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Fox Tracks in Mud

Abstract

Red fox tracks (*vulpes vulpes*) in the dried mud below a highway underpass near Boulder, Colorado.

Keywords

Fox, Tracks, Mud

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Pictured here are red fox tracks (*vulpes vulpes*) in the dried mud below a highway underpass near Boulder, Colorado. Riverine underpasses are ideal spots for finding well-preserved animal tracks, especially a few days after water levels have gone down. Red fox tracks can be distinguished from those of a small coyote or a gray fox in part from the former's volume of inter-digital fur, which can be seen if one looks closely at the impressions in this photo. Part science, part art, finding and following animal tracks engages a primal part of the human psyche and can inspire trance-like states of intense focus. Wildlife tracking can thus be imagined as a methodological root of science, mediating between quantitative analysis of the world and intuitive engagement with the flesh of the world.