

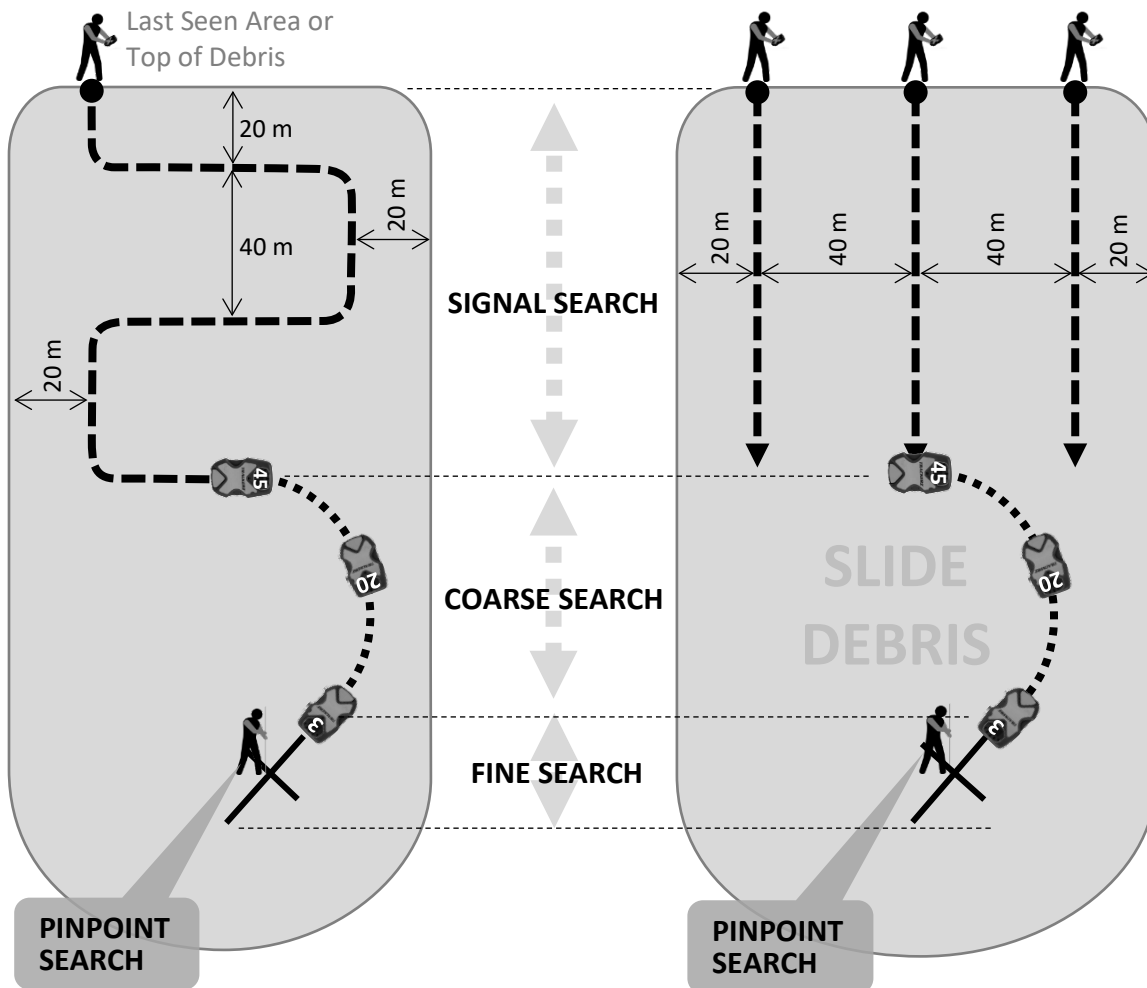




# LEVEL 2 WORKBOOK



## Transceiver Search Methods



signal search



coarse search



fine search



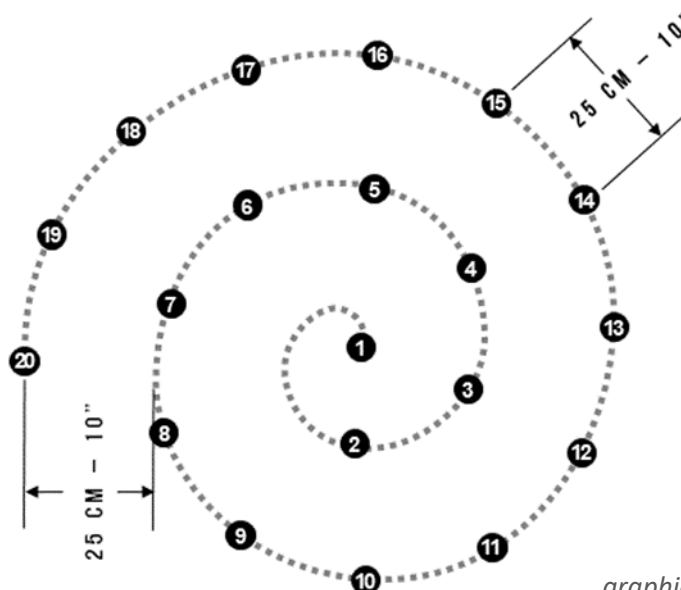
pin-point



rescue

## Pinpoint Search Patterns

Continue to spiral out from the strongest signal, until victim is located with a probe strike.  
**LEAVE THE PROBE IN PLACE.**

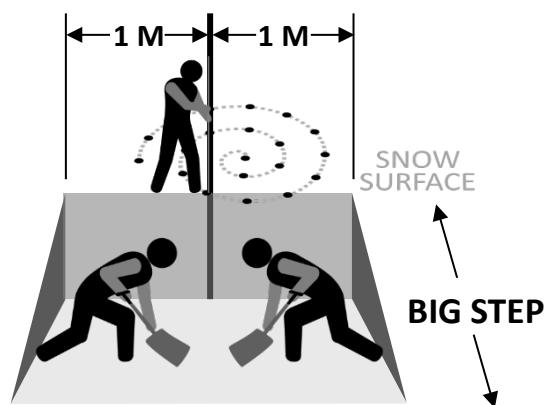


graphic: Glissemmedia LLC

## Shoveling Techniques

### STRATEGIC SHOVELING

1. Starter hole - downhill of probe
2. Hole needs to be 1 1/2 times the burial depth
3. Throw snow to the side until knee to waist deep
4. THEN throw snow downhill
5. Rotate positions every 45-90 seconds



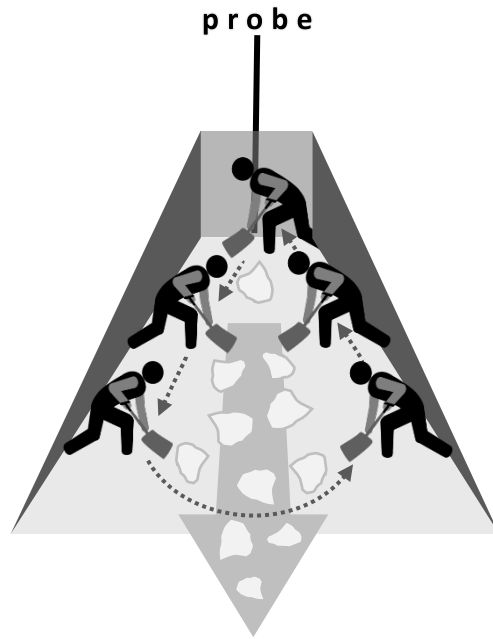
graphic: Glissemmedia LLC

# LEVEL 2 WORKBOOK



## V-SHAPED SNOW CONVEYOR BELT

1. Starter hole – 1-2 rescuers position at probe
2. Rescuers position in a v-shape, approx. 2 shovel lengths apart
3. Snow paddled from front to back of conveyor belt
4. Rotate positions every 45-90 seconds (dotted line)



## Rescue Without Transceivers

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1. Visual clue search
2. Search likely burial sites (debris piles above trees, in turns, benches and at the toe)
3. Spot probe likely burial spots
4. Yell out to the victim
5. Organized probe line: line up fingertip to fingertip in a line across the slope. Have probers evenly spaced. Each prober should probe to their right, center, to their left, then take 1 step forward. This pattern should be repeated over entire area. If a probe strike occurs, probe is left in place while a team excavates.

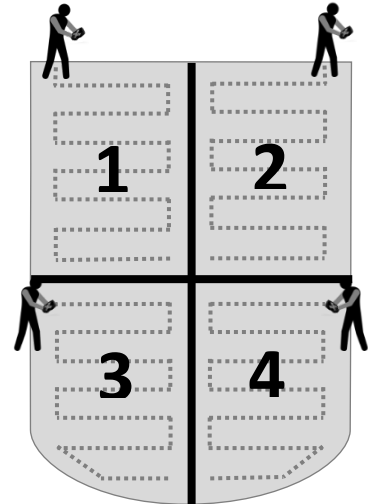
## Multiple Burial – Tip and Techniques

### Flagging/Marking:

Even the best beacons will lose marked or flagged beacons, usually when there are more than two buried beacons. It is good to have back-up search techniques if these functions fail. What follows are several strategies to help work through large multi-beacon scenarios.

#### Visualize terrain to be searched:

- Divide search area into quadrants. Where you don't leave a quadrant or section, until you KNOW that there are no burials in that zone.
- Likely burial spots: Trees, boulders, benches, toe of slopes
- Flow lines – Last point seen and visual clues

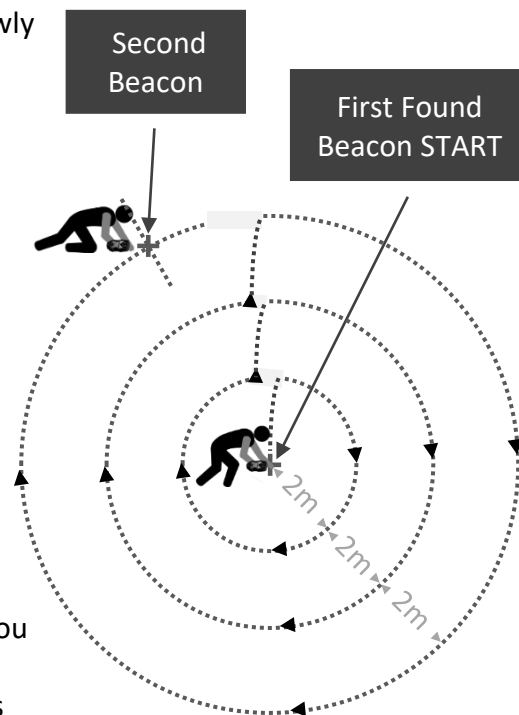


graphics: Glissemmedia LLC

### Circle technique:

*For closely buried beacons*

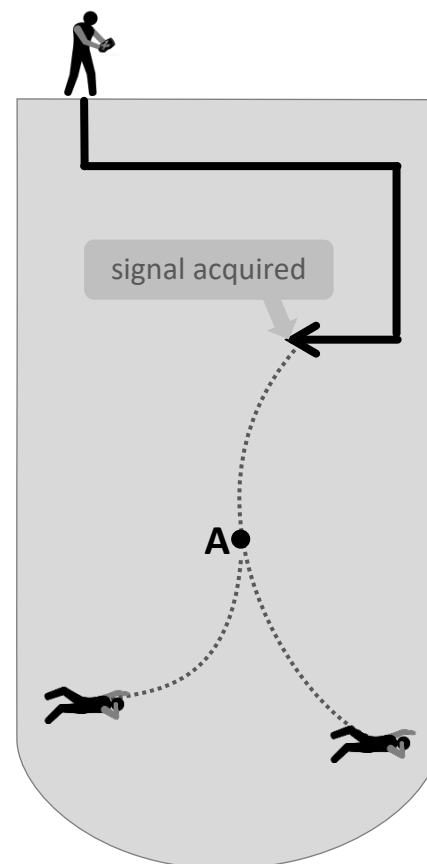
- Walk away on the lowest volume – move slowly
- Walk a circle 2m from first beacon:
- Analog - keep orientation constant (same relative to path).
- Digital – watch distance display closely (orientation does not matter) .
- Do a larger circle if no signal is heard on the initial circle (analog increase volume).
- Continue to a 3<sup>rd</sup> circle at 6 meters out – if no signal is found AND you believe that there are closely buried beacons in your search area, then use the micro search technique. Otherwise, resume primary search by quadrant.
- Know your beacon! Some beacons will give you a readout of how many beacons are within certain distance ranges. Know how to get this information from your beacon (read the manual).



# LEVEL 2 WORKBOOK

## Split point for multiple beacons:

- Mark the point that you have two, or more, different signals = Point A
- Note whether distances are all decreasing as you approach the first signal. If so, then you likely have two, or more, beacons buried closely together.
- If one distance decreases, while the other remains relatively constant, then you are paralleling one of the beacons off to the side of your track.
- If one distance decreases, while the other increases, you have relatively wide spaced burials and you should go in another direction from the split point after you locate the first beacon.
- Isolate one signal by distance readout or by audio signal.
- Follow the flux line in and locate first signal.
- Return to initial marked point (A).
- Reorient beacon to isolate second signal (Tracker beacons go to SP mode)
- Follow the flux line to the second signal

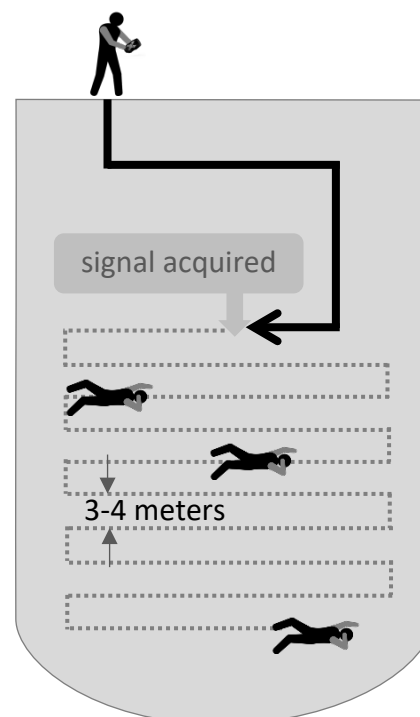


graphics: Glissemmedia LLC

## Micro Search Strip Method

*Steve Blagbrough and Jesse de Montigny*

- This technique is best for many signals in a small area.
- Allows digital beacons with proximity filters to do their job, without a great deal of thought.
- Requires good fine search and pinpointing skills.
- Analog beacons must be maintained in the same orientation throughout the search. That includes digital/analog combinations.
- Once a beacon is found and marked, and shovelers are digging out the buried victim, return to the search pattern to locate others.



## Tracker T2 Beacons SP Mode

- After locating the first beacon (lowest signal), maintain that position and switch to SP mode.
- Slowly rotate the beacon until a second distance is displayed (most likely greater than the one you have just located)
- If no second beacon is indicated - repeat. Holding the beacon at chest height
- Go in the direction indicated (REMEMBER it could be 180° in the opposite direction - if the numbers grow larger then go the opposite way)
- Once you feel you are going in the right direction **switch back to normal search mode** and take half as many steps as the read-out was indicating, then look at the display again.
- As always move slowly and methodically in fine search. Going too quickly will add to the confusion.

## Tracker T3 Beacons BP and SS Mode

- After locating the first beacon press and hold the function button and continue holding it till the BP (Big Picture) flashes, then readings will appear.
- Watch the display for multiple signals and directional arrows (each unique signal will have a distinct tone). Turn the device 45 ° and check again. Make a mental note of the distance and directions to the other beacons.
- Release the function button again to get out of Big Picture (BP) mode.
- Press the function button quickly to enter SS (Signal Suppression) Mode. The device will now ignore the found (closest) beacon and give data on any other transmitting beacons.
- Make note of the direction and distance of the closest beacon, move quickly in that direction (making sure the distance reading is decreasing) about half the posted distance or a little more and continue the search using standard techniques (you can stay in SS mode) till the victim is found (lowest reading).
- Repeat this process for additional buried beacons keeping in mind distance and direction to previously found beacons.
- Use Big Picture (BP) mode at any time to orient yourself to all the beacons in range.
- If you know of or suspect more victims, continue searching remaining areas once all beacons within range have been identified: return to where the Signal Search pattern was interrupted and continue the Single Search pattern (ignoring signals from found beacons) through the remaining debris to ensure no areas are missed.