

Idaho 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon Information and Contest Rules
Educational Program and Competition
Friday, June 6-7, 2019
At Alpine 4-H Camp, Alpine, Wyoming

Goal: The Idaho 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon is a hands-on, outdoor, science event designed to teach youth and adults about the vast rangeland resources of Idaho. It provides opportunities through competition, educational speakers, and activities for youth and adults to gain skills and knowledge that focuses on rangeland principles.

In preparation for the skill-a-thon, participants and volunteers will:

- Learn about opportunities and challenges on rangelands
- Learn specific skills including: soil texturing, plant and animal identification, delineating a watershed, calculating Animal Unit Months (AUMs), firewise principles, and selecting rangeland management tools.
- Develop life skills including public speaking, critical thinking, planning/organizing, problem solving and decision making

Registration: All team members, individual competitors, coaches and chaperones must be in enrolled in the 2019 4-H year in their respective county. All coaches and chaperones must be 4-H certified volunteers in good standing in their county.

To register for the skill-a-thon, all team members, individual competitors, coaches, and chaperones need to:

1. Log in to your www.4honline.com account and enter the information asked on the events tab. Registration will be open from March 13 – May 20th..
2. Teams will need to submit a \$25.00 check upon registration and \$14.00 per person for the meals served at camp on Friday (breakfast and lunch). Make the check payable to Bannock County Extension and send the check to
Bannock County Extension
Attn: Nikki Dalton
10560 Fairgrounds Rd Building A
Pocatello, ID 83202
3. Printed resources, the 3-D model box, the oral presentation topic and more competition information will be mailed to registered teams starting mid-April. The team will not be sent the box until the check is received.

Study Resources and Updates: More information and competition updates will be posted on the Facebook event.

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www.facebook.com/events/361307697845310/

Rules and Regulations

Rules, Regulations, and Guidelines

Additional Rules and Regulations specific to the year MUST be reviewed prior to the Skill-a-thon (this includes the rules for the location of the Rangeland Skill-a-thon). These are posted on the FB event page.

Coaches

1. Coaches **must be** certified 4-H volunteer in good standing within their county 4-H program.
2. The role of the coach is to provide leadership and teaching instruction to the team to prepare them for the skill-a-thon.
3. The coach **must attend** the skill-a-thon event to chaperone, supervise, and cheer for their team/individuals. If the coach is unable to attend, a parent or other adult may step in as coach for the skill-a-thon as long as they are a certified 4-H volunteer.
4. Coaches/chaperones are required to be present in all phases of the event, however, team coaches are not allowed to coach any participants during the contest. Violations will result in forfeiture of their team.
5. Teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from the contest.
6. Insurance—counties are required to verify that all participants are covered by accident insurance before attending the skill-a-thon event.

Teams and Individual Competitors

1. Teams or individual competitors may participate in the Idaho 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon.



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2. Teams and individual competitors will receive the same box upon registration with the Special Topic information within.
3. Team and individual awards will be separate.
4. Teams consist of three or four members. Teams with four members will all compete but the member receiving the lowest overall score will be automatically declared the alternate. The scores of the alternate will not be included in any of the team totals but will be considered in all individual awards. Teams consisting of three members will not have an alternate and all members' scores will count in team and individual awards.
5. All participants are required to participate **in all** phases of the skill-a-thon.
6. Participants may not be in possession of cell phones, written notes or other electronic devices during the skill-a-thon.
7. During individual competition events, participants should not confer with teammates, other participants, or coaches. Participants should direct all comments to contest officials.
8. Any changes made to the team members or coach must be given to the University of Idaho Extension office ASAP.

Rangeland Skill-a-thon Guidelines

1. There must be at least 3 teams confirmed to attend the skill-a-thon in order to hold the event. If there is not, the teams that registered will be notified of the cancellation.
2. Grievances—any protest must be submitted in writing (along with a \$25 deposit) at least one hour prior to the scheduled awards presentation. Protests will be reviewed by a three-member Grievance Committee. Deposits will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Decisions of the Grievance Committee are final.
3. Dress Code—appropriate attire must be worn throughout all contests and awards presentations. The skill-a-thon does occur outside, so please bring appropriate outer wear for Idaho weather. Teams are not required, but encouraged, to have a team t-shirt (e.g., screen printed, embroidered, or home-made using fabric paint, dye, iron-on transfers, etc.). T-shirts are the expense of the team.
4. Team names are encouraged (and may be put on team shirts).
5. Code of Conduct—all contestants, coaches, parents and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times (in accordance with the Idaho 4-H Code of Conduct). At no time will disrespectful behavior toward contest officials, other contestants, coaches, or the general public be tolerated. Failure to comply may result in immediate disqualification of any individuals and/or team.
6. **All judge(s) decisions are final.** If there is a dispute regarding the skill-a-thon, the judges will meet and decide upon the action. Judge(s) will break ties at their discretion.



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7. At the official start time of the contest, the contestants will receive final instructions regarding the contest and may be sorted into groups.
8. Participants may use a blank steno pad or clipboard and blank paper during the event. Participants may use a small, pocket calculator (programmable calculators will not be permitted). Contest officials reserve the right to check all participant's notepads or clipboards to make sure they are blank prior to the event. Violators are subject to event dismissal.
9. The participants may not bring books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area.
10. Participants are not to pick-up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the event, unless otherwise directed by contest officials.
11. After the final participants has officially turned in their evaluation, the coaches will be allowed to review the materials in the contest area.

Awards

Team and individual awards will be presented at the conclusion of the event. Awards will be given for senior and junior categories. All participants must be appropriately dressed to receive an award.

Accommodations, Anti-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have documented temporary or permanent disabilities at the 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon. Please notify event organizers as soon as possible so accommodations can be made.

The University of Idaho has a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy applies to all programs, services, and facilities.

The University of Idaho has an internal discrimination and harassment complaint and investigation process. To learn more and/or to file a complaint, please contact the University of Idaho Office of Civil Rights and Investigations at 208-885- 4285, ocri@uidaho.edu, <https://www.uidaho.edu/ocri>

Information on the camp and accommodations:

4-H Alpine Camp is located on the border of Wyoming and Idaho, near Alpine, WY.

We are able to use the camp free of charge. To ensure that we continue to have this ability we need to keep the camp clean. Any trash found on the ground please pick up and throw away, we will need help from youth and adults to clean up after each meal and help serve. Cabins will need to be swept out on the last day.



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Check- in for those staying at the camp on Thursday night is 7pm. No meals will be served at camp on Thursday so eat before you come or bring snacks, etc. for your team. Breakfast and Lunch will be served on June 7.

Cabins are available. Some choose to bring tents or RV's. Each cabin must have at least one adult present/certified volunteer. There is a boys side and girls side of camp. Sleeping arrangements will be made at check in.



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Event Details

Competition:

During the Rangeland Skill-a-thon, participants will compete as teams and/or individuals by completing skills challenges, and presenting on the special topic for the year. *The challenges will be modified as indicated below for junior teams.*

- **Soil Texturing:** Individuals will hand texture 2-3 soil types (a hand-texturing guide will be provided). There will be no modifications based on team category. **Time = 20 minutes**
- **Plant Identification:** Individuals will identify plants from the plant list provided in Section 3 (plant mounts may also be used if live plants are not available). **Time = 20 minutes**
 - Senior teams/individuals will identify 10 plant species by the common name, growth-form, life span, and origin.
 - Junior teams/individuals will identify 7 plant species by the common name, growth-form, and life span.
 - Extra credit will be awarded for identifying plants using the scientific name.
- **Animal Identification:** Individuals will identify animals from the animal list provided in Section 5. Animal identification may be based on sight, pelts/feathers, skulls, scat, tracks, and calls. **Time = 20 minutes**
 - Senior teams/individuals will identify 10 animal species by the common name, habitat, and diet selection.
 - Junior teams/individuals will identify 7 animal species by the common name and diet selection.
 - Extra credit will be awarded for identifying animals using the scientific name.
- **Oral Presentation:** Each team/individual will have to present on the special topic for that year using their **3-D diorama** to explain the challenge and solution. Teams/individuals should consider management tools discussed in curriculum and other sources they find.



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4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon Tentative Event Schedule

Event Schedule (*exact times may fluctuate depending on the number of participants*)

- **7:30-8:00** **Registration**
- **8:00-8:30** **Welcome/Review of Rules and Guidelines**
- **9:30-9:50** **Break**
- **9:50-11:30** **Skills Rotation (soil texturing, plant ID, and Animal ID—each skills is 20 minutes with a 5 minute rotation)**
- **11:00-1:30** **Oral Presentation-** time depends on number of teams
- **11:00-12:15** **Lunch/guest speakers**
- **12:15-1:30** **Oral Presentations** (when your team is not presenting, coaches will be responsible for participants)
- **1:30-4:00** **Guest Speakers/ Field Tour/Rangeland Games**
- **4:00-4:30** **Guest Speaker/Awards**

The top senior team at the Idaho 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon will be invited to represent Idaho at the national Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) competition. If the winning team decides to attend WHEP, this is at your own expense; we encourage teams to engage their local communities and hold a fundraiser. For more information on WHEP, visit: WHEP.org



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