

Advanced Wilderness Man-Tracking with K9 and Team Attachment

- **Dates:**
 - Classroom - Thursday April 16th, 2-3 hours 4:00 PM
 - Wilderness Training Dates - Friday May 13th, Saturday May 14th and Sunday May 15th
- **Duration:** 3 Days + Classroom (27 hrs)
- **Cost:**
 - \$450 per Dog/Handler team attending the course (8 spots max)
 - \$150 per Support / Audit Spot (8 spots max)
- **Location:** Whitman National Forest, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. ● **Max Attendance:** 8 dog/handler teams and 8 Audit Spots
- **Prerequisites:** Prerequisites to the course are the Huffman K9 Intro Tracking Course (or approved course level equivalent).
- **Contact:** Jensen Huffman / Owner and Instructor / 503.849.8781 / Jensen@huffmank9.com

“We give them the toolbox, they’ll decide what to use.” – [grayscale]

Curriculum: Huffman K9’s 3-day advanced wilderness man tracking course is a comprehensive training course focused on expanding on the fundamental skills of the K9 team in man tracking and preparing students for real world scenarios.

Handlers will learn to develop tracking K9 capabilities in different ages of K9’s, learn how to develop tracking effectiveness and maintain capability, attach to a unit as a tracking component in various wilderness landscapes, translate the fundamentals of science behind scent signatures and apply this information to increase tracking performance, utilize multiple K9 teams on a single track, develop creativity in both operations and in teaching others, and avoid counter-tracking tactics used against the handler.

This course is designed to increase the effectiveness of “professional K9 teams” and meet the high expectations of both SAR (Search and Rescue) as well as Law Enforcement. Civilian tracking and trailing enthusiasts with previous experience will also enjoy learning real world, operational proven

techniques designed to increase success rates and practicing existing skill sets in a new environment.

Overnight camping stays will allow for tracking in low light conditions. Basic wilderness survival, navigational and visual tracking skills will be discussed and in some cases practiced.

Admission to the course is subject to evaluation and previous experience.

Class Schedule / Outline:

- ❖ **Saturday April 16th 2021:** Huffman K9 Facility
 - 1700: Classroom
 - Introduction of Mantracking Textbook
 - Stress based training fundamentals and considerations
 - Man Tracking
 - Briefing (Where we are going, environment, weather, etc)
 - Equipment (Equipment list required to have, nice to have, Prohibited)
- ❖ **Thursday May 12th, 2021:** Command, Whitman National Forest, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area
 - 2100: Welcome Briefing and sleep

❖ **Friday May 13th, 2021**

- 0800: Classroom Briefing and Breakfast
- 1000: Tracking Training
- 1300: Break
- 1800: Close for dinner

❖ **Saturday May 14th, 2021**

- 0800: Classroom Briefing (On location)
 - Going Long
 - speed
 - Topography
 - You are always walking into an ambush
 - Constant awareness of environment, as well as dogs behavior
 - Go Slow.
 - Listening posts
 - Leapfrogging
 - Dog changes should be done “in route” with clear change in topography. Even better if you have clear visual sign of track or new scent article / source
 - Military Crest, ideally walk on hillside vs Crest of ridge to avoid casting a silhouette
 - Counter tracking
 - Beating a tracking dog
 - Distance
 - Vehicle
 - Overwhelming the handler / complexity
 - Woodsmoke helps to hide your scent from animals.
 - Shooting:
 - ◆ Distance... 100 yds (see face, expressions)
 - ◆ 200+... Cant see face
 - ◆ 300+... cant see hands
 - ◆ 400+... no head visible from body
 - ◆ 500+... no light between legs
 - Night considerations
- 1000: Tracking Training
- 1300: Break
- 1700: Night Tracking
- 2300: Close for evening

❖ **Sunday May 15th, 2021**

- 0900: Classroom Briefing (On Location)
 - Wrapping up

- reconciling
 - 1000: Final Scenarios
 - 1400: Closing Debrief and travel home
-

Equipment:

Because this is a wilderness course, we will be living in and sleeping outdoors. Camping equipment, and handler/k9 equipment will not be provided. See required equipment list below. There is a high likelihood that there will be snowfall in the area and temperatures will reflect a winter/spring season.

Human:

Train with what you use on a real deployment - your standard Kit maintained for operational readiness.

GPS

High Performance Headlamp and Secondary light.

Handheld Ham Radio.

Gaia GPS Hiking, Off Road Maps Paid version (\$40.00 per year)

Silva (Or equivalent compass with Adjustable Declination).

Spare batteries for all electronics.

Field or Survival Knife (full tang, fixed blade, belt knife)

Day Pack

Personal IFAK / K9 IFAK

Synthetic Long underwear

Warm hiking socks

Synthetic Insulative sub layer

Warm gloves

Synthetic outer layers

Rain gear.

Gallon Ziplock Bags for Maps.

Water for you and your dog and the ability to carry water.

Capable hiking boots

Gators are recommended but not required.

24 hour pack capable of carrying water and equipment for the dog and for the handler for a full 24 hours.

Jeans, tennis shoes or sandals and cotton cloths are fine for camp but are prohibited for training.

Note taking material

Camping gear

Warm camp cloths

Sleeping bag and tent (pad or cot recommended)

- Toiletries and Trowel
 - Several changes of socks and underwear
 - Small towel
 - Something good to read.
 - Camp Stove and Fuel
 - Camp cookware and utensils
 - Food for breakfast, and dinner, snacks throughout the days.
- K9 Equipment**
- You will need a 6-foot leash leather or nylon. (Double end clasps are highly recommended)
 - 30-foot tracking leash
 - Ecollar (if used as standard equipment)
 - Dog Harness for tracking is recommended
 - A stainless steel or collapsible dog bowl for food and water
 - Reward Toy
 - Crate for dog, dogs will not be allowed off leash at camp
 - If you are missing gear, please let the instructors know prior to the class so that it can be issued to you.
-

Lodging: We will be camping off of Road FR 66, parallel to Duck Creek in the Hells Canyon National Recreation area in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Directions will be provided prior to the class. The location may change if snow inhibits vehicle access.

Registration & Payment: All courses require pre-payment at time of registration. All courses have a limited amount of students and courses are filled on a first-paid, first-trained basis. Huffman K9 will refund 100% of your payment if the course is canceled by our teachers; otherwise your payment is non-refundable.

Class Ground Rules

- 1) Dogs will be secured on a lead at all times, unless told otherwise by an instructor.
- 2) At no time will dogs interact, play and or touch one another.
- 3) Dogs will not drink from the same water bowl.
- 4) Dogs will be fed a minimum of two hours before training starts and two

hours after training in the evening. This helps to prevent the development of Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus Syndrome (GDV aka Bloat).

- 5) There will be a designated area to break dogs. Dogs will be broke prior to each training event. Please bring poop bags and clean up after your dog. There will be a specified trash bin for poop bags.

Contingency / Emergencies:

There will be a cooler on the property; if we have a warm day it will be packed with ice sheets in the case of a dog or handlers overheating. A medical coverage truck will be staged and prepared with a med-kit and a route to the nearest ER and 24-hour emergency vet clinic.

Primary driver will be *Jensen Huffman*.

Primary medic will determined the morning of training.

Included in your training packet will be a printed out route to the nearest 24 vet and Emergency room. If you have a preference you may print your own and use that clinic.

Nearest Emergency Services:

Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Baker City Emergency Department

3325 Pocahontas Rd, Baker City, OR 97814

Baker Veterinary Hospital

3425 10th St, Baker City, OR 97814