

# Clue Detection





Searcher's  
Snowshoe Tracks

Subject

# 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
- Grid search as a last resort
- Manage by objectives
- Search management is information management

# Search for Clues not just the Subject

- One subject, many clues
  - Around 3000 clues per mile when walking [Mantrackers, Tracking/Trailing Dogs]
  - Scent plumes [Air scent dogs]
  - Dropped articles [Clue aware searchers]
- Clues can give:
  - Direction of travel
  - New last known points
  - Shift of priorities of areas to search

# Clues can be

- Seen
- Heard
- Elicited in investigation
- Felt
- Smelled

# Subject may:

- Walk, leaving sign
- Drop things
  - Litter
    - Candy wrappers, drink containers, food wrappers
  - Hypothermia and paradoxical undressing
- Leave messages
  - Trail registers, route plans, suicide notes
- Bivouac





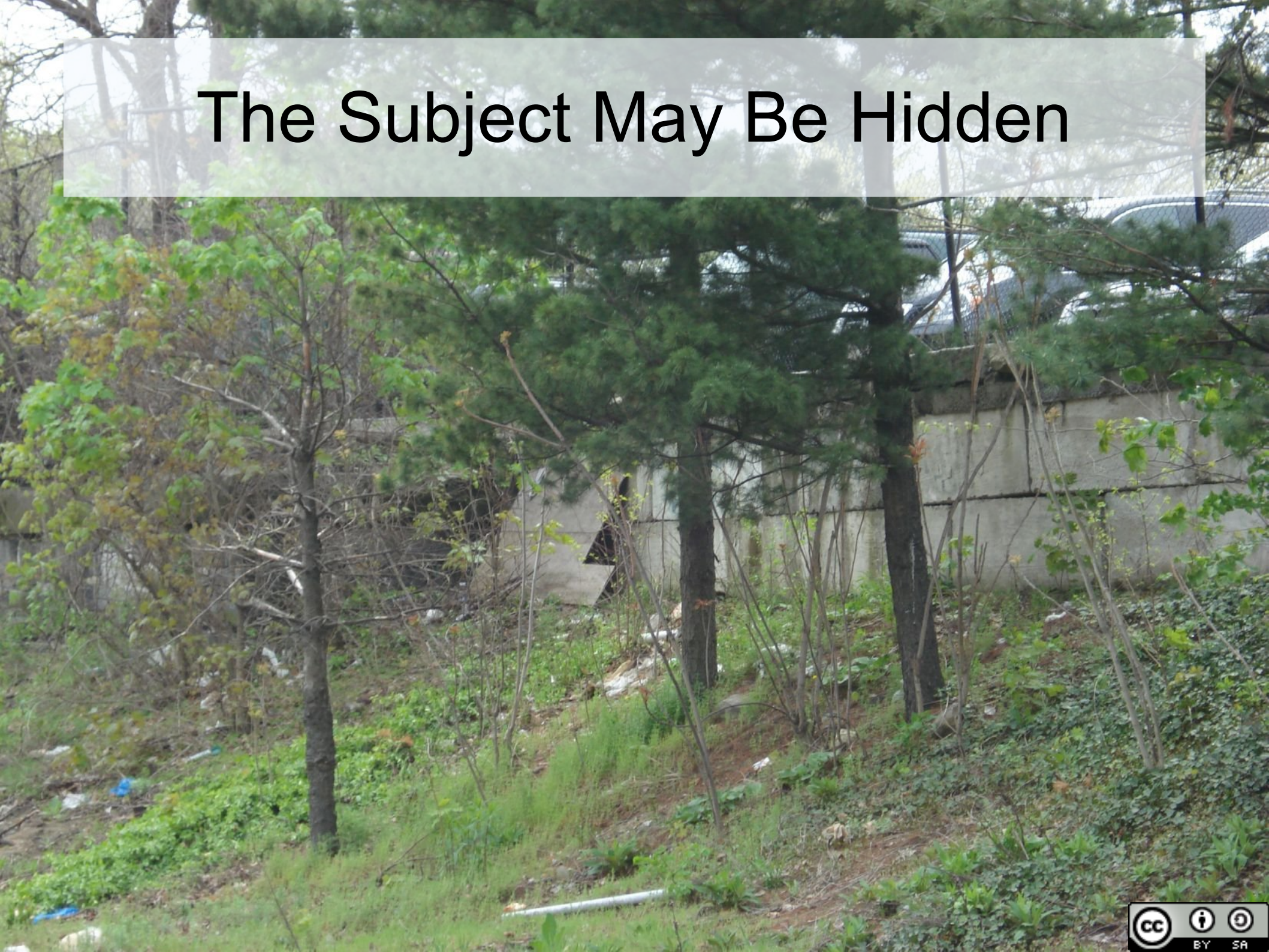




# Check Trail Registers



# The Subject May Be Hidden



# Hug-a-Tree instructions

- Tear a hole for your face in a large plastic garbage bag.
- Pull the bag completely over yourself, leaving your face exposed.
- Sit next to a tree.



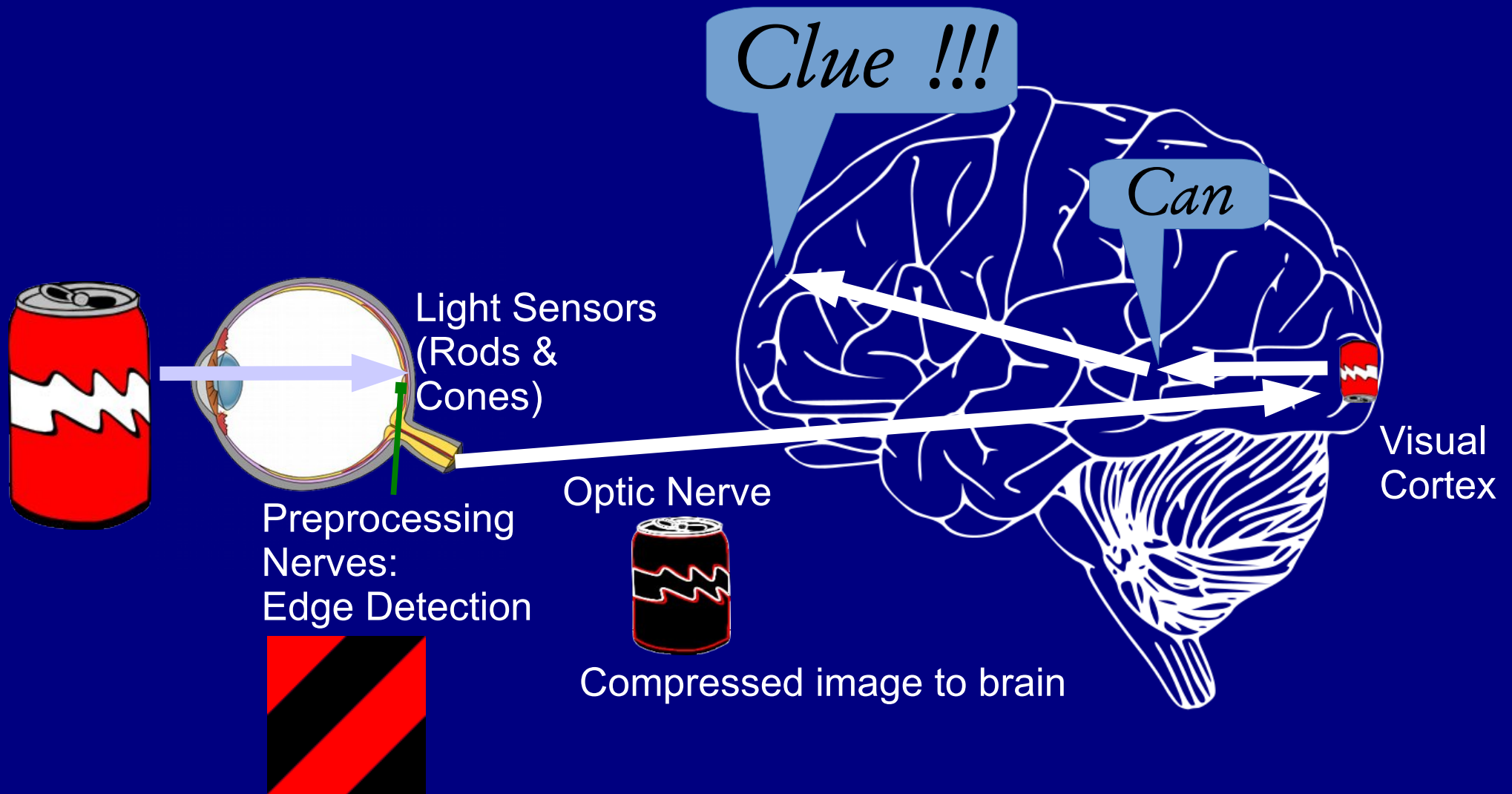
How do you observe things?





*Clue !!!*







# Teach your Brain to Observe



# Include clues in regular training evolutions

- Clue specific
  - Kim's Game
  - Type I, Type II, and Type III searches
- Add clues to Canine training evolutions
  - Leave clues along trails
  - Leave clues along likely grid lines
  - Leave clues along exit route from subject

# Hide clues on canine route problems

High

Behind things

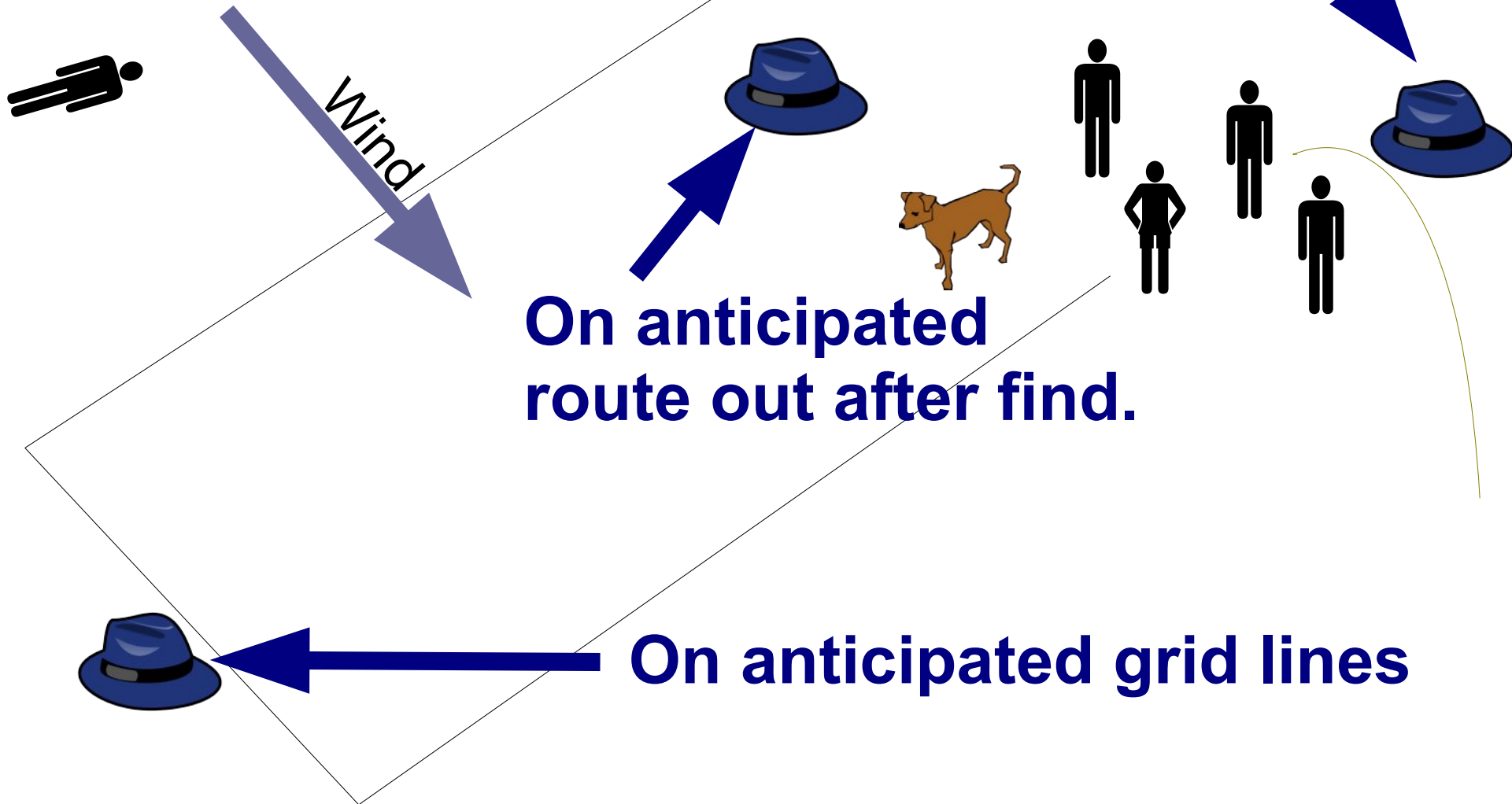
Off the trail

Below vegetation

In plain sight

# Hide clues in canine area problems

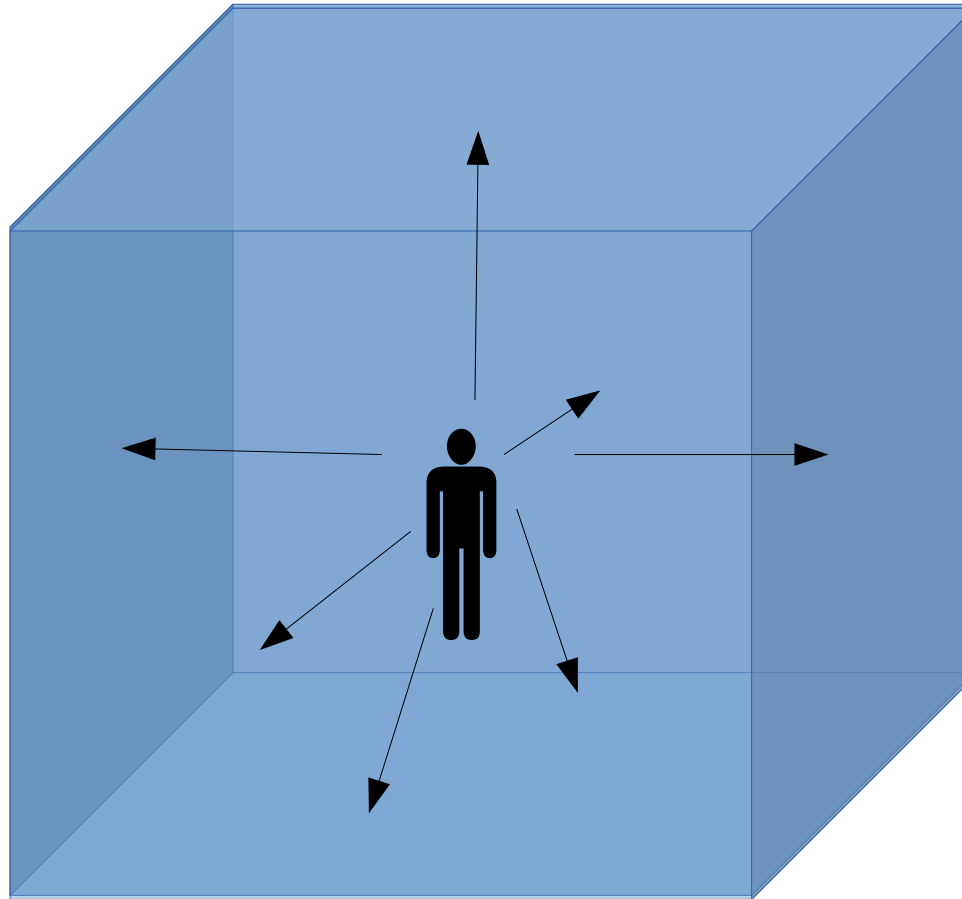
**Along route into search segment**



# Techniques

- Search Cube: Look behind you, above you...
- Stop to look
- Scan near, middle, and far distances
- Look through foliage
- Stop and look after a distraction
- Look below vegetation
- If you are talking you aren't searching

# Search Cube





Look Through Things







“Take a Knee”



“Take a Knee”

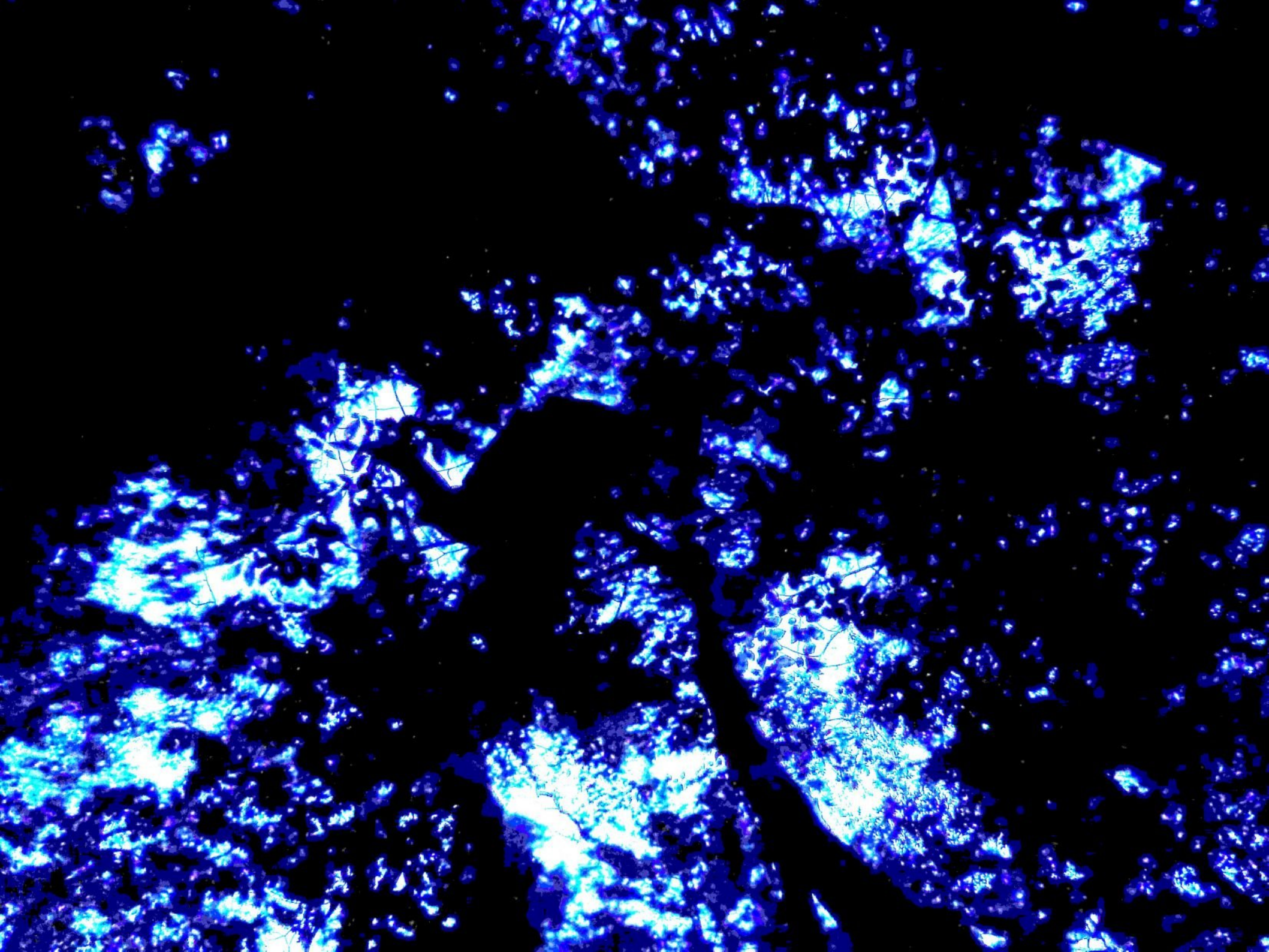
Far

Middle

Near

# Moonlighting





# Watch for Track Traps

**Walk Here**



**Look Here**





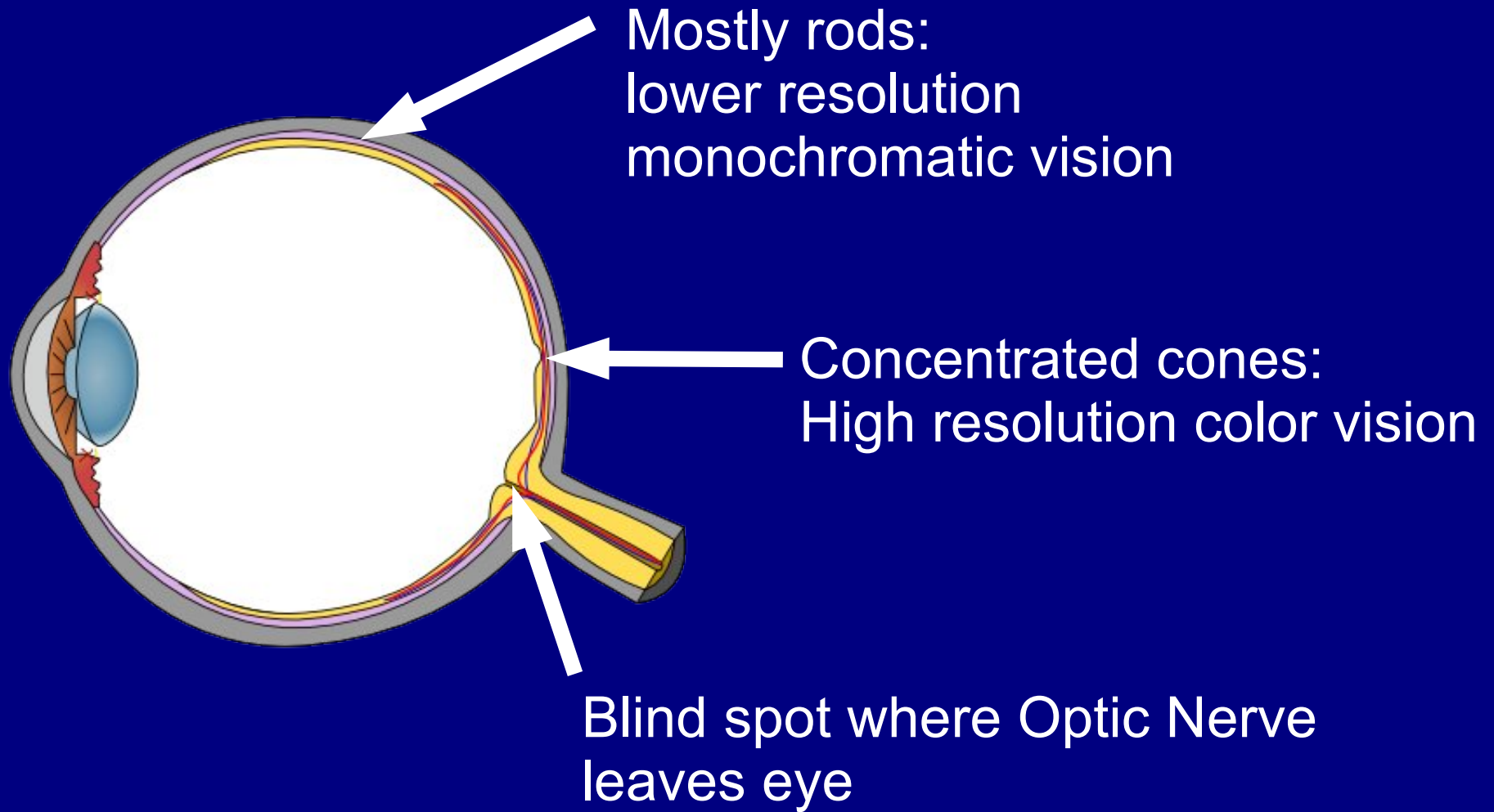




Flagging

Searcher's Tracks

Clue







An illustration on a dark blue background showing two trees. The tree on the left is shorter and has a multi-tiered, conical shape with light green foliage. The tree on the right is taller and has a single, solid dark green conical shape. Both trees have brown trunks and cast long, dark shadows to the left. Two white arrows point from the bottom towards the trees: one points to the base of the shorter tree, and the other points to the base of the taller tree. Text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

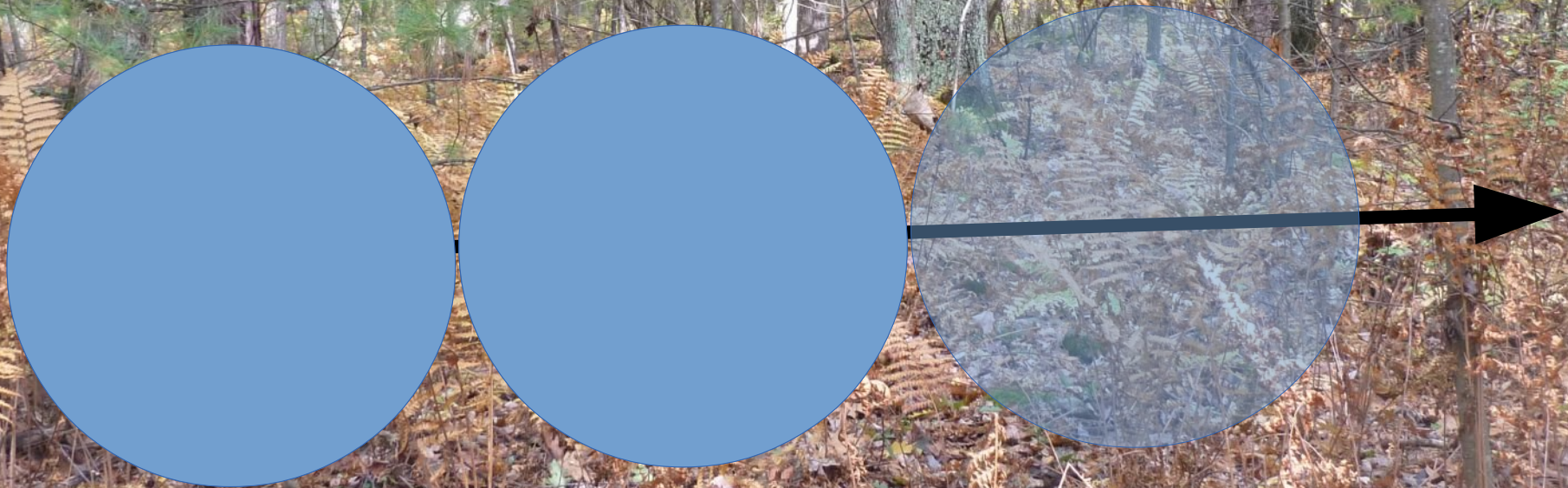
Look into shadows.

At night, look just away from what you want to see.

Look Here

To see Here

# Don't Scan

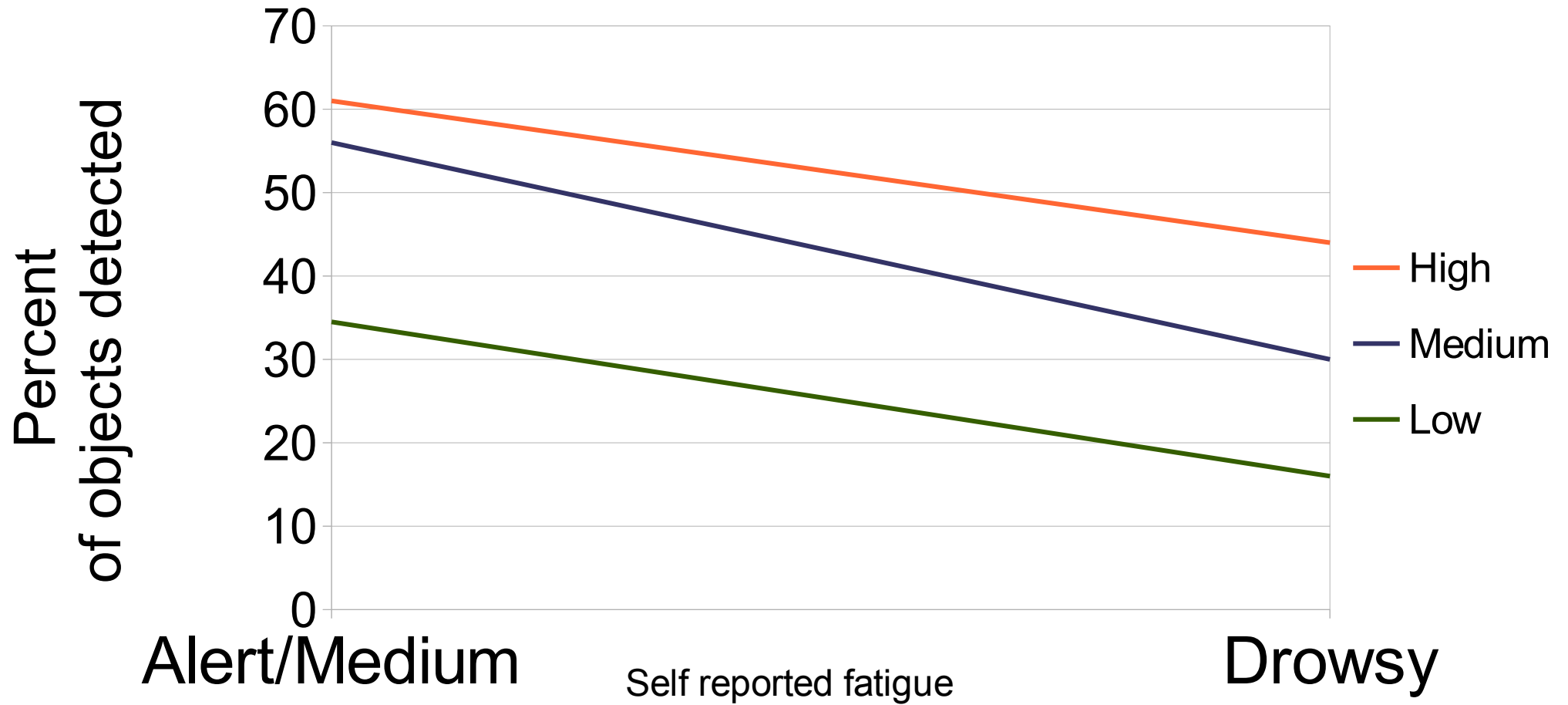


Watch the dog





# Fatigue and detection





4 Meters

Fatigued  
Searcher

Upon finding a clue...



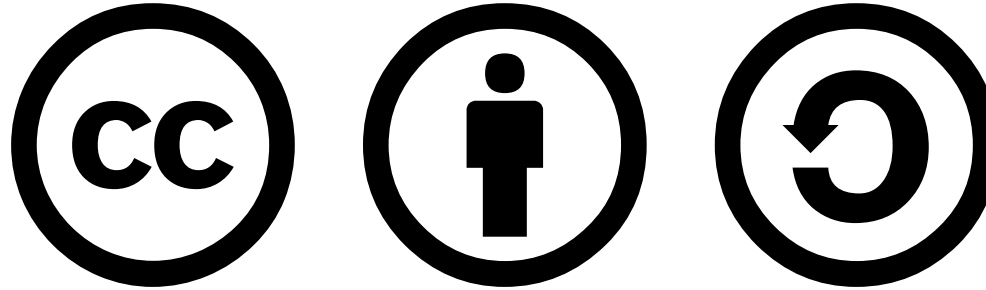
# Upon finding a clue

- **Don't touch.**
- **Scene Safety**
- **Call out: “Hold the line”, everyone stays where they are, team leader comes over to determine what action to take.**
- Call it in.
- Record and flag the location.
- (More in Crime Scene Preservation)



# Clue Log

- Maintained in the planning section.
- Log of all clues
  - What was it?
  - Where was it observed?
  - Who observed it, When did they observe it?
  - What follow up action has been taken?
- What clues haven't been followed up on?



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