

Bigfoot

Field Guide

Magazine

January 2020

Volume 2 Issue 4



Sighting Reports:

Are they even necessary anymore?

Project Silent Hills

How far does sound travel from vocalizations and wood knocks? The MABRC and APES found out.

Scent Markers: Marking the structures associated with Bigfoot.



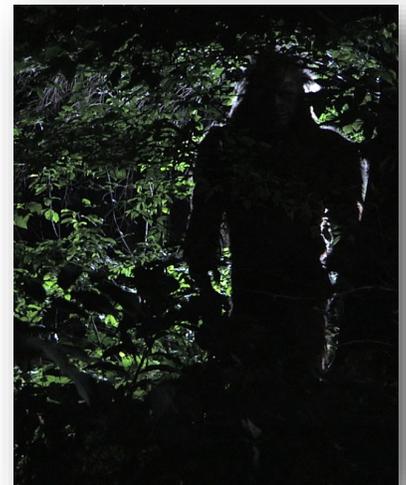
A magazine dedicated to the proliferation and presentation of research for the Bigfoot Community, presented by the Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center. (MABRC)

Check out our website at www.mabrc.com

Bigfoot Field Guide Magazine

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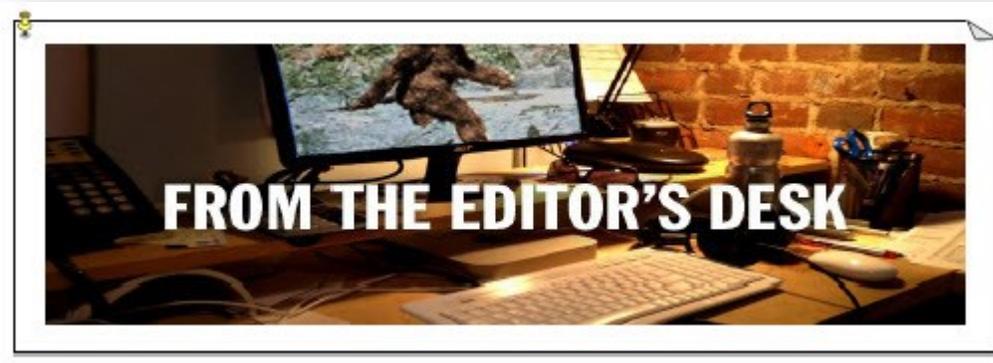
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Bigfoot Field Guide Magazine is published by Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center, the largest active Bigfoot Research Organization in North America.

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Dear Readers,

Thank you for checking out the latest edition of the Bigfoot Field Guide Magazine, it's been awhile, but we hope to get back on track with an issue every two months.

There has been a lot going on in the Bigfoot Community, with various factions positioning themselves as the ultimate authority on all things Bigfoot. Here at the Bigfoot Field Guide, we continue to believe in Bigfoot as being flesh and blood, no woo to them.

To date, there has not been any viable evidence to support the many woo theories that have been populated over the last few years, from portals, cloaking, mindspeak and even Bigfoot as an alien race. There is viable evidence to support Bigfoot is a flesh and blood creature however, and based on that evidence, Bigfoot Field Guide magazine will work on this assumption.

Our articles will continue to postulate the flesh and blood belief.

The BFG Staff hopes that you will enjoy the information presented inside this magazine, as we are sure that the trolls of the Bigfoot Community will once again try to poke holes into what is written here.

Thanks and have a great day,

D.W. "Darkwing" Lee

Editor

Equipment Corner



As the years go by, researchers have sought new ways to conduct Bigfoot research. The latest craze is using drones to fly over areas.

The MABRC has embraced this technology and have worked towards establishing protocols to use their drones with.

Recommending the Phantom 3 or 4, these durable and versatile drones are easy to fly, has an extended flight time of up to 25 minutes, and with 3rd party software and applications, can fly waypoints, follow me mode and even points of interest flying.

The key advantages of using waypoints, if you purchase the Litchi software, is that you can create missions to fly over areas of interest.

Currently, during an expedition, the drone is sent up randomly over the area and flies it's assigned missions, in which it will fly over the area to each point it's been given, and will look at whatever area is designated it's point of interest.

One of the things that you should be aware of, is that you have to create two missions for each area you will be flying over, a morning and afternoon flight mis-

sion. Why? Because of where the sun is positioned, it will flare your camera recording and you won't be able to see anything on your recordings because of this.

So a morning mission over the area will have to take into account where the sun will be at, so you can always keep the camera focused away from it. The same for the afternoon mission, it will give you tremendous views as long as you avoid the sun.

The follow me mode, allows you to set a height for the drone to fly, and it will then follow the remote control where ever it goes, this will allow you to go on a hike from your camp for about 10 minutes (you need to take into account return time, or you can let the drone follow you for nearly 20 minutes and land it near you.).

The field of view this gives you at heights of about 200 feet or amazing, it shows

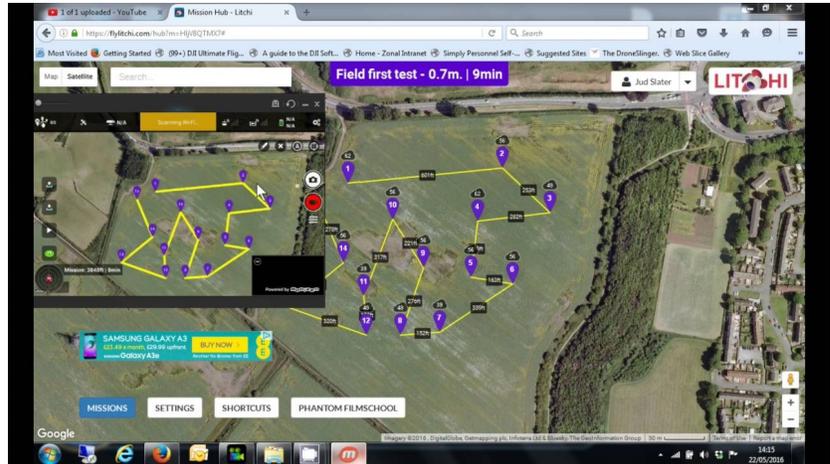


roughly about 150 feet into the woods all around you, giving you a bird's eye view of anything that is shadowing you in the woods.

Points of interest flying is something that aids in looking at areas that are too far away or inaccessible to the research on foot. The MABRC carries the drone in a backpack, and going through some of the research areas on 4 wheelers, there are several locations where cliffs hover over the trail. The researchers could actually climb up these cliffs to see what is on top, but it would take a long time to get up there. Solution, send the drone up to take a peak on top. Anything sitting up there watching the researchers below would be caught in the open

Another point of interest usage that the MABRC conducts is when an area is blocked off or gated off when following signs of a Bigfoot, the drone can go up and take a quick peak of the area beyond.

A recent sighting occurred near the dam of a lake, and the water authority had the road down to their main building gated off, and there was no entry allowed. The sighting happened near this building so the drone was sent up to record video and take pictures of the area, giving us a view of a tall boy trail behind the building in the woods. We were able to then pinpoint that the trail



lead to one of our main research areas.

The photo above shows the mission hub screen of the Litchi



software, in which you create your missions and save them to be able to download to your cell phone or tablet when flying your drone.

Featured Sighting Report



Recollections of my Bigfoot Sightings

J. Robert Swain (XXX) XXX-XXXX, Robert@ArkansasApes.com

Sighting Occurred Friday, October 6th, 2017 at approx. 5:30pm

On the single lane gravel road leading to the XXXXXXXXXXXX camping area. XXXXXXXXXXXX Co., OK

For the fifth year in a row I was fortunate to be asked to participate and speak at the Oklahoma Bigfoot Symposium held each year in Stilwell, Oklahoma. This is hosted by the MABRC research group. My group, APES works very closely with the MABRC.

I arrived Thursday evening and spent the night at XXXXXXXXXXXX. There were approx., ten campers. That night we heard wood knocks and distant vocalizations (captured on audio recorders).

By mid-afternoon on Friday, the number of individuals at XXXXXXXXXXXX had grown and it seemed too crowded to me to be a viable research area. Too many people, too much movement and too many ambient noises would make it difficult to capture any evidence. After setting up the symposium at the CC Camp I decided to go into Stilwell, eat supper and call my wife before finding another place to camp. While in Stilwell I ran into Dave and Roy who were eating at Charlie's Chicken and joined them. During conversation, they too mentioned the crowded XXXXXXXXXXXX and we three decided to camp at the gravel crossing where the MABRC Memorial Day Expedition was held.

We arrived at our new camp sight to discover several cars there. This is a popular swimming hole for local families. Most of the swimmers were just finishing up

so we decided to wait and camp there anyway. I had forgotten my folding chair at XXXXXXXXXXXX and told Dave I was going to go get it and let Carl know where we were camping. It is a very short distance back to XXXXXXXXXXXX...back up to XXXXXXXXXXXX Road, turn right and turn right again on the next gravel road. The sighting occurred almost immediately after I turned onto the road leading to XXXXXXXXXXXX. It is a straight road until you get to a 45* left turn at the camp sites. I looked down the road and saw something standing on the right side of the road (west) at this curve. It was in motion turning from south to east. I do not know if it paused before moving onto the road or if it was one fluid motion, since it happened so quickly. As it started to move it bent down at its waist and tucked its arms to its

chest. It reminded me of a football running back clutching a football to his chest. I could



not see if it was carrying an infant or food, or if it was injured, or if it was just trying to make itself look smaller. I had the impression that it was looking at my car as it crossed the road. After pivoting to the east, the creature took two steps in that bent over position and was out of my sight into

the tree line. The creature was a medium brown color, more of a duty and gray brown instead of reddish. About the color of old pine bark.

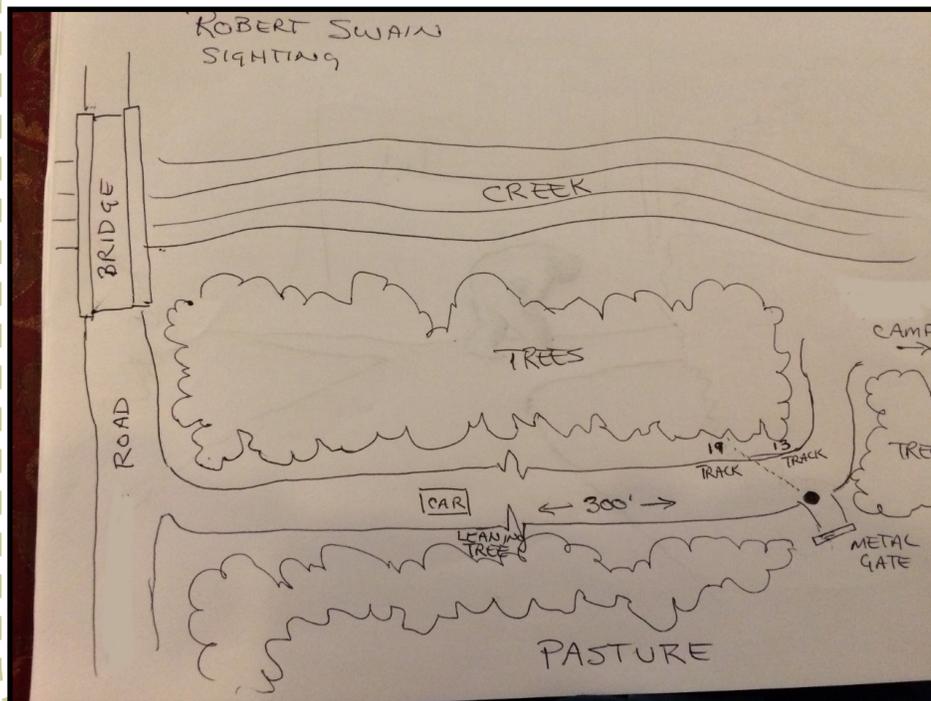
When I saw the creature, I instinctively started to break. Perhaps I should have gunned the car to get closer instead. When I had come to a halt and the creature was gone I immediately looked for a landmark to calculate distance. My front bumper was parallel with the big tree on the right-hand side of the road that is leaning towards the road. I estimate that it was 300 feet... too great a distance with my eyes to see any details.

After the initial stop of just a few seconds I drove up to the curve

where I saw the creature cross. Since the distance was so great, I could not see exactly where it had crossed or if it had crossed straight or angled across the road. I thought that it moved straight across but now I believe that is a mistake. My initial thought (which I maintain) is that the creature started out at the metal gate that goes into the pasture on the west side of the road. I got out of my car and looked for tracks, which I did not see. If the creature moved across the road in a north-easterly direction (which Jim suggested and where the 19-inch track find was) any scuff marks in the gravel or footprints would have been obscured by where I stopped my car.

I did not see any evidence or disturbance where the animal entered the trees and did not here movement. It could have been hiding, watching me, or as fast as it moved, it could have been far away. I returned to my car and drove down to the campsite. I retrieved my chair and informed Carl, James and the others sitting around the fire of the sighting. (Please feel free to corroborate this event with them).

Although I believe it was a Big-foot, it is hard to come out and say that. For the rest of the day



Featured Sighting Report



and into Saturday I kept trying to explain it away. Saturday evening, after the symposium, that Big Jim and I went back to do a size comparison and to take pictures. When we arrived, the Sisters of the Moon, the all-female research group, were at the sight looking for tracks. Immediately Jim found an older 13-inch track in the leaf clutter with very defined toes in the ground. We all took turns feeling the five toes in the track. One of the ladies took a photo of the track. I was sure the creature that I had seen would be bigger than a 13-inch foot. About ten feet north of the 13-inch track Jim found a fresh 19-inch track in the leaf clutter. With the hydrocal I had in my car Jim and I cast the larger footprint. I had to leave for home before the plaster had set up so Jim has possession of the track at the time of this writing. I do not expect much detail from a track in leaf clutter but it will support my sighting and make a great souvenir of my first sighting

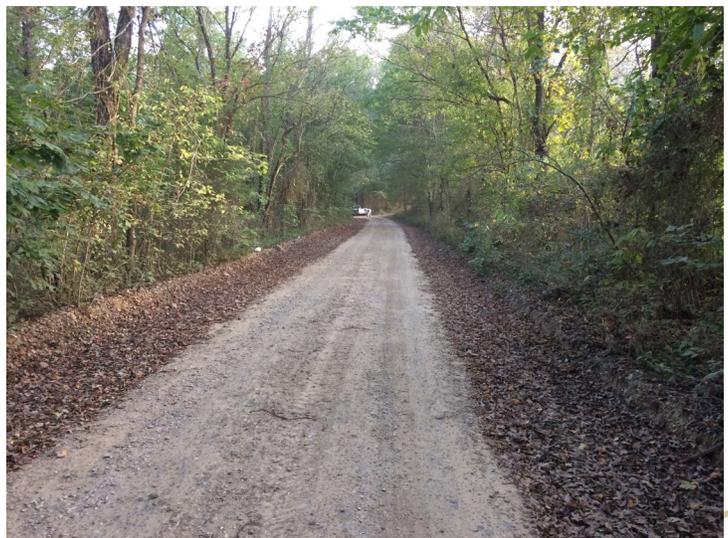
I returned to the leaning tree and had Big Jim, who is 6'5" tall and who weighs over 300 pounds, bend over and walk across the road. It was only then that the size of this creature was realized. It was easily a third bigger than Jim in height and bulk. Where it took the creature two steps to cross the road, it took Jim six steps and me eight steps. There is nothing that big in the woods of Oklahoma... bear, elk, horse, cow or deer are not that big and are not on two feet. Big Jim was by far the biggest person there and he was too small. In my opinion, the creature must have been

Cont.

nine-feet tall and weighed 500 pounds. Bent over, it was approx. six-feet tall. Attached with this report you should find a line drawing of what I saw. The small penciled figure on the drawing is the size Big Jim is to scale in the drawing. I drew this sketch an hour after the sighting. Also, photographs depicting the size comparison and distance and also the footprint finds on Saturday. I have also included a map of the sighting area.

I will be happy to talk to anyone who is serious about this subject and report.

Respectfully, J. Robert Swain



A view of the sighting location from Robert's perspective.



Without a doubt, the largest collection of information about Bigfoot used to be the website of Bobbie Short, Bigfoot Encounters, but since her passing, no site has come close to surpassing the amount of information about Bigfoot except the MABRC Forums.

While there will be those who disagree and even attack the MABRC for the content displayed there, the truth is, the Forums has been collecting articles, sighting reports and more from all over the Internet and placing it in one location, making it easier for folks to find the information they need.

The MABRC researchers even have their own research threads, where you can follow along on their research and what they have collected evidence-wise over the years.

Thirteen wings of library information is available, with each wing holding 300 different articles or other pertinent information about Bigfoot.

There is also the National Sightings Database, where we have combined nearly every online sighting report into an easy to search data-

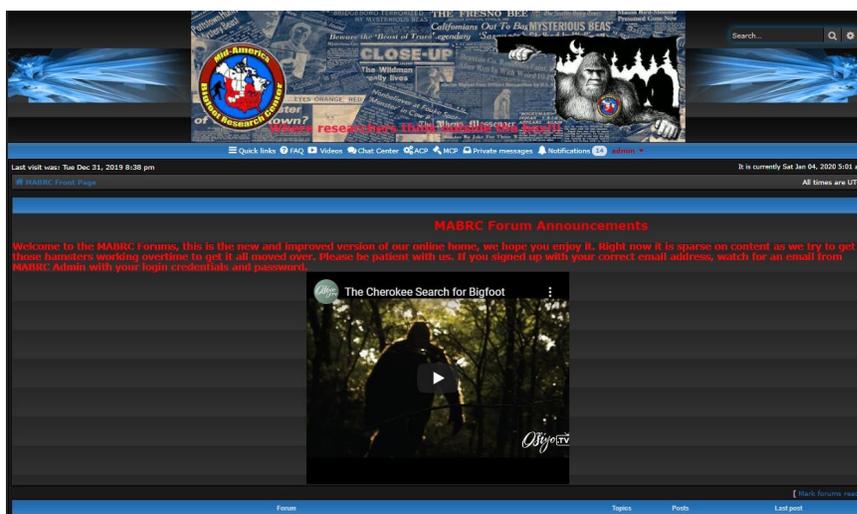
base using the Forums' search engine.

While guests are able to view a lot of information, joining as a forum member opens up more information for you to view. (Please note: Joining the MABRC forums does not mean you are a member of the MABRC organization, you are simply a forum member.)

So check it out now, by going to the following

link: www.mabrc.com/forums

Please note: An issue with our database software has forced the MABRC to move the information contained on the forums to a new forum, and we are in the process of moving approximately 40,000 plus articles, so please bear with us as we rebuild the information on the forums.



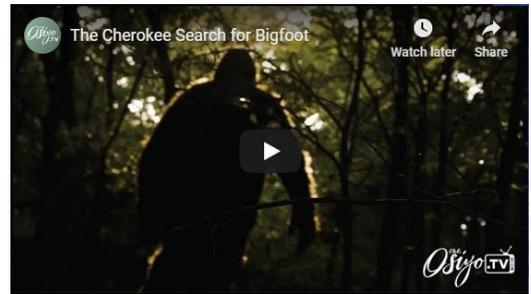
The Cherokee Search for Bigfoot



The Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center was honored by a request from Osियो TV, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma's video production company to put together a piece on Searching for Bigfoot in the Cherokee Nation Tribal areas, many of our Oklahoma members are members of many of the tribes here and this is the result. We are proud of the way the

producer and crew made the episode with a serious note to it, and not like many of the production companies make us look like these days.

To watch the episode, search for OsियोTV on YouTube or The Cherokee Search for Bigfoot. Hope you enjoy it.



MABRC YouTube Channel



The MABRC, thanks to the efforts of MABRC Member, Rebelson, the official MABRC YouTube Channel is now online and videos are being uploaded from all the outings, conferences and more that members of the MABRC have

attended as well as independent speakers at the Oklahoma Bigfoot Symposium. Click the Bigfoot

channel. If the link doesn't work for you, here is the link to use.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTM7-AWEnEet1dbc2vCtjyQ>



The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for the Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center (MABRC). The channel banner features the text "MABRC" in large white letters against a dark background with a Bigfoot silhouette. Below the banner, the channel name "Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center" and "61 subscribers" are visible. The navigation menu includes "HOME", "VIDEOS", "PLAYLISTS", "CHANNELS", "DISCUSSION", and "ABOUT". The "Uploads" section displays a list of recent videos:

- Shelly Covington Montana, CyberTracker.** 2019... 24 views • 4 days ago
- Mark Newbill & Eric Tipton,** 2019 Oklahoma Bigfoot... 58 views • 3 weeks ago
- Paul Hulsey,** Alabama Bigfoot. 2019 Oklahoma... 40 views • 1 month ago
- Lyle Blackburn (Sasquatch Attacks!)** 2019 Oklahoma... 130 views • 1 month ago
- Sisters of the Moon,** 2019 Oklahoma Bigfoot... 214 views • 1 month ago

On the right side, there is a "FEATURED CHANNELS" section with "Randy Savig" and "D.W. Lee" listed as suggested channels.

Using EXIF Reader

While doing research, in particular, photo analysis, the importance of using an EXIF viewer on the photos is very critical, in that it reveals a lot of information that the researcher can use in that analysis. The following slides are from the MABRC Training Facility and is used to train MABRC Researchers in this very important aspect of research. ALWAYS!! use an EXIF viewer to look at the details on a photo, don't never take anything at face value, no matter who it is that provides you with a photo.

[Download EXIF Reader here](#)



What is Exif?

EXIF data refers to information about a photo--such as date, time, and camera settings (e.g. exposure speed)--which is saved by your camera in the photo image file. Some new cameras have the ability to store information about the location where the photo was taken.

Examples

Examples of stored information are shutter speed, date and time, focal length, exposure compensation, metering pattern and if a flash was used.

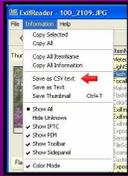
Why do you use Exif info?

- Can show if photo is original.
- Can show if changes have been made.
- Shows the settings of the camera used.
- Shows pixel resolution.

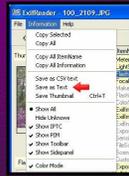
When should you use this information?

- When a photo is presented for evaluation.
- When a photo is questionable.
- To help define the chain of custody.
- To prove the authenticity of the photo.

Saving the Exif Information for reference.....



Saves in format that can be opened in Microsoft Excel Spreadsheets.



Saves in format that can be opened in almost any text editor.



Always store the Exif information file with any copy of the photo made, this aids in analysis of the photo further down the road.

Thank You

The MABRC thanks you for viewing this presentation and hopes that you have found it to be educational. Please visit our website for more information.



Can you guess the movie from the picture above?

Answer on the last page of the magazine.



In the past, researchers held to the belief that when they heard a faint wood knock, that it was quite a distance from them. A few years ago, MABRC Senior Field Researchers Randy “Rebelistic” Savig and Bernie “Oldhyppy” Wall decided to try a small experiment, where Bernie would go down the road and do some wood knocks and Randy would see if the recorders could pick it up. What they discovered was that the sound of wood knocks didn’t carry as far as previously believed. Bringing this information to the attention of other MABRC members, it was decided to dedicate an entire expedition to replicate the experiment, using decibel meters and a range finder to add accuracy to

the results. The MABRC extended an invitation to Robert “Laughsquatch” Swain and the Arkansas Primate Evidence Society to take part in the experiment.

Taking part in the first round of the experiment from the MABRC were:

- D.W. “Darkwing” Lee
- Izzy “Goose” Gutierrez
- Mike “CompressorMike” Hartsell
- Dave “Squatchfinder” Ganote
- Randy “Rebelistic” Savig
- Mark “Sawdustt” Newbill (Also an APES member)

The Experiment

A set pattern of sounds was decided upon, this insured that the participants

knew in which order they would be done.

This order is as given:

- Oak tree wood knock.
- Cedar tree wood knock
- Red percussion block
- Green percussion block
- Human vocalization
- Call blaster

In all instances, the listening team would listen from the road, which was line-of-sight to the team creating the sounds, and then step into the woods in order to see if the audio became distorted from the vegetation.

The following is the data pertaining to three distinct distances between the sound team and the

listening team. For the sake of not having to move the sound generating hardware, the listening team moved away from the sound team.

The distances are listed with the data pertaining to each point the listening team stopped at. The distance was confirmed with a laser ranged finder.

Decibel meters, used to detect the given range of the target noises were used in the experiment.

To conduct the experiment, certain equipment would be needed.

For the wood knocks on trees, a hickory axe handle was acquired.

What was noticed is that it's not the different types of trees that

make the different tones of the wood knocks, it's the type of knocker used against the tree. An oak tree sounds just the same as a cedar, pine or even a hickory tree.

Here is the wood knocker used for this experiment.



To measure the DbA (or decibels) of the sounds being created, 2 decibel meters were purchased,

each one capable of doing a max decibel reading, in which, the loudest noises would show as the max reading.

This allowed the research team to monitor the individual noises to see if they breached the ambient sound.

A laser rangefinder was also bought in order to get the actual distance from the sound team to the listening team. This one could register up to 800 yards.



This is the call blast unit, it was built by APES member Robert "Laughsquatch" Swain, and uses a small rechargeable battery to power it. In this instance, a car battery was used to power it for maximum power. The audio files came from a small MP3 player hooked to the system.



Two different percussion blocks were used, both are pictured here below.

The drumstick used, the thicker back end was used to strike the percussion blocks.



Project Silent Hills (cont.)

Baselines of sounds used:

After locating the area that the experiment would be held at, the team needed to obtain the baseline readings for each sound being created, 3 times each sound was measured to obtain the base (average) reading of the sound level that was used. The levels are listed here with their average decibel level. The call blast unit was not measured for an average as it was going to be the same level due to the sound

settings.

1. Using wood handle made of Hickory:

Cedar Tree: 92.5, 93.7, 94.1
Average 93.4 Db

Oak Tree: 97, 96.4, 95.8
Average 96.4 Db

2. Using snare drumstick, the thicker end.

Red percussion block: 110.8, 110.1, 120.6 Average 113.8 Db

Green percussion block: 117.3, 118.1, 118.6 Average 118 Db

3. Using the call blast unit, we measured according to the volume control on the unit.

Call Blast unit – Ohio Howl

Setting 5: 114.7 Db

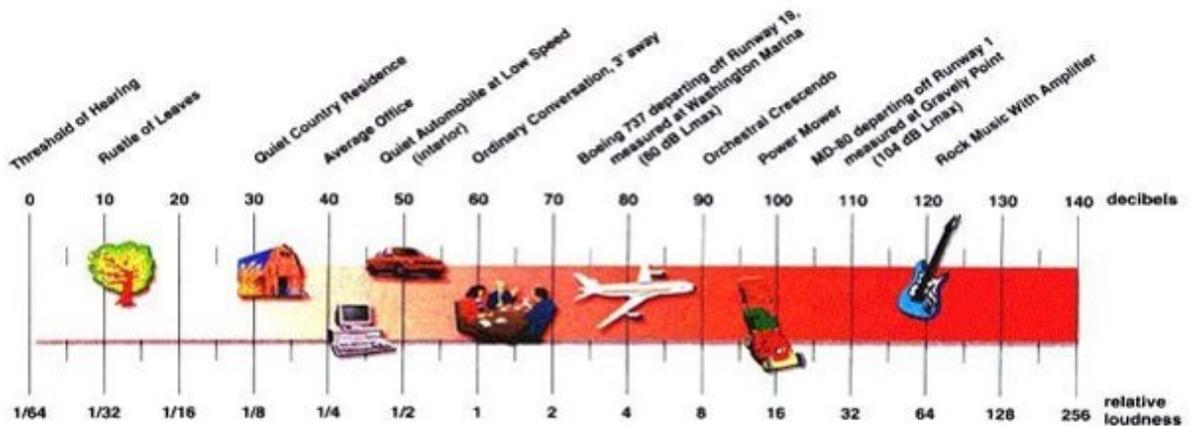
Setting 10: 122.4 Db

Setting 15: 127.8 Db

Setting 20: 130.9 Db

4. Mike
“Compressermike” Hartsell and Randy “Rebelistic” Savig both did vocalizations, an average was done for both.

TYPICAL SOUND LEVELS



The **decibel (dB)** is a unit for describing sound pressure levels. A-weighted sound measurements (dBA) are filtered to reduce the effect of very low and very high frequencies, better representing human hearing. With A-weighting, sound monitoring equipment approximates the human ear's sensitivities to the different sounds of frequencies.

This chart represents the different levels of noise with the appropriate decibels associated with the creator of such noises.

Mike's Whoop: 113.6, 109.9, 112.3
Average 111.9 Db

Randy's Whoop: 107.5, 108.4,
107.1 Average 107.7 Db

The listening team proceeded to go a distance of 135 yards (405 feet) and recorded the average for each noise, including the ambient noise.

- Ambient noise 46.6 Db
- Cedar No register
- Oak No register
- Red Percussion block 75 72.7 74.1 Db
- Green Percussion block 72.3 69.2 Db third done in trees nothing registers
- Call blast 79.7 78.8 Db
- Whoop 65.1 69.0 Db

At this time, the listening team realized that if they hadn't been prepared for the wood knock, they would have likely not paid any attention to the knock. The ambient noise in the woods prevented the knocks from registering on the decibel meters.

The listening team then proceeded to go a distance of 219 yards (657 feet) and repeated recording the average for all noises, including the ambient noise.

- Ambient noise level 46.5 Db
- Cedar No register
- Oak No register

- Ambient Noise level 69.1 Db
- Red Percussion block 72.6 Db

From woods 58.5 Db

- Ambient noise level 62.8 Db
- Green Percussion block 68.2 Db

- Call blast 67.7 Db

From woods 60.2 Db

- Ambient Noise level 59.8 Db
- Whoop 63.4 Db

Woods No register

Again, the listening team understood now, that if they hadn't been prepared for the wood knock to have occurred, they wouldn't have paid much attention to the sound if they had been in the woods researching, the noise of the knock over the ambient noise (breeze, bugs, frogs, etc.) covered over the sound of the knock.

The final distance was 311 yards (933 feet), and at this distance, the results showed that the sounds decibel readings was diminishing greatly to the point that the call blasting and the vocalizations carried well, but the knocks didn't.

- Ambient noise level 50.1 Db
- Cedar Wood Knock None
- Ambient noise level 45.5 Db
- Oak Wood Knock None
- Ambient Noise 65.7 Db

Red percussion block 67.3 Db

From woods 61 Db ambient noise

- Ambient Noise level 63 Db

Green percussion block 66.3 Db

From woods 53.4 Db ambient noise

- Call Blast 66.4 Db
- Call Blast from woods 64.1
- Ambient noise level 59.3 Db
- Whoop 61.3 Db

From woods ambient noise level 53.2 Db

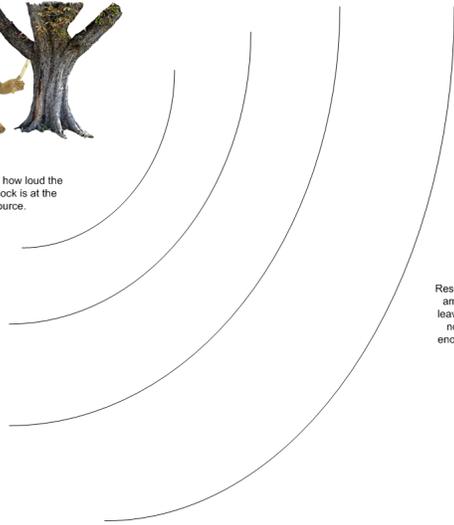
From the data acquired in the first round of the experiment, it was clear that a tree knock doesn't carry as far as previously speculated.



Project Silent Hills (cont.)



96 Db is how loud the wood knock is at the source.



Researcher is 1000 feet away, with ambient noise (noise from wind, leaves and insects) of 50 Db, the noise of the wood knock is not enough to overcome the loudness of the ambient sound. The researcher can't hear it.



The graphics presented here attempt to give you some perspective visually to what is happening when the wood knock is being done, as the distance between the knocker and the listener increases, so do the sound waves to the point that they fade away.

The flags to the right, illustrate the distances and how the wood knocks were barely audible over the ambient noise of the woods, it was only because the listening post team was expecting the wood knock that they heard it.



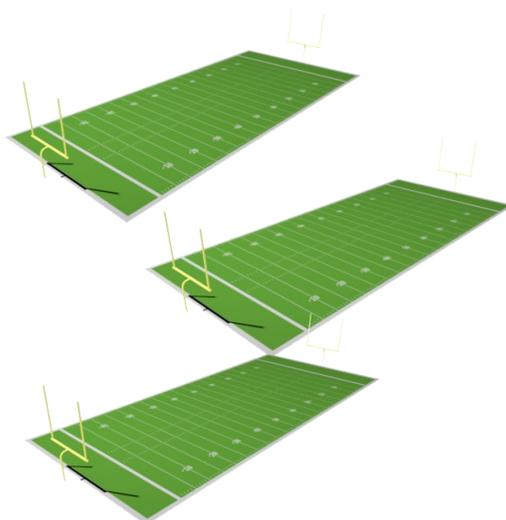
135 Yards = 405 Feet Barely Audible over Ambient Noise



219 Yards = 657 Feet Barely Audible over Ambient Noise, only because listening team was listening for it.



311 Yards = 933 Feet Only heard the wood knock because the listening team was expecting it.



Three football fields lined end to end is nearly a 1000 feet, this should give you some perspective of the final distance that was used on the last round of the test.

Conclusion:

The data clearly shows that the wood knocks occur closer than most researchers have originally believed. If you hear a loud wood knock, it's within 200 feet or less from you. If you can hear the wood knock at all, it's within 1,000 feet of your position.

The use of the percussion blocks have produced sounds that have been heard at greater distances, but from comments made from the base camp, nearly a mile away from the test site, the knocks caused by the blocks sounded like plastic being used to produce the knocks.

The vocalization used by the call blaster was the Ohio Howl, and was clearly heard up to a mile away by the base camp, this shows that the vocalization does carry further, and further research needs to be done on this part of the experiment.

Participants Comments :

Comments from some of the participants. Their observations, critiques, suggestions and more are posted on the next few pages.

Randy "Rebelistic" Savig

Needless to say this was a very eye opening experience. None of the luster was lost from when Bernie and I did it back in February. At

that time there was no leaves on the trees and there was no wind. So the noise travel was further than during the experiment at the expedition. This whole thing started with us after we had a complete dead night in the woods. I had a remote recorder set up about a mile from camp. At the end of the night I did a couple of howls and knocked 3 times on three different trees to be able to hear the different sounds the trees would make. When doing the audio review the howls came out loud and clear, but even turning up the gain the knocks were not heard.

One thing that was really interesting to me is that the tones of the knocks doesn't change when different trees are used. Only the volume changes. My conclusion to that is that the knocker us what is setting the tone.

For me it begs the question on to whether these critters are actually knocking wood with wood or if another mechanics is being used. There has been some reports of Bigfoots seem with sticks or clubs but they are limited. With the leaf litter and ambient noises of the typical summer night I suspect that they are a lot closer then even our numbers that were collected during the experiment.

One other thing I would like to see is that other groups try this experiment as for me my ears tell me a lot more than the numbers do. I think if they would experience this type of things it will have as huge of an impact on them as it did me. We never did try this experiment with rock clacking but I know it would have similar results. Folks if you hear knocks or clacks, you'd better pay attention as they could literally be feet away. I also would like to see this type of thing done during each expedition as it would give the researchers a baseline to consider these types of vocalizations during the seasons of the year and terrain as each will be unique. We may also want to do a perimeter walk around camp to get a baseline for bipedal foot steps if they would occur around camp during the expedition.

Mark "Sawdustt" Newbill

Since coming home from camp and reflecting on the deception of what I thought the results of the experiment results would be and how it is obvious the experiment needs to be done again with different variables (seasons, weather, regions and so on) I keep going back to that tree falling where Mike, Robert and Izzy went to experience the sounds for themselves. It's odd to me

Project Silent Hills (cont.)

that the others didn't even hear the tree fall. Is it a coincidence that the tree fell that close to them when the vocal blast was that of a believed wounded Bigfoot or the next day another tree fell in the same location but across the road?

What if the next time the Project Silent Hill Experiment is being conducted we could use members for surveillance with whatever tools we have at our disposal?

Examples-Trail cameras or members hidden on adjacent roads to see if we were drawing a creature in. Someone monitoring the area with parabolics or setting out recorders prior to the experiment. A drone in the sky monitoring a larger area.

I just hope I'm at the next Project Silent Hill.

Robert "Laughsquatch"
Swain

APES members were very excited and honored to be a part of such a ground breaking experiment.

Know-

ing the limits of our field research does not limit us but opens doors of opportunity and understanding. I was amazed at how limited the level of audio sounds are in the forest. It is evident by this experiment that the sounds that we hear and record are much, much closer to our ears and recorders than previously thought. That is exciting and unsettling at the same time!

I would like to have extended the experiment farther than 311 yards. Especially since some of the sounds were actually heard at base camp one quarter mile away. Perhaps the distance should be extended until the sounds cannot be heard.

I was glad that I had the opportunity to contribute my call blast equipment to the experiment. I have several calls recorded on my MP3 player. The first call in the list is the Ohio Howl which is a 1970's recording of a supposedly wounded creature calling out from a gravel quarry. It really does sound like a wounded animal in a creepy way. We repeatedly played this call several times

(eleven times if I counted correctly) simply because it was first in line. I believe that by using this call that we may have called in a concerned creature to our location.

When Mike, Izzy and myself were at the 933 feet location when we heard a large, heavy tree crash down right within the tree line (possibly 50 ft.). It was a very odd coincidence for a tree to fall that close to us during the experiment.

But to find a second tree fallen in the road the next morning at the same location should give one pause to think that this was not a random act. The next night (Sunday night) we all heard a third tree fall during the middle of the night. Three trees within a 30 hour window within a quarter mile area is very uncanny!

Another thought is that if the experiment did bring in a Bigfoot, the creature must have been very close to us to hear the wood knocks, audio calls and call blast. Perhaps it was watching us conduct the experiment. I also wondered if it was a coincidence that since I was the one operating the call blast of the wounded

creature that the tree crashed down where I was at.

A few things that I think need to happen are the experiment needs to be repeated multiple times. Different seasons, different weather conditions i.e. wind, rain, snow (falling and on the ground), day and night. Also, rock clacks should be added to the list of sounds. I also think that an experiment using bionic ear and parabolic mics verses the naked year. In that same vein, it would be interesting to test the digital recorders we use verses our naked ears. Although I see no scientific way to measure this, it would also be interesting to see how different sounds are picked up by young ears verses old guys like us. What are we not hearing?!

Please know that APES will participate in any further experiments and expeditions of this caliber!

Photos from the experiment:

The location of the experiment, it was a stretch of road that gave maximum viewing between the sound team and the listening team.

The photo below shows the teams getting prepared for the start of the experiment.



During the experiment, in this general area, numerous researchers heard a tree fall off to the south of their position while listening for the tree knocks and vocalizations. The next day, 2 researchers went to town for more ice, as they returned not more than 40 minutes later, this tree was laying across the road. It took 3 researchers to pull it back enough for vehicles to pass safely by a day later. Later that day when it was discovered, several animals approached the camp, crawling through the underbrush.

Project Silent Hills (cont.)



That night, wood knocks were heard around the camp, and late that night, activity occurred within the camp after everyone settled in for the night.

The next night:

The experiment was done on Saturday, and little activity occurred on that night, as audio recorders were placed far from the campsite.

On Sunday, a tree was discovered across the road leading into the camp area as two researchers returned from getting ice.



As the researchers sat in camp, (due to the heavy rains) movement was heard around the eastern side of the camp, with vegetation moving from something crawling through it. The researchers watched the area in question, but did not approach the area. The goal was for the local creatures to come back later that night and perhaps be seen on the thermal camera recording the camp that night.

Throughout the afternoon and evening, wood knocks were heard all around the camp, especially from across the pond situated on the west side of the camp.

Later that night, movement was detected around a tent, along with a possible mimic of coughing. A loud crash also sounded near camp, and surveying with the thermal did not find anything to note.

Phase 2—Silent Hills Project

The MABRC returned to the same location to conduct more experiments for the Silent Hills Project on Jan 16, 2016. Robert “Laughsquatch” Swain was unable to attend due to medical issues but sent his call blaster with Mark “Sawdustt” Newbill who served as the APES representative for the project.

Absent too was Randy “Rebelistic” Savig who was also dealing with medical issues at the time.

Temperature was 38 degrees F. and this would be a test to see if the absence of ambient noise and cooler temperatures would allow the sound to carry further.

Participants were:

- Mike “CompresserMike” Hartsell
- Dave “Squatchfinder” Ganote
- Mark “Sawdustt” Newbill
- Bobbie “Cherokee Rose” Lee
- D.W. “Darkwing” Lee

The base readings were taken:

- Ambient 24 23 23
- Cedar 66 68 69
- Oak 65 63 55
- Green Block 79 68 63
- Call Blast 92 89 93 (Device set for 14 on the volume control)
- Vocalization 90 89 86.5

The listening team went a distance of 135 yards (405 feet), here are the results in DBA, the averages are not given here as the raw data has been supplied.

- Ambient 23 24 23
- Cedar 34 37 33
- Cedar in woods 36 33 35
- Oak 34 33 32
- Oak in woods 32 29 30
- Green Block 53 47 46
- Green Block in woods 30 37 38
- Call Blast 50 52 49
- Call Blast in woods 50 50 47.5
- Vocalization 54 53 55

Then 219 Yards (657 feet).

- Ambient 26 27 26
- Cedar 0 0 27
- Cedar in woods 0 0 0
- Oak 0 0 0
- Oak in woods 0 0 0
- Green Block 35 34 36.5
- Green Block in woods 30 29 28
- Call Blast 32 32 38
- Vocalization 35 31 30

0 means that it did not clear over the ambient noise levels, the only reason the listening team heard the knocks, was because they anticipated them and was listening

intently for them.

311 yards (933 feet) was then tested.

- Ambient 23 22 22
- Cedar 0 0 0
- Cedar in woods 0 0 0
- Oak 0 0 0
- Oak in woods 0 0 0
- Green Block 26 0 24
- Call blasting 27 24 23
- Vocalizations 25 24 0

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On the Memorial Day expedition, the call blasting was heard at Base Camp during the experiment. Road distance is 7/10 miles, while by direct distance it's 6/10 miles.

To test the distance it could be heard during colder weather, Cherokee Rose and Darkwing returned to Base Camp and listened for several minutes before Darkwing started traveling back towards the experiment Base site. At the 3/10 mile mark, Darkwing was finally able to hear the call blasting.

Project Silent Hills (cont.)

From what was observed from the experiment in Phase 2, the cold adversely affects the distance that the wood knocks and vocalizations can travel. Leading the field team to deduce that the vocalization heard the night before was even closer than originally thought. The cold actually halved the distance on all knocks and vocals.

Phase 3 will now be planned out, in it, we will be seeing what the distance decibel ranges are using parabolics and recorders of various types and makes. To see the difference in each according to sound.

Phase 3 - Utilizing parabolics and recorders to see how the sound is affected at the distances.

Below is the readings taken with the decibel reader. We are still evaluating the audio recorded by the parabolics and will post that soon.

Project Silent Hills

Date and time: May 28, 2016

Temp: 79 degrees F

Humidity: 63%

Participants:

- D.W. "Darkwing" Lee
- Bobbie "Cherokee Rose" Lee
- Randy "Rebelistic" Savig
- Dave "Squatchfinder" Ganote
- Mike "CompresserMike" Hartsell
- Mark "Sawdustt" Newbill
- Carissa "Splatter" Schulze
- Blaine "Deer Slayer" Schulze
- Dave "Superdave" Jett
- Robert "Laughsquatch" Swain
- Jamie Swain
- Alexis "Blue Eyes" Mathis
- Shelly Read

Base Settings

- Oak 95.6 97.2 103.5
- Cedar 107.4 107.6 107.7
- Green Block 107 111.9 110.5
- Mike 114.8 114.3 116
- Randy 111.7 114.5 117.8
- Call Blast 115.4 116.6 112.4

135 yards (405 feet)

- Oak 43.7 54.2 60.6
- Cedar 61.7 58.8 56.7
- Green Block 68.6 52.5 70.8
- Mike 69 63.2 63.1
- Randy 65.9 64.9 65.9
- Call Blaster 64.1 66.3 62.7

229 yards (687 feet)

- Oak 48.5 50.4 46.2
- Cedar 47 45.8 48.1
- Green Block 65.9 62.9 64.7
- Mike 61.6 59.7 56.3
- Randy 62.4 63.7 61.3
- Call Blaster 56.5 54.8 59.1

411 Yards (1233 feet)

- Oak 43.8 43.6 45.1
- Cedar 42.7 0 43.4
- Green Block 52.7 56.1 56.3
- Mike 56.2 55.6 55.7
- Randy 65.9 55 58.3
- Call Blast 46.7 50.3 55.5

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Project Silent Hills Conclusion

Needless to say, this experiment was an eye opener for those researchers who participated. In the past, when wood knocks and vocalizations were heard, the estimation of distance was exaggerated by as much as 10 times what it actually was. This experiment has shown that wood knocks are within the 1,000 foot radius of the researcher themselves, as anything over that distance would be lost in the ambient noise during the spring and summer, while the distance that the sounds carry in the winter time is halved that of what it is in warmer weather.

I would like to give special thanks to Randy Savig and Bernie Wall for putting the thought into this issue that

has been facing the Bigfoot Community, yet, no one ever took the time to measure the distances related to these types of sounds.

I also need to thank the MABRC and APES members who attended the expeditions to conduct these experiments. The amount of field research during these expeditions were minimal as we sought to focus on the experiments.

So in the future, when you are in the woods researching and you hear a loud, clear wood knock, realize that it's within a few hundred feet of where you currently stand. Chances are, the Bigfoot is in a location where he can easily see you.

For more details, visit the MABRC website and forum. www.mabrc.com



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Facebook



Planet Bigfoot

The Traverspine Gorilla

In the early 1900's, in the cold north of Canada, a young girl playing outside her home had an experience that would undoubtedly leave many individuals frightened, confused, and unsettled. The strange incident - which has gone on to become one of the more unique types of encounters on record - involved what is believed by many to be an extremely curious and disturbingly "friendly" bigfoot.

Reported to have taken place in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador, sometime between 1903 and 1913, the encounter primarily centered around a family by the name of Michelin. This family would go on to claim that after the first encounter involving their young daughter, the creature would stick around in their lives for nearly two years before mov-

ing on.

The following information about the creature forever known as The Traverspine Gorilla comes from the 1933 book "True North", the autobiography of author Elliot Merrick.

In his book, Merrick tells of leaving his job and home in New Jersey to live and work in the remote communities of Labrador. While only 24 at the time and working as an unpaid volunteer, Merrick documented his experiences working with trappers, traders, and the local Native Americans. During his stay in Labrador, Merrick collected a variety of stories regarding life in the vast, unforgiving Canadian wilderness at the time. But one story manages to stick out above all the others, the story involving the bigfoot.

The story begins on an Autumn afternoon with one of the Michelin's daughters playing not too far from the Traverspine River in a field bordering a thick tree line. While the young girl (whose name has been lost to history) played in the grass, she started to hear the sound of heavy footsteps approaching from within the forest in front of her. Curious, the girl sat up and stared into the wall of trees, waiting to see what was approaching. As she listened and watched, she began to see a large dark shape getting closer to the field. Becoming more and more nervous as the seconds passed, the girl slowly rose to her feet without breaking eye contact with the large shadow in front of her. As she calmly started to step backwards, the large shape began to emerge from the trees.

The Traverspine Gorilla (cont.)

The young girl stood frozen in shock as she watched a large, dark haired, gorilla-like creature walk out of the woods on all fours. Unable to move out of fear, the girl stared as the creature rose up from all fours and proceeded to stand on two legs. While in this position, the girl was able to see that what she originally thought were front legs, were actually large arms that hung down past the creature's knees. She also noticed that on the top of its head and around its neck, there appeared to be white hair that somewhat resembled a shaggy mane.

Quickly realizing that she may possibly be in danger, the girl mustered up the courage to continue backing away from the unknown creature. As she began to move though, the beast turned its head to stare directly at her, opened its large mouth and smiled at the girl in an unnervingly creepy way while showing its large teeth in the process. Terrified now, the girl turned to run, but

just before she did, she watched as the creature raised its large hand and motioned for her to come closer. Not wanting to stick around any longer, the girl let out a scream and ran as fast as she could back home. The creature continued to smile and stare.

Upon arriving back at home, the young girl quickly told her father about what she had encountered. The father, along with other men from the area, took up arms and headed to the location where his daughter had seen the beast.

When the group arrived though, the creature was nowhere to be seen. But after searching the area for proof, the men discovered large, two-toed tracks that measured nearly 12in long and were pressed deep into the dirt. Now truly convinced that what the young girl had seen was real, the group returned to their homes and began to secure their houses for the night in case the creature came

back.

While the creature did not return to the area that night, it did show up a few days later. That evening around dusk, the second Michelin daughter played in one of the rooms with the two family dogs. As the girl ran around chasing the pets, she happened to catch sight of a large creature staring into one of the home windows. The child promptly let out a shriek and cried out for her mother to hurry. The dogs began barking loudly at the window. Unaware of the reason for the commotion, Mrs. Michelin ran into the room to see what was the matter. Immediately as she entered, she too caught sight of the large, nearly 7ft tall, white-maned creature staring into the home with a large hand now pressed on the glass.

Without hesitation, Mrs. Michelin grabbed the hunting rifle that was kept in the home and

ran toward the front door. As if driven by pure adrenaline and instinct to protect her children, Mrs. Michelin opened the door and fired a shot in the direction of the creature, sadly though, she missed. The creature turned, dropped onto all fours, and fled back into the woods as the protective mother fired another shot, but again she had missed. While reloading, the woman watched as the white mane of the creature disappeared into the trees, the two dogs behind her continued barking wildly.

With gun in hand Mrs. Michelin stepped outside to inspect the area as the dogs sniffed around while on high alert. As she scanned the ground beneath her, she noticed that pressed into the dirt around the home, there were the same large two toed tracks her husband and the other men had discovered down by the Traverspine River. Realizing she had encountered the same creature that had approached her daughter, the woman took one last look around and went back inside. That night, with the family all together, the Michelin's slept upstairs as a group. They brought with them two guns and an axe; the front door was secured with a thick wooden beam. The dogs slept downstairs and guarded the windows and door. If the creature came back that night,

they would be ready.

A few days passed before the creature came around yet again, this time at night though. As the family slept, their loyal dogs kept watch outside. The creature, quite possibly not aware the dogs were there, approached the house as it did so before. But this time, the dogs ran towards it before it could get to the window. As the dogs barked loudly and kept the creature away from the house, the family inside the home woke up. Mr. Michelin ran to the window and watched as the dogs approached the creature to drive it further away from the home. But as it got closer to the trees, the beast cracked a large branch off a tree and began swinging it at the dogs. Undeterred though, the dogs continued to guard the house.

Appearing to become more upset at the obstacle in front of it, the creature hurled the large branch at the angry dogs. Missing it's intended target, the branch collided with the home. Watching from behind the glass, Mr. Michelin readied his gun. Not wanting his dogs to end up dead, and hoping to possibly end this once and for all, he opened the door and prepared to take a shot. The creature, momentarily breaking its attention away from the dogs,

turned and looked at Mr. Michelin standing in the doorway. As if remembering what had happened last time, the creature immediately turned away, dropped onto all fours and fled the area. The dogs followed quickly behind. Mr. Michelin kept watch the rest of the night until his dogs returned a few hours later. The pair were battered and quite wet, but they had survived. It was thought that the loyal pets had either chased the creature through the Traverspine River, or had been tossed in during the second scuffle. Either way, they had driven the creature away.

As winter approached in the following weeks, the dogs were brought back inside. The family had assumed that the creature would no longer be coming around for fear of not only the dogs, but also the weapons inside. It had been a while since anything happened and they honestly believed their encounters with the beast were done, but what they didn't realize was that this creature was just as determined to get close to the house, as they were to keep it away from the house.

In the following days the creature appeared yet again outside

The Traverspine Gorilla (cont.)

the home at night. At this point it appeared to be following a set routine of sorts; it would start by walking the parameter of the house, would then move on to looking in the windows, and would finish up by tapping on the glass. The dogs went wild inside the home like usual, barking and growling at the beast outside. They appeared to have developed a sixth sense for when the creature was near. Mr. and Mrs. Michelin gathered their children like usual upstairs and kept watch for the rest of the night, the guns and axes close by in case they were needed. When the creature grew tired of creeping around it would lumber off back into the woods.

This routine continued well throughout the winter and into the next year. The creature, on no schedule but it's own, would show up every once in a while and would poke around the house before retreating back to the woods.

It was always the same thing; the creature shows up at night, the family is awoken and arms themselves, the dogs guard the house, the creature leaves. This started happening so frequently that the family eventually grew accustomed to never leaving their property without their weapons and even grew to tolerate the barking of the dogs on the nights the creature decided to come around, they had learned to just live with it. This continued for over two years before the creature finally stopped coming around all together and was never seen in the area again.

The Michelin's never found out why The Traverspine Gorilla stopped coming to their home, but they weren't

going to complain. They had finally gotten the peace they had so desperately desired after two long years. They also never figured out why it had chosen them in the first place. Out of everywhere this thing could have gone, why did it pick them? Was it because it felt it had formed a connection with the daughter? Was it curious about how many people were inside the home because it saw someone new every time? Perhaps these were actually the first people it had ever seen and it was interested in learning more about them? Or maybe this is nothing more than a good story told to a young man far away from home.

Play Me Something Cool!



Written by
Randy
"Rebelistic"
Savig, MABRC
Missouri State
Director

You know I wish I had a dime for every time I've heard this sentiment. When it comes to bigfoot the public and wanna believers seem to only want the great videos, pictures and audio. They want the Oohhs and aahhs so they can say they now know bigfoot is real. Details don't matter as long as it is cool! So here goes a couple of questions, does this help research or get us closer to proving the existence of an undocumented species? Is it only the cool stuff that matters?

With humans being so used to be entertained by all the available media out there it is hard to suffice the appetite for being entertained. Sadly, real research seldom sees the cool stuff when they go out. There are the hours in the woods. There are the hours of review. There are hours of planning. There are the hours of try to put patterns together to make the time in the woods more productive. On and on it goes. Another sad fact is that what is cool to researchers ain't always what is cool to the public. You bet we love to hear and record the screams etc., see the possible structures or

manipulations, or get lucky enough to catch something on video or thermal. Yes, we also appreciate the pat on the back when we do catch something from the public and other researchers. Unfortunately for a lot of folks the Oohhs and Aahhs become addictive. I think that is why there is such a hoaxing problem that we see every day on Facebook and Youtube. It would seem like once you put something out there that is cool and possibly bigfoot related the public's appetite just gets bigger. At times it seems that they get demanding and what more from you. Any researcher worth their salt know that we spend a whole lot more time without the so-called cool stuff happening. We still do the planning, head to the woods, review what we have recorded, try and figure out things. But we don't get the Oohhs and Aahhs from that. I've seen so many get into the trap of letting the notoriety get in the way and try and force things to happen. If that fails, try and hype up the stuff that does happen just because they feel an obligation to fulfill the public's appetite for so something cool. I've seen scary bigfoot pictures added to audio, scary background music during talks about experiences, all in hopes of feeding

the public's hunger. Sorry folks, that doesn't do much but muddy the waters and takes away from the research. All those scary pictures and music won't help find the evidence needed to prove the existence of bigfoot.

Now don't get me wrong, I realize that folks are interested in bigfoot. When putting presentation on for conferences and radio shows we need to share the cool stuff we get as that is what folks want when attending them. Just don't let the cool stuff be all that you are after. The data is in the details. The little stuff. I can't even begin to state the importance of how sharing the little stuff around campfires has made new ideas and filled in the blank to help others in researching their areas.

So, one final thought. As a researcher is your priority to the insatiable hunger of the public or to adding to the possible evidence to further push the existence for an undocumented species, we call bigfoot.

Bigfoot Field Guide Radio Show Archives

The Bigfoot Field Guide Radio Show Archives are back online thanks to the help of Don Lee, who had downloaded copies of the show previously. Talkshoe, the hosting company used by the MABRC for the radio show had sold out to another company and in the process of moving stuff around, cratered their archives of all the old shows from many radio shows.

You can follow the link below to access the entire archive. Happy Listening.

<https://www.talkshoe.com/show/the-bigfoot-field-guide>





Now this may throw a lot of folks for a loop, as we talk about the possibility of Bigfoot marking the structures usually associated with them with scent.

As always, it's only speculation on the part of researchers that Bigfoot makes these various structures out in the woods, because to date, no one has brought forth evidence to prove that Bigfoot makes anything in the woods.

A few years ago, MABRC Executive Director Darkwing was talking with MABRC Researcher Splatter when she asked how does Bigfoot find these markers at night or in the dense vegetation that many times we find these structures in.

Splatter resorted to her experience as a dog trainer to explain a theory she had about these structures. That Big-

foot, like any other animal, is marking these structures with scent, enabling them to find them at night or in the dense underbrush.

She gave many examples of how sensitive the noses of dogs are, and why couldn't Bigfoot have enough sensitivity in their noses to detect another Bigfoot's scent on markers.

The first example she gave was concerning the training of dogs to detect leaks on underground oil pipelines. By using clothespins, the trainers had applied a tiny drop of oil on the pins and trained the dogs to sniff them out. When they had finished training the dogs, one of the handlers had thrown an old pin about 50 feet from the pipeline. Whenever the dogs reached that particular part of the pipeline, they would veer off and head for that pin. Finally realizing what the cause of the dog's

distraction was, the trainers took the clothespin in and had it tested on the machine to see how many millionths of oil was still on this pin, that had been in the weather for several months. The machine couldn't detect the trace elements on this pin, but the dogs could still detect it.

Another example was a bloodhound named Yogi, who worked with the police to find missing people. A young girl had disappeared and the handler of Yogi walked him around the area until Yogi picked up the scent. Now here is where it gets interesting, Yogi led the searchers up to the interstate where he proceeded to walk along the highway, passing several off-ramps and continuing down the road.

The police thought that Yogi could be mistaken on the trail he was taking, so they skipped the next off-ramp by loading Yogi up in a car. Letting him out at the next off-ramp, he let them know the trail was cold, whoever had taken the girl had used the off-ramp they had bypassed. Once taking Yogi back to that off-ramp, he took to the trail again and led the searchers to a wooded area where it was combed and the little girls remains were discovered.

Yogi had picked up the girl's scent as her skin cells had gotten picked up in the car's ventilation system and was expelled outside the car. His nose was so fine-tuned that he could follow it through the traffic to where the girl was finally discovered.

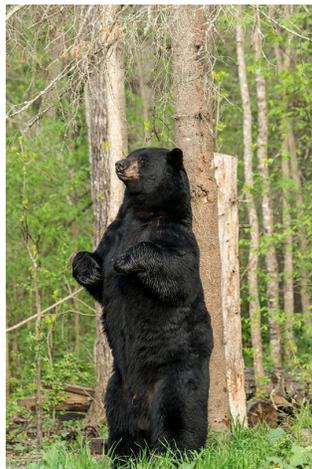
For more about Yogi, Google Yogi the bloodhound.

Domesticated animals are notorious for marking their territory, and will go remark their territory should they smell another animal's scent in their area. Have you ever watched a dog in it's yard sniffing around, it's not just doing this to find a good place to use the bathroom, it's detecting if other dogs have been in it's yard, and if it discovers that there has been, they will urinate and poop

on top of that dog's scent. The same with cats, they will put their scent on top of another cat's scent anytime they encounter it.

Have you ever had a cat rub up on your leg before? It's not to show you affection, they are marking you as there property with their scent.

Pandas actually hike up their hind quarters onto a tree to rub their glands against it to mark their territory, other bears rub themselves on trees, while different primates rub various parts of their body on rocks, trees, bushes and more to stake out their territory.



Scent Markers (cont.)

This continued into a discussion for several months between Darkwing and Splatter about the use of scent, and Darkwing presented it to the MABRC as a working theory with Splatter credited with bringing it forth.

Things took a turn towards proving this theory as having substantial footing when during the Bennett Springs, Missouri MABRC/ MAPS expedition, Senior Field Researcher Randy "Rebelistic" Savig was walking along with others on the expedition showing them different signs to look for when he come across a horrible odor. Looking around, he couldn't figure out why he was smelling it until he looked above his eyesight line and discovered a directional stick high up in a tree. By his own admission, he would have never been looking up and seen that directional marker if he hadn't smelled something. He also noted that during the dark, you wouldn't be able to see this marker un-

less the sky behind it was lit up fairly well with a bright moon.

If Bigfoot is traveling through the woods at night, it is only reasonable to assume that they would be watching the ground and their surroundings at eye level, not walking around looking up continuously to look for markers. Scent markers left at the base of the tree would give them a sign to look around for the marker, and then they would be able to see the directional marker high up in the tree.

What kind of scent markers are Bigfoot leaving? Most primates use their scent glands to rub on trees and bushes, while nearly every animal uses urine, feces, scent off their fur. We also know that animals go around and rescent their spots, watch your dog in the yard, they will go over the same spots they have marked over and over again, to reinforce the scent as it fades.

The MABRC has been working on finding a way to do scent detection on these markers, however, the machines used

by the oil companies to detect the odor of oil or natural gas is expensive, and as for training dogs to look for the scents, you must first have the right scents to train them with.

The question now becomes, how do we prove this theory? The MABRC is working on collecting samples from the base of these structures when encountered, in an attempt to see if an odor can be detected. With time and due diligence, it may be determined what scent is being used on which structure or marker.

So remember, when you are in the woods researching and you come across a marker, check for any scents that you may smell. The same for scents, if you smell something that you can identify, look around and see if there is a marker nearby, you may be surprised to find something there.

For more information, check out the MABRC Forums.

2020 Oklahoma Bigfoot Symposium

The 2020 Oklahoma Bigfoot Symposium has been set for March 7-8, 2020 at CC Camp just south of Stilwell, Oklahoma. From this location, you can actually look out over a MABRC Research area, camp out with MABRC researchers, sit out on a listening post and then gather around the campfire to listen to the MABRC Bigfoot Researchers discuss everyone's favorite subject. Who knows, Bigfoot may put in an appearance. During the day, speakers at the Symposium will give presentations about research and Bigfoot for everyone to check out. Make plans now to attend.

For more information, check out the website at <http://www.okbfsymposium.com>



Hey, I am Gonna start a Bigfooting Group!!

Written by Randy "Rebelistic" Savig,
MABRC Missouri State Director

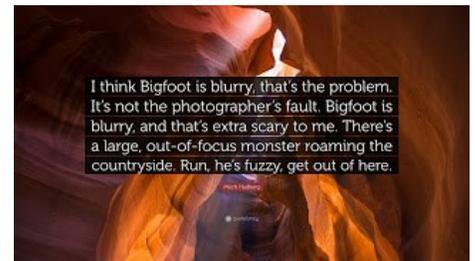


I've become fascinated with the Bigfoot TV shows and all the Facebook groups make it look so easy so I'm going to start my own group! I've got a perfect location and I'm sure nobody is doing it there or it would be on Facebook right? And I've got a ton of ideas that I've come up with! I'm so excited to get into the woods and find their signs, collect audio, and most likely get one on video or a picture. Wow this is going to be cool!!

If I had a dime for every time I've seen or heard this, I'd be able to buy a ton of equipment to take into the woods. I think Bigfoot research has become what ghost hunting has. Let me explain a bit. If you just watch the TV stuff and think it is really what happens out there you need to reconsider your thoughts. Folks, this is for entertainment. PERIOD! Not every spooky looking house in the world is haunted by evil ghosts or demons. The ghost hunting shows made it look so easy that everyone wanted to try it. You could go on the internet and buy all types of fancy ghost hunting equipment to guarantee you'd find a ghost. And when folks went out there,

they showed them with a camera filming themselves running out of a house screaming because the old floor creaked which they knew was a demon or evil ghost coming to inflict all sorts of ills upon them, just like they do on TV. Tons and tons of natural things became ghosts because well, it had to be. I mean they were out ghost hunting, right? Video and camera artifacts automatically became normal things posted as true and real ghosts. Every sound recorded was a ghost saying this or that. People wanted it so bad that they actually went out of their way to hear things in what was actually natural sounds or recording artifacts. So, what has happened? Something that I feel should be truly researched and documented and could have some real discoveries won't be taken serious by science because of all the garbage out there.

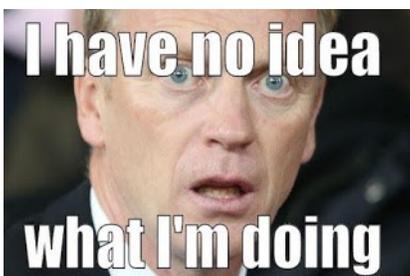
So now that very few people think ghost are real and science won't even look at the actual evidence of potential ghostly activities, it has pretty much fallen to the side of being a joke. All the serious researchers and even scientists that were involved in long time research have seemed to disappear. Some of the places that did have what appeared to be legitimate haunting activities have closed access because of all the negative experiences they have had from all these "groups of real ghost hunters" that came in. Some were even destroyed just to avoid the harassment and trespass that was going on. All that potential evidence gone forever.



Sadly, this appears where Bigfoot research is going if not already there. It seems like everyday we see or hear of a "new" bigfoot group that has all these "new" ideas and all these fuzzy, grainy pictures and shaky videos of the "real" bigfoot that are out there. Auto focus and facial recognition stuff in cameras is great stuff ain't it? When looking for faces you will find them even if they aren't there. All the audio that is collected out there that just has to be bigfoot because this "new group" is out there looking for it, so it must be. And the sad fact is people who want to believe in Bigfoot ooh and ahh it as absolute proof and stroke the egos of these "new group's new ideas" that work every time they hit the woods. And folks wonder why people are wanting to hoax things so that they can be an expert? They want the oohs and ahhs too. Folks that strive for attention can sure get it when saying bigfoot no matter how outlandish it is. We constantly see pictures repeat themselves over and over that is supposed to be taken yesterday by a buddy's game cam of a real bigfoot. Whether it is the one who posted it that was hoaxing it or one of his buddies is trying to trick him, the results are the same. Arguments, hurt feeling, name calling, and it usually ends with something to the effect of if you
(cont. next page)

Bigfooting Group (cont.)

were got out and looked you'd know. It's a complete waste of research time. I think that a lot of folks that want to do honest research are driven away because of this sort of thing.



Now don't get me wrong, we need people out there to help solve this mystery and I'm all for that. But like ghost hunting, folks are doing it without researching what is already out there. The invent of the internet has really been a double-edged sword. One side is it's a great tool for learning what groups have done and using their experiences adding to the knowledge base. The other side is unfortunately where egos and popularity seem to be more important than anything else. Attention hungry people love to dazzle people with whatever they can pass off as real or get them the attention they seek. Facebook has not been beneficial to any type of mystery in my opinion. It's only on Facebook where you can go from ghost, to bigfoot, to alien, to telepathic being, to interdimensional entity, to inner earth being, all in the same post by all who are self-professed experts in the situation. And the scary part is that

they all have followers that will tear you to shreds if you dare ask how they came up with those conclusions. It's really amusing of how the answer "I just know" seems to be acceptable in those cult-like situations. God help you if you dare question the Bigfoot gods of these groups! It seems real troubling to me that the search for what appears to be an undocumented animal has turned into a religion! WOW.

As far as these great "New" ideas that seem to recirculate with just a little research you can find out what results have been done in the past with them. One that was put out there again recently was the "Crying Baby" recording being played in the woods to attract a possible response. Yep. Its been done and definitely had results. The original poster had this thought that it may attract a female bigfoot through her maternal instincts. It sure could if one was in the area. However, with a little research you'll also find out that the audio is very close to a fawn in distress, so it also could bring in predators looking for an easy meal. Bears, wolves, coyotes and even possible bigfoot could be drawn to your location so, IF you use it you had better be prepared for the outcome!

I recorded some vocalizations a few years back that I really think would draw them in, but I honestly am afraid to use it as it appears by the situation to be a territory dispute. I may be fairly gutsy out there, but I sure don't want to

challenge them to territory! So, as of yet we haven't tried it. Another recent "New" idea was walking with a camera mounted to see behind you. This gal went absolutely ballistic when she was told that it has and is being done as part of research. It was sad and comical all at the same time to see the responses on that post from folks. The orneriness I wanted to post "yep, it was her New Idea that the captured interdimensional sasquatch we got last week was used to transport us into the future and steal that New Idea and transport back years ago and implement just so she couldn't take credit for it!" I seriously fear that someone may have believed it as a fact! At the MABRC we have used for years the saying of thinking outside the box, but I think that has been taken as a challenge by some folks who don't know what a box is.



So, if you aren't into bigfoot to try and make a name for yourself, seek attention, or stroke your ego and just want to help try and

prove the existence of an undocumented critter, what should you do? Join a group? If so what group? These can actually be easily answered. Do your research. How long has the group been around? What possible evidence have they shared? Are they close enough for you to easily participate? Do they have enough people to help with analyzing possible evidence you collect? What is the group's goals in research? Don't look for the perfect group because there are none. Each has folks with egos. Each has some members that don't get along with members of other groups. Do they have info on their websites that shows what they do? What they have found? When you find one that seems to fit for you, humbly join it. My personal advice would also be to stay off Facebook unless you look at it the same way you do the TV shows, as entertainment! Don't get me wrong there is some actual good information there, but you usually must wade through two tons of bull crap to find it and for me it is not worth my research time to do it.

What is wrong with a new group? Actually, nothing really, except that you'd be starting at ground zero just like every group out there did. Having the support and knowledge with a group of more seasoned researchers can be a huge asset to you. You can just get a quicker understanding of what seems to work best. You have other eyes and ears to help you understand what is what. Not every person can have a good understanding of possible tracks, tracking, possible structures, photo analysis, video analysis, audio analysis,

etc., and so on. Another thing to consider. Is a group already actively researching the area your "new group" wants to research? The MABRC and APES holds a Fouke Expedition every year, that is one of those hot areas that a lot of folks want to research. It is one of the areas that anyone wants to experience where the Fouke Monster was as their curiosity of Bigfoot began from the famous movie. To keep from having contamination of the possibility of recording other researchers call blasts as possible evidence a lot needs to be done to try and assure it least likely to happen. Planning, research areas less travelled, being able to control access to the area of research all play part of making it a hopefully contamination free expedition. Here's a scenario that would be devastating to the bigfoot community. Let's say two groups both want to research X river basin. Most likely it happens on a Friday or Saturday evening. Each set up on opposite sides of the river. Just over the bank and into the woods where neither can see the other. Both do some vocals and knocks. Each think that they are interacting with a possible bigfoot, but in reality, they are interacting with the other group. Both post it as a highly active weekend and what a great place they found. Did either hoax anything? Nope. Is any possible evidence collected over the weekend valid? Sadly, no unless the two groups can meet and compare all the evidence the other has and anything that isn't the exact sounds as they both did could be bigfoot related. But what would most likely happen is both groups would bad mouth

each other making a mockery out of the others and themselves. Tempers would flair and anyone in the scientific community that had a fleeting interest in either of the groups would run for the hills laughing at the amateurs now convinced that they are no bigfoot, just bigfooters making other bigfooters believe in bigfoot. I know it has happened before. A "New" group came into an area of another group and started the one up'em routine. Not only did bad mouthing and tempers flare, but deliberate misrepresenting possible evidence and even try in hoax the other so they could discredit the other group. And folks wonder why science doesn't take Bigfoot research seriously. Why would they?

There are a lot of groups out there that have been there for a long time. New blood in older groups is a great thing. Different perspectives from new folks helps keep the old timers on their toes. More ears, eyes, boots and equipment on the ground can take a mediocre expedition with minimal possible evidence and make it excellent just by adding fresh ideas. If you want to ask an old timer why they think the way they do, you can ask, question, and even challenge their ideas. It really is acceptable to do that. If you want to be respected, remember, respect is a two-way street. You have an idea. Share it. New ideas are always wanted. New possible evidence is always wanted. But it is paramount to be willing to change your perspective and thoughts if the evidence is there. Even if it is different than what you were expecting. Just because I think I know something doesn't make it fact. Fact is based on available evidence. And proving the existence of an undocumented animal doesn't happen by what we know, it happens on what we can prove as fact. And the reality is that facts don't care about feelings. So you still want to start a "New" Bigfoot group?



Research first before making claims that you came up with the idea first.

I have a great new idea!!!

Every so often on Facebook or on one of the few Bigfoot message boards still active, someone jumps up with what they claim is an original idea of their own to try in Bigfoot research. And every time, I have to shake my head, as the idea they come up with, has been tried by those in Bigfoot research before them. They either have seen the idea posted somewhere before, and try to pass it off as their own, or they just don't do any research to see if their idea has been tried before.

The latest "Great new idea" that is making the rounds, is to play a crying baby while researching. I've seen this appear on several Bigfoot Facebook groups, and some people were upset when it was noted that the MABRC had used the crying baby sounds back in 2007 onward. Here is the excerpt from my book, *Bigfoot Field Guide - Shadows in the night*, available on Amazon (Kindle Version here) (Paperback Version here)

"Arriving on site, we put all the windows down and began playing the cd at a high volume. It was nearly pitch black with the full moon beginning to rise behind us. After about 10 minutes in of playing the crying baby audio, on the

ridge line up the slope from us, we heard a vocalization, more like a roar. It's nearly a ¼ mile from the ridge line to the road, and we listened to something big coming crashing down the slope towards us.

I continued letting it play the audio, No Mercy kept asking me if it was time to turn it off, as we could hear the crashing over the crying. Finally the maker of all that crashing noise popped out on the road about 75 feet ahead of the vehicle. It was the white Bigfoot, and he stood on the road looking at the vehicle. I reached over and shut off the radio, the Bigfoot stood for several minutes looking at us still, before it turned and went back into the woods. No Mercy sat in silence for a few minutes before he caught his composure and uttered some of his most famous words. "We ain't playing the crying baby cd anymore." " This happened in 2006 on a personal level, but the next year in 2007, on the MABRC Memorial Day Expedition at Honobia, MABRC Junior Researcher Goose, along with myself and another researcher went out on a remote ridge line in an UTV at night, with no moon out. Using a call blaster, we played the crying

baby cd for nearly 15 minutes, and had multiple responses from the other ridges to the north of our location. It was quite the experience.

We've used it on other occasions too, in remote camps inside tents and even in our camps, it will draw in predators looking for an easy meal, but it has brought in Bigfoot checking out to see if an infant was in trouble or abandoned. Whether the Bigfoot was looking for a free meal or what, we will never know since putting a real human infant at risk is unfathomable to attempt.

So what does all this mean D.W.? It means, before you jump up and proclaim that you have a new idea, you should do some research to make sure it hasn't been tried before, and that way, you won't get hammered for trying to lay credit for something that has been done before. Can the MABRC claim this as their idea? No, we can't, because this was discussed on the old Bigfoot message boards back around 2001 to 2002, we were just one of the first to actually put it into practice and see the results.

Just do your research folks, it will prevent you major headaches in the future.



One possible Misidentification

Over the years, I have noticed a lot of pictures where the witness claimed there was a light brown Bigfoot in the picture, and after further evaluation it was determined to be a burned out cedar. Now Cedar trees can turn brown from disease and from dying out, much like any other tree can turn brown on certain limbs and can cause someone to misidentify what they see as a Bigfoot. Here are some photos for comparison of what I mean.



Winnipeg Free Press



Joining the MABRC as a member

What does it take to join the Mid-America Bigfoot Research Center as a member? Unlike other groups, we have no membership fees, everyone contributes what they can, when they can, and they subsidize their own research. From expeditions to conferences, the MABRC has a host of activities going on for its members, and members are also the first to see evidence submitted to the

MABRC before it's released to the public. To join as a member, go to the MABRC website and fill out the membership application, and once submitted, the MABRC Membership Coordinator will conduct a phone interview with you and you hopefully will be on your way to becoming a full-fledged MABRC Researcher or Analyst. Even if you consider yourself an armchair researcher, the MABRC led

the way with designating armchair researchers as Analysts and putting them to work behind the scenes so join now.

www.mabrc.com



Cry-Baby Bridges? Bigfoot-related?

By Jim "Bigjimm" Whitehead,
MABRC Western Oklahoma State
Director

actually find very many cases of
the stories being spread prior to
the internet, so the idea that it is

the paranormal. In fact, every
Cry Baby Bridge that I have
looked into has had bigfoot
sightings nearby, usually with in
1/4 of a mile or less. Very often
the actual sighting is right at
the bridge in question itself. It
is also quite often more than
one sighting in the area.

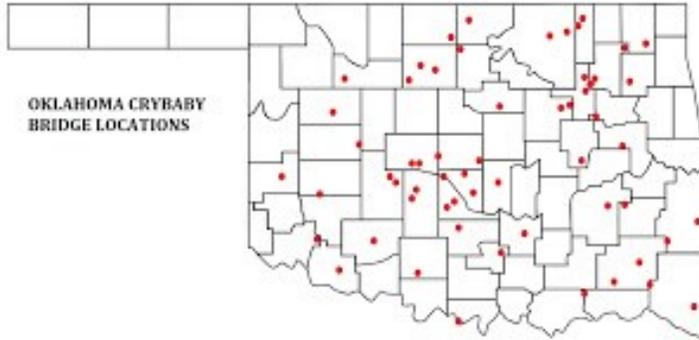
So what would bring a bigfoot
underneath a bridge? The
MABRC has found evidence of
them using rock overhangs as
shelters in Adair County. Many
of the reasons for this also ap-
ply to bridges. They are shel-
tered from the sun, heat, and
wind. They also have the added
draw of having an available
fresh water source nearby. It
isn't inconceivable that in case
of bad weather, these creatures
could also pile some brush up
under the area were they are
nesting at, creating a wind
break.

In our folklore, we have stories
about trolls living underneath
the bridges. Perhaps there is
more truth to that than we
would think.

I took the liberty to plot locations
of Crybaby bridges in Oklahoma. I
thought it would be interesting to
demonstrate why I came to the
conclusion they are related to the
bigfoot phenomenon. If you look at
the red dots (crybaby bridges)
many of them are very close on the
same creek systems. If they were
really haunted then you wouldn't
expect that pattern. You would
have one or two single haunted
bridges. Instead you have a lot of
them, giving the impression that
something is MOVING up and
down the waterways. Also ,skeptics
will state that the stories are sim-
ply urban folklore. However, many
of the reports at these bridges pre-
date the internet. Unless the origi-
nal stories were widely circulated
via television, newspapers, and
books, you shouldn't expect the
people across the country to report
the same things being heard. I can't

all copycat folklore isn't really all
that strong.

What exactly are they reporting?
Well here is a list of common re-
ported experiences: Dark figures
moving in the woods along the
creeks and crossing the roads,
woman-like screams, rocks being
thrown, crying baby noises under
the bridges, large unseen entities
moving about and breaking
branches, parked vehicles getting
slapped (complete with giant hand
prints) and glowing eyes being
seen in the woods. This is all in
line with bigfoot encounters, not



Biped vs. 4X4 Mode

By D.W. "Darkwing" Lee, Executive Director, MABRC

There has been much debate between the PNW Bigfoot Researchers and the Southern Bigfoot Researchers about the possibility of Bigfoot being able to go into 4X4 mode, a term made commonplace by Darkwing after learning about it from Tim-berghost. In the Southern United States, researchers have spotted Bigfoot moving in 4X4 mode as the creatures hunt and also to avoid detection.

Here is a statement explaining about 4X4 mode from Darkwing.

They will hunt in 4X4 mode to give them extra speed in short distances, they also will cross open areas in 4X4 mode to avoid detection. I've seen a whole troop cross a field in 4X4 mode, initially giving me the impression that it was cows or other animals in the darkness, until they reached the tree line, then stood up and walked into the woods.

With an animal the height of a bigfoot, 4X4 mode and belly crawling are part of their stealth. In Oklahoma and Arkansas, it's accepted by the researchers there, that Bigfoot does go in 4X4 mode quite often. Next time you see what you think is possibly a bear moving across the field, better look a little closer, it may be a Bigfoot crossing in 4X4 mode. And for those who will claim that the reports don't show this trait of Bigfoot, they need to dig deeper, the International Bigfoot Society had multiple reports from across the country that shows Bigfoot were in 4X4 mode.

Parnassus from the Bigfootforums asked D.W. if the Bigfoot left tracks, to which D.W. replied.

Yes they do Parnassus, but they tend to resemble bear tracks once the mid-tarsal

break comes into play. I followed a trackway once for over 200 feet that then turned into what looked like bear tracks. Only the front half of the foot is touching the ground when in 4X4 mode.

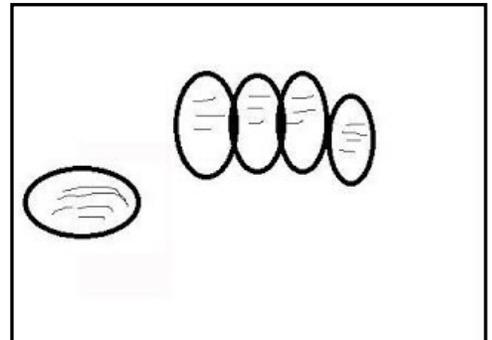
The first one I saw in 4X4 mode, actually came up about even with the bottom of the window on my Chevy Blazer with the top of it's back, it was also nearly half the length of it. The smaller ones tend to resemble chimps in 4X4 mode, as one of our researchers had a close encounter with one from about 10 feet away. First time I ever heard that researcher cuss from the shock of getting that close.

I was the first to bring this forward into the mainstream Bigfoot Community well over 10 years ago, and was unmercilessly bashed for daring to claim Bigfoot went into 4X4 mode. My how the times have changed and folks are now onboard with it. I'm really glad to see that some folks have been more open to what Bigfoot does.

This is the juvenile in 4X4 mode that was sketched by Biggjimm, the MABRC Western Oklahoma State Director for Squatchfinder, the MABRC Researcher who had the close (10 feet) encounter. Hopefully it illustrates somewhat about how 4X4 mode looks.



The thumb is splayed out, if you turn it sideways, they put it out to the side to help steady themselves. The knuckles are more than twice the size of a human hand. Here is roughly what it would look like.



Freeman's famous Low Creek Knuckle Print from July 1982 is a good example of the way it looks when they are in 4X4 mode, with the thumb splayed out away from the hand and knuckles.



For more about the 4X4 mode, visit the MABRC Forums for more information.

Sighting Reports –Still Necessary??

With the popularity of Finding Bigfoot, more and more people are coming forward with purported sightings, many being so far-fetched on the details, a result of individuals attempting to obtain their 15 minutes of fame or just the attention they get from Bigfoot researchers.

This begs the question, does these wild stories that are turned in, does the Bigfoot Community accept these into the overall databases in which the data itself becomes corrupted by it.

While a small percentage of the deluge of sighting reports may be credible, having to filter this content out is bogging down researchers from doing more direct research.

Researchers should begin questioning potential witnesses about their viewership of Bigfoot-related television shows, as this apparently is influencing many of the reports.

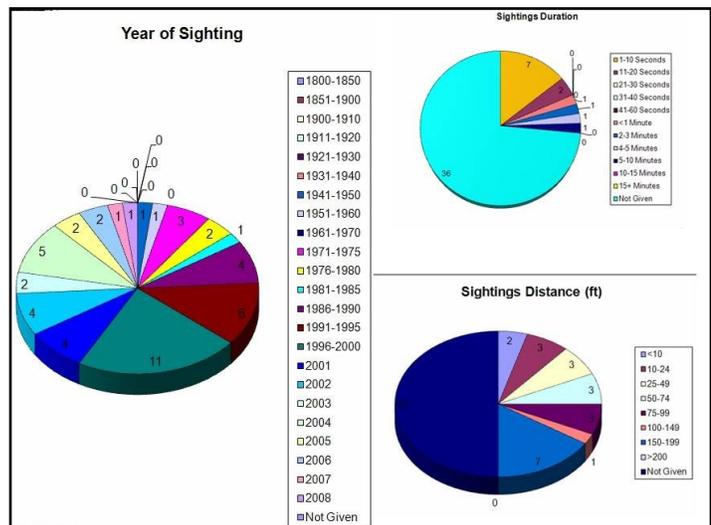
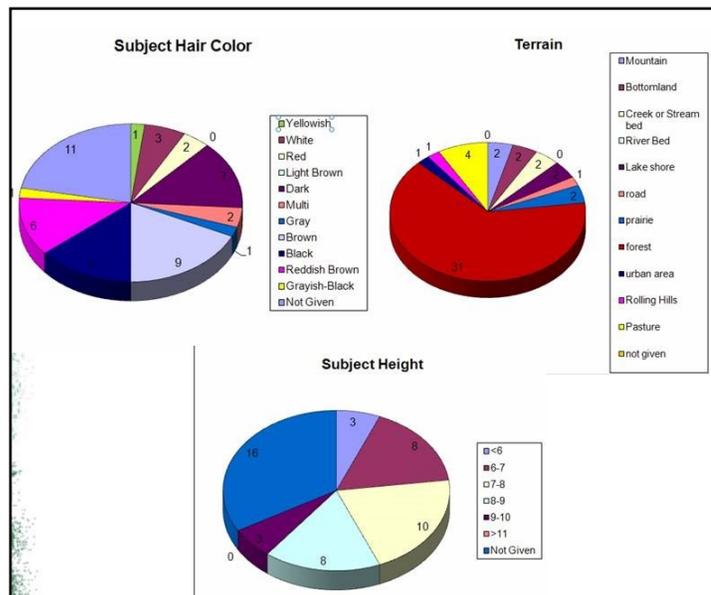
The advantages that sighting reports give the Bigfoot Researcher Community is really invaluable, which causes a dilemma when garbage is put into the collective known databases.



Before the proliferation of Bigfoot television shows and the rampant misinformation being circulated by people on Social Media, most reports were turned in by people who wasn't influenced by this influx of bad information and the romanticism of Bigfoot research.

The MABRC took most reports before 2010 and broke down the information in which data was produced in various formats.

The data gives researchers a clear pattern of habits and the more active times to encounter a Bigfoot. As more people turn in reports, this convolutes the data. While sighting reports should always be accepted, the Researcher must filter out the more suspect information before letting it circulate across the Community. Researchers must self-police the reports.



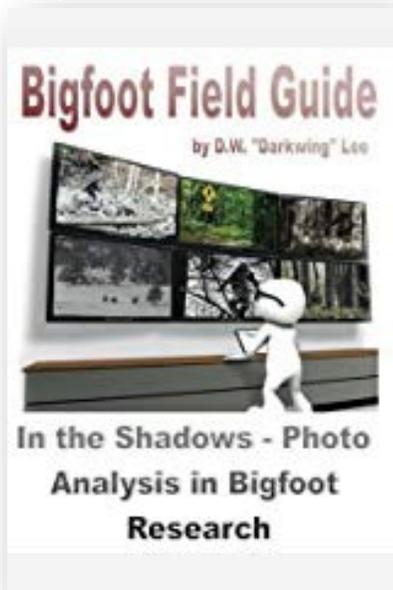
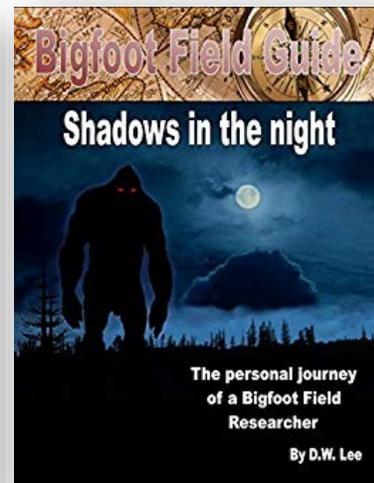
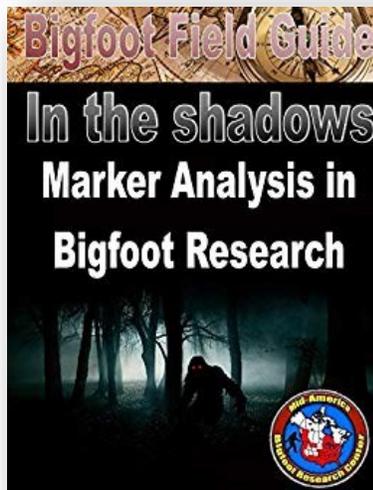
Bigfoot Field Guide Books

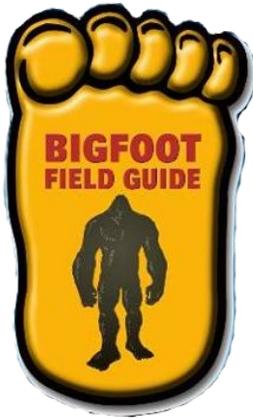
The Bigfoot Field Guide has published multiple titles of books that are for sale on Amazon, including in Kindle format.

Written by D.W. "Darkwing" Lee and Izzy "Goose" Gutierrez, these books are How-to books dealing with all aspects of evidence review, from photos, videos, audio and marker analysis, and also how to start your own Bigfoot Research.

Additionally, D.W. "Darkwing" Lee has written a book of his many encounters with the creatures known as Bigfoot.

To find these books on Amazon, search for D.W. Lee or Izzy Gutierrez and you will find all the books listed.





Bigfoot Field Guide

Bringing the best information to our readers.



Founded in 2001 by the MABRC, the Bigfoot Field Guide has expanded from its humble beginnings as a radio show, to videos, newsletters, magazines and the Bigfoot Field Guide blog, as well as maintaining a presence on Facebook.

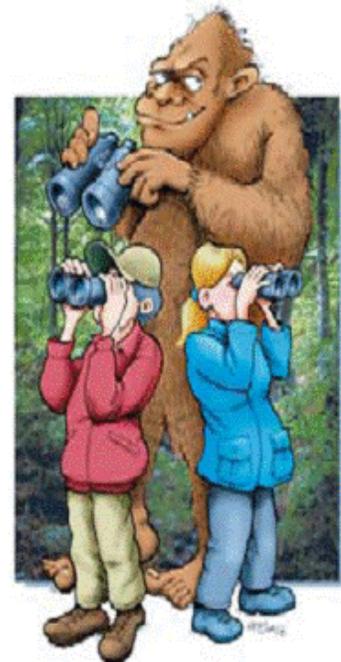
Reporting a Sighting



The importance of turning in a sighting report is critical to Bigfoot Research, details from a sighting can be incorporated into a large database to formulate information that can show patterns in Bigfoot behavior, increasing the overall knowledge about the creatures.

If you have a sighting, there are numerous organizations out there to report it to, and at the MABRC, we take sighting reports through our website at <http://www.mabrc.com> and through e-mail at sighting@mabrc.com

Please give us contact information so that a researcher can contact you with further questions if necessary. All contact and location information is kept confidential to insure the witness' privacy.



The movie was "Big Legend". Recommended watching