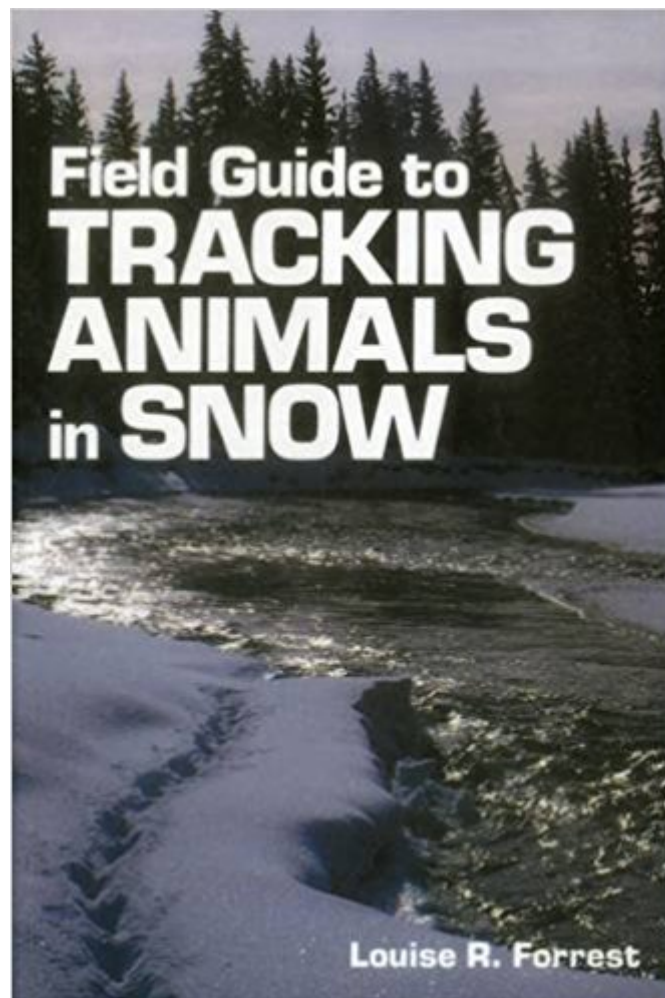




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Field Guide To Tracking Animals In Snow: How To Identify And Decipher Those Mysterious Winter Trails



Synopsis

Focuses on the animal's track pattern, making windblown and obscured tracks identifiable.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

"If you are interested in wildlife and the outdoors, you will find it an essential addition to your natural history library. The author's knowledge and enthusiasm come right through, and the illustrator's work greatly enhances the book's usefulness. Organisation of the book makes identification easier than with other track books I know and should enable beginners to use the text with ease..." --Jim Ratz, Executive Director, The National Outdoor Leadership School.

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We did not want to go hunting or trapping. We just wanted a book that could tell us what was walking around our cabin at night. This book is perfect for that. I looked at several books but they just had too much information and it became clear I'd have to be really, really interested in whether the animal was running, male or female, etc because those books required I'd have to make a study

of the tracks. I just wanted to know if it was a racoon or cat! This book is great for that. Clear pictures, laid out well, easy to use, even a quick guide so you could narrow down the field with almost a glance. For a casual 'tracker' this is just a really good book that lets you identify what kind of animal is hanging around.

informative

the book is all that i hoped it would be it arrived even sooner than i expected i would recomend this book to anyone

I was extremely disappointed in this book given the amazing potential for information on snow tracking. I'll start with the good stuff: 1) A good key on the inside cover. That's about it... The bad stuff: What I would have liked to see and what was not in this book to my liking: 1) Natural history of animals in winter as opposed to other seasons. There is some information, but still not enough to aid the tracker. 2) An analysis of drag marks in the snow. 3) Actual pictures of prints, which although there are 10 questions or so in the back of the book with real prints, they are so badly taken and poorly described with no close-ups that there's no real way to be sure about the print from the picture. 4) Which animals use non-characteristic gaits in the snow and why. 5) Pictures of tracks aged in the snow and how the shape of the track changes in the snow. There is almost nothing on this book talking about characteristic aging of track shapes in the snow - like how to tell direction of travel in deer on week old snowed in tracks (no book mentions this, but this is what I would expect to see in a winter tracking book). 6) Angles of entry and exit into the snow and characteristic morphology of tracks in the snow. 7) More than the 1 or 2 gaits presented for each animal, better measurements, etc. 8) Behavior studies! Snow tracking gives us an amazing opportunity to study the track by track behavior of an animal. I couldn't believe that the book didn't explore this dimension of tracking. 9) Much more information on birds could have been done. And some of the tracks DO NOT at all look like tracks of the birds I've seen. There's also no natural history information on birds tracking and sign in winter. ---- I think this book will give the novice tracker a false sense of knowing how to track, and what to look for. Many bird tracks look a lot like small mammal tracks, and it is very difficult to distinguish between cottontails, squirrels, and chipmunks in the snow if you are not familiar with them. This book does not give you the necessary information to track confidently in the snow. Beyond that, there's nothing in this book that you can't find elsewhere, much better, more thorough, and more visually appealing. The book was published to aid the beginning tracker - but

tracking books by Murie and Lowery are much better for that. I'm sure Louise is a great tracker, but this is a poorly written book that does not appreciate the beauty of winter tracking by oversimplifying it to tracking in general. For information on snow tracking, get Elbroch's book, the 4 pages in there he devotes to snow tracking is more useful than this entire book.--Thomas Meli[...]

Begins with an intro which covers generalizations about tracking animals in snow, and even covers how to preserve tracks made in snow. Pencil drawings provide clear detail and pix of the animal as well as its tracks. Range maps included (book covers USA. A good balance between adequate coverage and so much info that you become overwhelmed. This is good for beginner to intermediate trackers. Book is focused on mammals. Only one spread on birds. This book is standard gear on my winter hikes.

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