

GLORIA field work orientation outline

A list of things to address:

1. Safety

- Lightning can kill or impart lifelong, disabling injuries. We'll watch the potential for lightning, and if the field leader decides the risk is too great, we'll leave as a team.
- Falls on loose, uneven ground are a real hazard, and sharp rocks can inflict serious wounds.
- It is easy to trip on rocks, measuring tapes, or survey strings, so be careful and don't let your focus on the job distract you from your footing. Being careful also helps protect those small alpine plants.
- Dehydration, even heat injury, is possible. Drink plenty of water and rest if you need to.

2. Efficiency (to enable us to finish the job)

- Cross training should be done to equip everyone to do the maximum number of jobs. It makes us a lot more efficient as a team, and it reduces "typecasting" and folks getting tired of always doing one job.
- Pitching in wherever needed is the key to making the most of our efforts and getting done on time.
- Tell us when you are looking for work, or for assistance.
- Be consistent in following the rules for using and placing equipment, which saves tons of time. Usually an item is placed at the origin point where it is used (for examples: 3x3 grid bags at lower left corner of the grid; 10x10 take-up holders at the top of the 10x10 diamond)
- With cooperative, consistent performance (and decent weather) we are able to finish nearly all of our summits in a single day, and our downslopes in 2 days. That saves time on the survey, and time that would be wasted hiking again to a summit or slope that we could have finished the day before.

3. Getting the larger job done

- Don't get hung up on a particular plant ID, so that we don't spend a lot of time on a detail and not get the survey done. Take a sample home and use a place-holder name for it on the data sheets.
- In the end, the volume of data will tell the tale, not a particular subtle identification challenge.
- Don't lose sight of the larger objective and the limited time to complete the surveys.