



TERTIARY

PREPPER

FIELD INTEL

REPORT

REAL-WORLD OBSERVATIONS.

ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE.



ON THE GROUND

INSIGHTS



SITUATIONAL

AWARENESS



FACTS, NOT

OPINIONS



USEFUL TODAY.

CRITICAL TOMORROW.



SEE WHAT OTHERS ARE SEEING.

REPORT WHAT MATTERS.

SHARE YOUR INTEL BELOW >>



HOW TO FILL OUT THIS REPORT

Share real-world experiences so others can learn, prepare, and adapt. Be accurate, concise, and honest. Photos are optional but encouraged.

REPORT TITLE

How I pressure tested my bug-out gear

CATEGORY (Select One)

LOCATION

Shenandoah National Park

DATE OF ACTIVITY

Veteran's Day week

TIME TO EXECUTE

6 Days

DURATION

6 Days

CONDITIONS

54 degrees/-14 degrees

SEASON

FALL

TEAM SIZE (If Applicable)

Solo

TOTAL PACK WEIGHT

DISTANCE COVERED

105 Miles

ELEVATION RANGE

530 ft - 4050 ft

ASSESSED SITUATION

Describe the environment, context, and situation.

Conduct a real - world endurance test on a 105 mile section hike through the Shenandoah National Forest in November. The goal was to identify gear failures, pack weight issues, foot problems, hydration mistakes, food / calorie consumption, and overall preparedness gaps in cold, wet, and early winter conditions.

RECOGNIZED PROBLEM

What challenges or risks did you identify?

1) Footwear matters more than you think in wet / cold conditions

2) The sleeping huts provided little warmth as the temperatures dropped at night

3) Layer management was a constant battle as it was difficult to regulate body temperature while hiking as the weather conditions were unpredictable.

ACTION TAKEN

What steps did you take? Include gear, techniques, and strategies.

1) Whenever I reached a hut, I doffed my wet socks & trail runners and started a fire to dry out my footwear immediately.

2) Wearing Merino Wool clothing helped wick away moisture which helped in the colder conditions.

3) I snacked throughout the day to replenish the additional calorie depletion, which helped my energy levels.

KEY FINDINGS / RESULTS

What happened? What worked? What didn't?

Cold was the biggest factor. Temperatures dropped to -14 degrees, far below what my 3 season gear was designed for. My quilt (rated to 30 degrees F) did not perform well in these conditions. Even though my Sawyer Squeeze was kept close to me while I slept, it still froze. Lastly, calorie intake was critical, especially as the temperatures dropped.

LESSONS LEARNED

What would you do again, do differently, or tell others to know?

1) I'm glad I brought a spare sawyer water filter (the first one froze).

2) Traveling light (under 25lbs) had it's trade-offs, I sacrificed warmth and comfort.

3) Layering is mission critical.

4) Food planning was spot on at 5k calories per day.

5) Trail runners are not the best footwear for wet / snowy conditions.

FIELD VALUE ASSESSMENT

Rate the overall value of this intel for other preppers.

RISK LEVEL (To Self)

REPEATABILITY (Can others do this?)

PRACTICAL VALUE (How useful is this?)

DIFFICULTY (Skill / Effort Required)

RESOURCE COST (Low to High)

OVERALL VALUE (Would you do this again?)

1

2

3

4

5

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PHOTOS (OPTIONAL BUT ENCOURAGED)

Real images help others learn. Add up to 4 photos.

UPLOAD PHOTO 1

FINAL VERDICT

In one or two sentences, sum up the value of this experience.

A tough but an invaluable test. I found the weak points in my system before they found me and I now know my physical limitations and how far I can hike in one day during bad weather conditions.

DISCLAIMER & SUBMISSION AGREEMENT

By submitting this Field Intel Report, I confirm that the information provided is truthful and based on my real-world experience to the best of my knowledge. I understand Tertiary Prepper may edit my submission for clarity, formatting, length, or editorial standards prior to publication. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Do not submit illegal activity.

Do not submit intentionally dangerous misinformation.

Do not submit copyrighted material you do not own.

Do not submit content that could place others at unreasonable risk.

☐ I AGREE TO THE ABOVE

YOUR NAME / CALLSIGN (Optional)

Sgt. Silverman

THANK YOU FOR SHARING.

YOUR EXPERIENCE BUILDS A STRONGER COMMUNITY.

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORM TO:

submissions@tertiaryprepper.com

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DATE RECEIVED: