**2025 TRACKING COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Date:** August 22-24, 2025\_\_\_\_\_

**Time:** 08:00 a.m., Friday, Aug 22\_\_ through 2:00 p.m., Sunday, Aug 24, 2025\_\_

**Location:** Pinehaven Christian Ranch - 64657 Pine Haven Ln St. Ignatius MT 59865\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Course Cost:**$\_350\_ payable to Mark Culp\_\_, \_\_Po Box 543\_\_, \_St. Ignatius, MT 59865\_\_\_\_\_ - $100 **unrefundable** deposit will be assessed if student registers but does not show up to the class. Registration is due by August 1, 2025 to reserve a place in the class.

**Meals & Accommodations:** Dormitory style accommodations are provided \_August 21\_\_\_ through \_\_\_August 23\_\_\_ nights. Meals and snacks are provided from \_\_August 21\_\_ through \_August 24\_\_.

There are NO prerequisites for this training presentation. This tracking course is open to all persons with tracking interests regardless of previous experience or training and will focus on primary training for beginning or novice student interests. This will be a certification course for all eligible students. All tracking students will be provided training at an appropriate level for their development and upward progress.

**Course Content:** This will be a 24 hour course beginning at 8:00 am Friday August 22\_\_ with registration and lecture including power point presentation to provide Novice and Basic tracker understanding of training methodology, techniques and procedures. The presentation supports field training by providing student understanding of training methods, manner and objectives. “Tracking” is a first response primary search resource used to verify witness statements, establish the “PLS”, direction of subject travel and following the physical evidence to the missing person. Field training will allow “student tracking team” experimentation and “hands-on” practice of fundamental tracking techniques. Novice students will progress from initial identifying a print, to “step-by-step” every track concept of following an identified sign line and practical tracking team response.

This is a “skill development” training program for Basic, Apprentice and Journeyman Tracker students. Students at these levels have acquired Basic Tracker understanding and will be introduced to practical tracking techniques and applications necessary to become a viable resource for SAR missions. Students at all training levels will be individually challenged with additional advanced tracking concepts and techniques. Journeyman Tracker students will be provided advanced training objectives working with Novice and Apprentice students and separately in simulated actual SAR and law enforcement mission scenarios.

**Please bring to this training course your current training manual and tracking logs. Should you anticipate challenging the certification board for advancement: Please advise your trainer in advance so that person may prepare a recommendation and your training records; you must bring your personal tracking and training logs and records**.

**Student Needs:** Students should be physically fit and equipped for SAR field response. Field practice will continue during any inclement weather, students should be properly prepared with wet/dry, cold/hot weather gear. Knee pads may be helpful. Students need to bring a pen/pencil, note pad, small measuring tape, 5/8 inch doweling or similar, 36 to 40 inches long, with three rubber bands to use as a tracking stick and a three cell flashlight. Signed copies of Joel’s book are available by direct contact with Joel at Joel@jhardin-inc.com

**Registration:** Students must pre-register by \_\_August 1, 2025\_\_\_\_ for this course. If you have any questions regarding the class or class location please contact \_\_Mark Culp\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at (406) 546-0317 or by email at mrk.cul@gmail.com\_\_\_\_\_. Send your deposit to: \_\_\_Mark Culp\_\_\_\_\_Po Box 543, St.Ignatius, MT 59865 Pre-registered students failing to attend this course without a reasonable excuse will be assessed the $100.00 service fee.

**Sponsor Information:** This course is sponsored by Lake County Search and Rescue\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. All interested law enforcement and SAR volunteer personnel are invited to attend.

Note to Sponsor: After finishing the registration form below to the best of your abilities, please email it to: Mark Culp at - mrk.cul@gmail.com