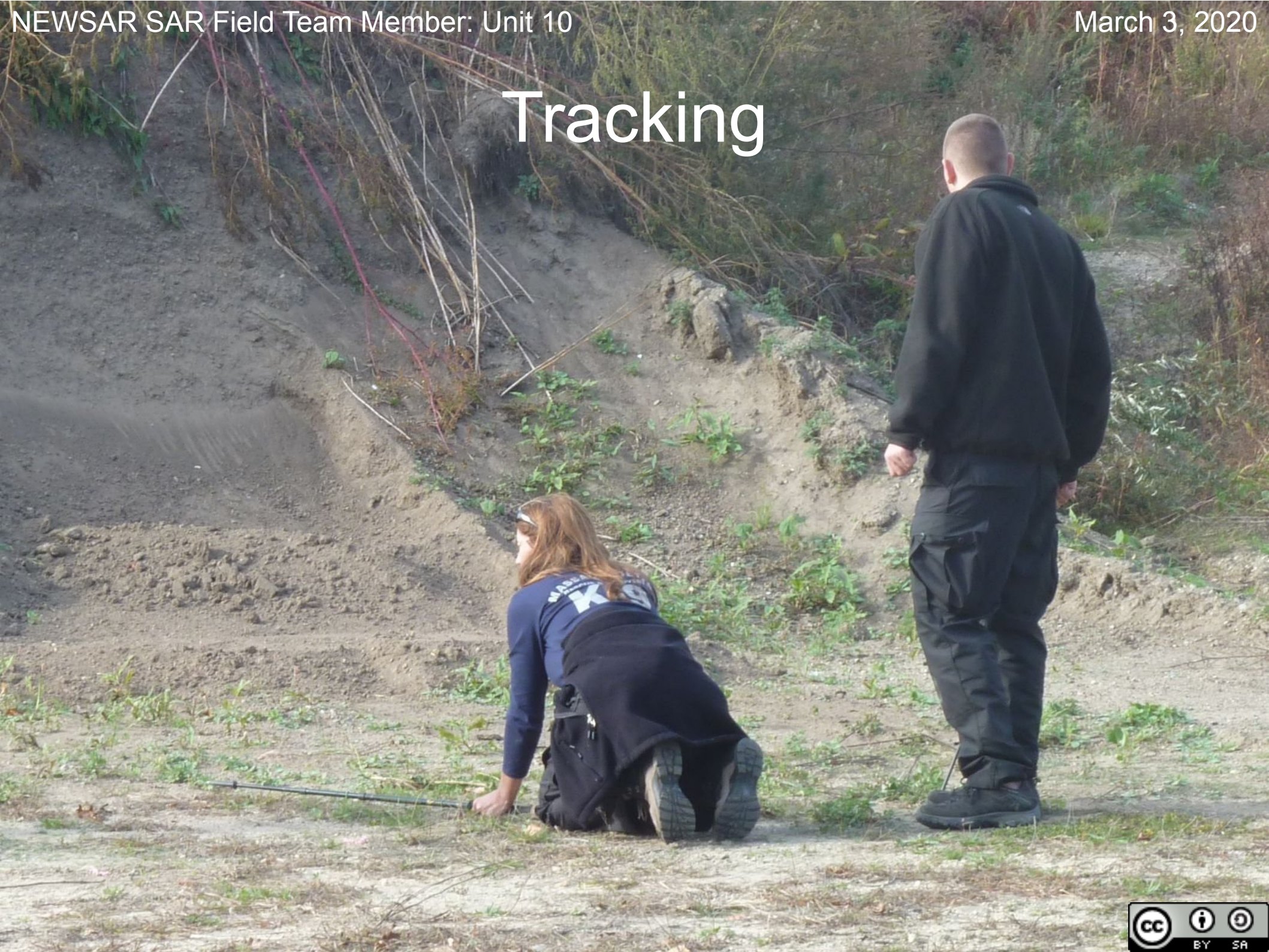


# Tracking



# What is “Tracking”

- Locard’s principle: “..you can’t move through an environment without changing stuff....”
- Following a subject’s “sign” (changed stuff )
  - Step by step “man” tracking
  - Signcutting/Tracking/Mantracking/Visual tracking
    - Signcutting = mantracking/tracking/visual tracking
    - Signcutting = trying to acquire a track
    - Signcutting = jump tracking

# Changed Stuff

- Sign
- Track
- Print

# Tracking in SAR

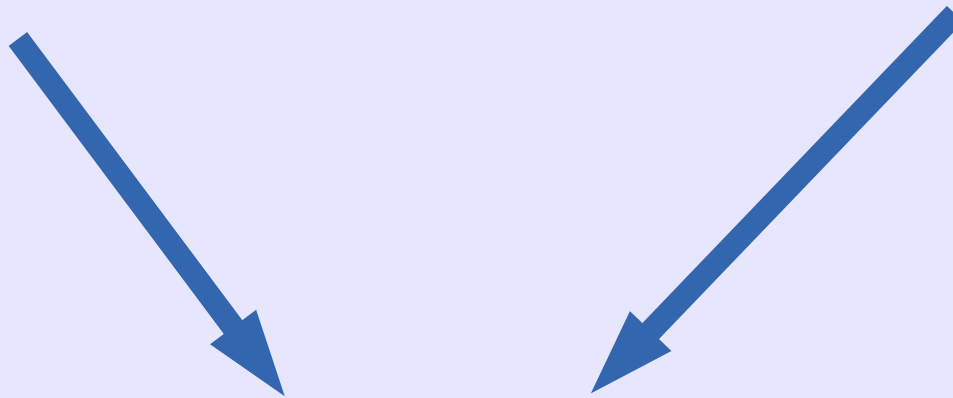
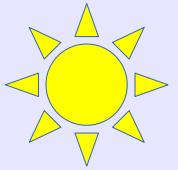
- **Preserve sign**, particularly at LKP/PLS/IPP and along trails
  - **Locate Staging, IC, etc. elsewhere**
- Trackers can establish direction of travel
  - dramatically reduce the high probability search area
- Really good trackers can move faster than the subject
  - They are very rare but a great resource

# The “right” sign?

- There (nearly always) sign all over the place!
- The “right” sign will be:
  - In the “right” place
  - At the “right” time (age)
  - Doing the “right” thing









# Use Sun Angle

- Tracking is easiest when the sun is low (morning and evening).
- Keep the tracks between you and the sun.

# Sign

- Flattening
- Regularity
- Color Change
- Disturbance

Disturbance

Flattening

Regularity

Color Change

A close-up photograph of a gravelly ground surface. The ground is covered with small, dark brown and greyish pebbles and stones. In the center, there is a distinct, roughly circular area where the gravel has been flattened into a smoother, more uniform layer of fine sand and small particles. Several thin, dry twigs and sticks are scattered across the surface, some crossing the flattened area. The lighting is bright, creating shadows and highlighting the textures of the different materials.

# Flattening

A close-up photograph of a gravelly surface. Two pebbles are the central focus. The one on the left is reddish-brown and has a flattened, somewhat angular shape. The one on the right is dark grey or black and is more rounded but also appears flattened. The surrounding ground is composed of fine, light-colored sand and small, dark grey pebbles. A blue banner with white text is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

Flattening: Impressed Pebbles



# Regularity



# Regularity, Color Change



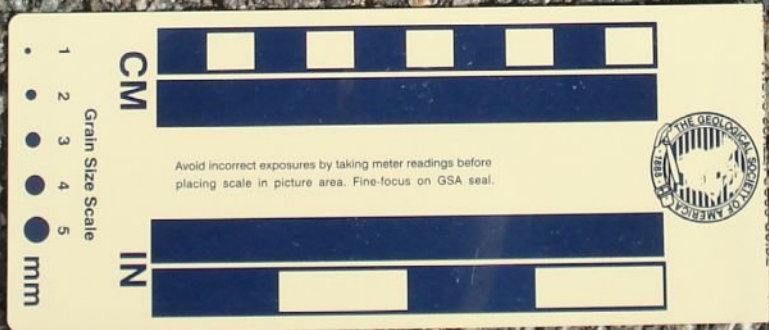


# Color Change: Transfer











Disturbance

Bruising

Underside

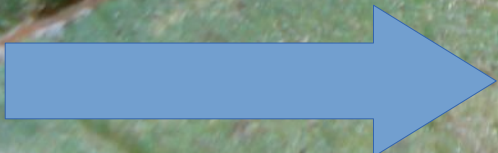
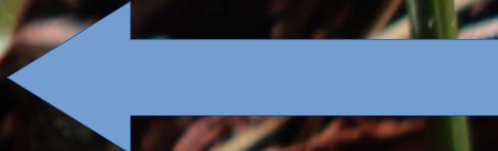
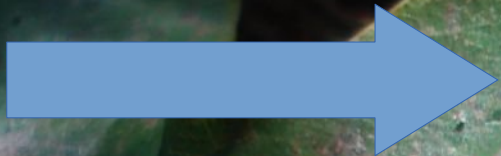
Disturbance

# Disturbance: Cracked Leaves





Bottom of Leaf



# What do you know about the sign?

- Conclusively Human
  - Identifiable as the subject's tracks
  - Made: Identifiable and describable
  - Definitely human sign
- Possibly Human: Corroborant sign



Look for sign in three dimensions





















Most Sign

Shine  
Dew tracks  
Frost tracks  
Tall grass

**Walk Here**



**Look Here**



# Dirt time

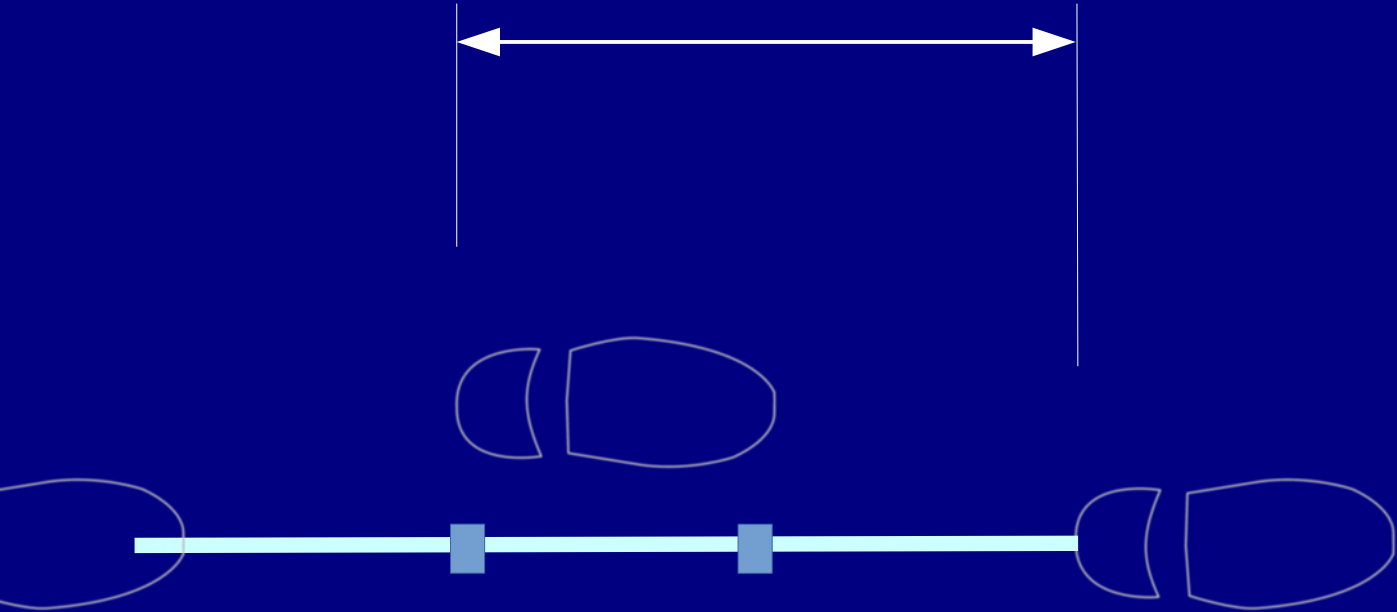
- Tracking step by step
- Tracking Stick
- Drawing and Describing Tracks
- Observing behaviors
- Watching sign age

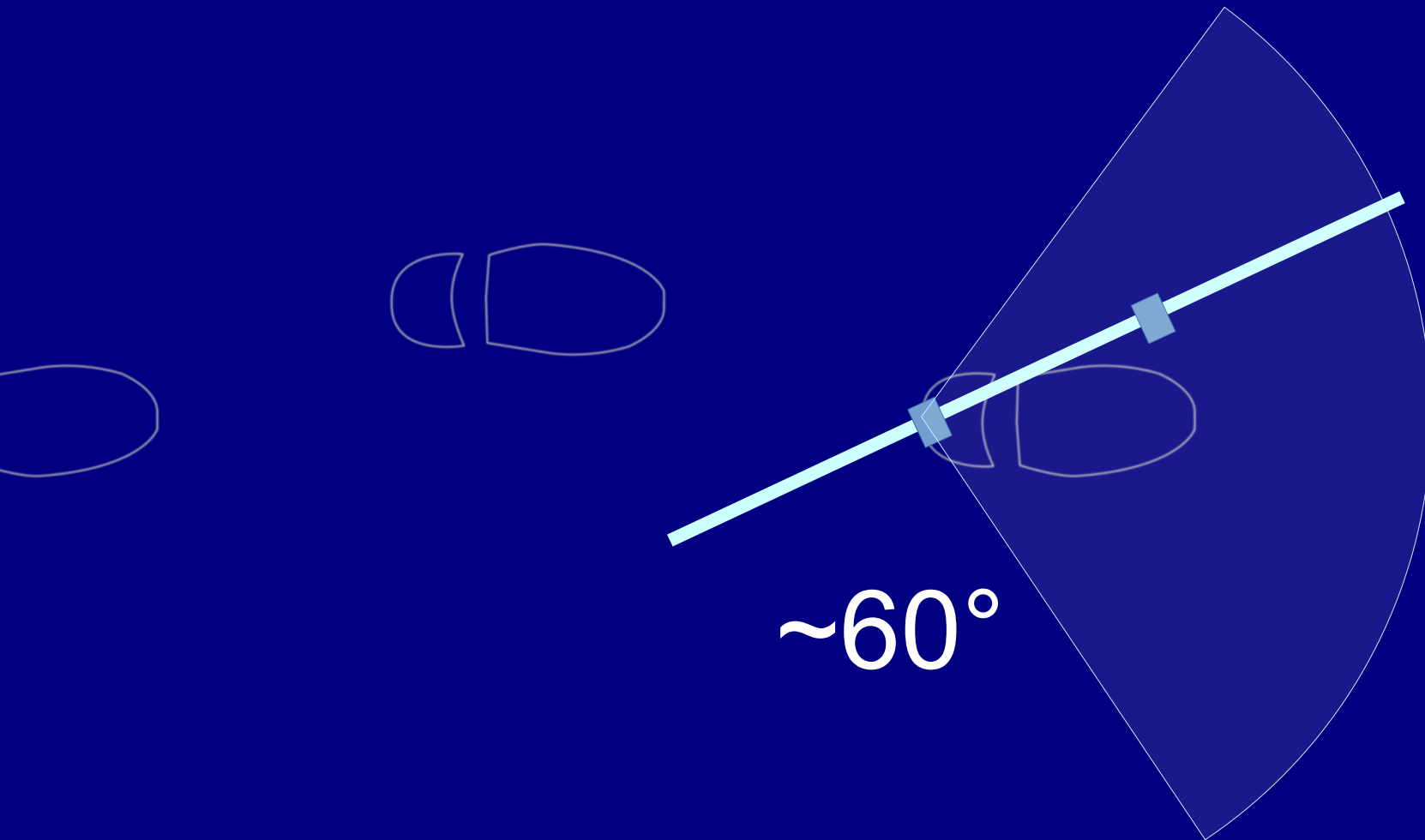
# Tracking Stick

- Mark with print and stride measurements
- Focuses your attention when tracking step by step.











# Behavior

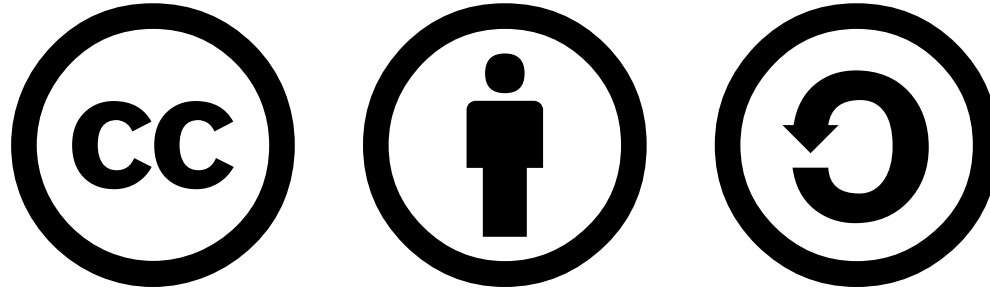


# Search Crucials

- Search is an Emergency
- Search is a classic mystery
- **Search for clues not just the subject**
- **Know if the subject leaves the search area**
- **Close grid search as a last resort**
- Manage by objectives
- Search management is information management

# Supporting a Tracking Task

- Stay behind.
- Stay situationally aware.
- Look ahead.
- Look for Clues.



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