

Idaho 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon Information and Contest Rules Educational Program and Competition

Friday, September 28th and Saturday, September 29th, 2018

At Wittman Farms near Lapwai and Lewiston, Idaho

Goal: The Idaho 4-H Rangeland Skill-a-thon is a hands-on, outdoor, science activity to familiarize students with the vast rangeland resources of Idaho. This contest provides opportunities for youth to gain and develop rangeland, natural resources, wildlife and livestock knowledge as well as life skills in a pleasant yet competitive environment that will focus on their knowledge, comprehension, and teamwork.

Registration: All team members, individual competitors, coaches and chaperones must be enrolled in the 2017-2018 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 May 10-August 17, 2018.
2. Teams will need to submit a \$25.00 check upon registration. If the team competes, the check is returned at the competition. Teams that do not compete, forfeit the registration fee. Make the check payable to Adams 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 written management plan scenario, oral presentation topic and more competition information will be mailed to registered teams starting August 1. The team will not be sent the box until the deposit check is received.

Study Resources and Updates: Additional study materials are available at, www.idrange.org, and then click on the education tab. More information and competition updates will be posted on the Facebook event.

Rules and Regulations

1. Individual competitors are allowed to participate and compete. They may compete in the individual contest activities and compete as an individual doing an oral presentation with 3-D diorama. They will receive the same box as the teams. If the individual is in the senior age division, they may also compete in the written management plan. They will receive different awards in the oral presentation and written

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management plan than the team competitors. They must be chaperoned by a parent, legal guardian, or certified 4-H volunteer.

2. Teams consist of three or four members. In teams in which there are four members, all will 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 making all individual awards. Teams consisting of three members will not have an alternate and all members' scores will count in determining individual and team awards.
3. Coaches must be certified 4-H volunteer leaders in good standing within their county 4-H program. The coach's role is to provide leadership and teaching instruction to the team to prepare them for the skill-a-thon. The coach must also attend the skill-a-thon event to chaperone, supervise, and cheer for their team. 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 leader.
4. Any changes made to the team members or coach must be given to the University of Idaho Extension, Adams County office as soon as possible.
5. Teams must register with the University of Idaho Extension, Bannock County no later than August 17th.
6. There must be at least 3 teams confirmed to come to the skill-a-thon by September 10th in order to hold the skill-a-thon. If there is not, the teams that registered will be notified of the cancellation.
7. It is recommended that the teams meet at least a few times before the skill-a-thon to learn the information and build a team bond and complete the oral presentation/management plan and 3-D model. All team members will be asked questions about their work during the competition.

About our location- Wittman Farms

Wittman Farms is not like the other facilities that we have had in the past and there is no lodging available on site. We will also be sharing the Farm with another University of Idaho adult forestry class that will be using the lodge. We will be conducting all of our contests and programming outside. If you have easy pop up shade tents, you are encouraged to bring them. We may also need to borrow them for the competitions. Also, everyone should bring their own camp chairs.

Please visit their website at www.wittmanfarms.com



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Team Classifications

Junior Teams- ages 8-13; Senior Teams- ages 14-18; Mixed-age Teams will be allowed with the oldest member of the team determining which division the team competes in (age as of January 1, 2017)

The top senior team at this contest will be invited to represent Idaho at a national Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP.org) competition. Mixed-age teams are not eligible to participate in the national contest.

General Guidelines

1. Housing and Facilities—teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from the contest. There will not be housing available at the contest location. **The teams will be responsible for paying for their own lodging and food (Lewiston is the nearest and best location at 20 miles away).**
2. Insurance—counties are required to verify that all participants are covered by accident insurance before attending.
3. 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.
4. 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 are encouraged, to have team t-shirts. This is at the expense of the team. These may be professionally screen printed, embroidered, or home-made using fabric paint, dyes, iron-on transfers, etc. Teams may come up with names for their teams to put on their shirts. Skill-a-thon t-shirts will be given to participants to wear on the 2nd day and should be worn during awards and pictures.
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 teams.
6. Contestants and coaches/chaperones are required to participate in all phases of the day's events. Team coaches may not coach (any participant) during the contest. Violations will result in forfeiture of their team.
7. Contestants may not be in possession of cell phones, written notes or other electronic devices during the contest. They can be given to the coach until the competition portion is done.



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8. All judge(s) decisions are final. If there is a dispute regarding the competition, the judges will meet and decide upon the action. Judge(s) will break ties at their discretion.
9. At the official start time of the contest, the contestants will receive final instructions regarding the contest and may be sorted into groups.
10. During the individual competition round of the contest, contestants may be further divided into groups. While completing the individual competition classes, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials.
11. Contestants may use a blank steno pad or a clipboard and blank paper. Contestants may also use a small pocket calculator (programmable calculators will not be permitted). The contestants may not bring books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area. Contest officials reserve the right to check all contestant's notepads or clipboards to make sure they are blank just prior to the contest. Violators are subject to contest dismissal.
12. Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual competition classes, unless otherwise directed by contest officials.
13. After the final contestant has officially turned in their results to the officials, the coaches will be allowed to review the materials in the contest area.
14. The contest awards will be presented at the conclusion of the contest. All contestants must be appropriately dressed to receive an award.

An agenda will be posted on Facebook and emailed to coaches using the email associated with their 4-HOnline.com account. The Facebook event QR is:



or look in the events page of "UI Extension, Adams County" Facebook page.



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Contest Classes

Junior Division

Team Activities

1. Fire challenge: The majority of points will be based on their teamwork skills. This will be a series of questions or a scenario challenge that the teams will present to a judge. The information the kids will be judged on will be presented during the skill-a-thon by a guest speaker. More fire resources will also be in the box.
2. Oral presentation: A topic will be given to junior teams in their boxes. Presentation time 8-12 minutes. This presentation should include all members of the team and all members need to have a speaking role. Visual aids are encouraged, audio and video aids are okay, but should not exceed over one minute of total presentation time. Teams will also need to create a 3-D model using the box provided as part of their oral presentation. Expect the topic to include rangeland, wildlife, water, habitat, human and livestock concerns.

Individual Activities

3. Soil classification and/or water quality: Contestants will complete a task using the skills they learned in the workshop at the competition.
4. Plant Identification: The teams will be given 15-20 plants to use as a study guide. They will need to identify 10 of these plants at the competition (using a picture, live plant, or dried plant).
5. Animal Identification: the teams will be given 15-20 animals to use as a study guide. Use the flashcards provided to study the animals. They will need to identify 10 of the animals using an artifact or picture and answer a list of questions regarding the animal. Contestants will also use the skills learned during the morning workshop.

Senior Division

Team Activities

1. Written Wildlife Management Plan with sketch: A scenario for this written plan will be given to teams in their boxes. Please email copy of final plan to tyanne@uidaho.edu by Monday, September 24th so copies can be made for the judges. The written plan and the sketch must be



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emailed at the same time. See National WHEP manual (fourth edition) pages 10-16 for more information. Teams will also create a 3-D model using the box provided as part of their oral presentation. Expect the scenario to include rangeland, wildlife, water, habitat, human and livestock concerns.

2. Oral presentation of wildlife management plan: See national WHEP manual (fourth edition) pages 10-16. Also create a 3-D model of the management plan to present to the judges using the box provided. Oral presentations should be 10-13 minutes and all team members need to have a speaking part.

Individual Activities

3. Plant Identification: The teams will be given 15 plants to use as a study guide. They will need to identify 10 of these plants at the competition (using a picture, live plant, or dried plant). Seniors will need to identify growth form, life span, origin, and forage value. Plants will be selected from the same list as listed in the junior section.

4. Animal Identification: use the flashcards provided to study the animals. Contestants will also use the skills learned during the morning workshop. Animals will be selected from the same list as listed in the junior section.

Because this competition and learning program changes locations and focus areas annually, we ask that everyone be patient with the organizing committee and hosts. All efforts will be made to make this event a challenging learning experience for all participants. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact Nikki Dalton by September 1st, 2018 at University of Idaho Extension, Bannock County, 10560 Fairgrounds Rd. Bldg. A, Pocatello, ID 83202. Phone: 208-236-7310. nmdalton@uidaho.edu .

