

## Yellowstone Commercial Stock Outfitter - Guide Certification Quiz

1. List one thing that you will need to possess as a guide before your start your season:  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. You have a trip going out tomorrow with 15 head of stock. How many staff are your required to have? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the maximum number of horses including guide horses and pack animals that you can have on a day ride? \_\_\_\_\_
4. You just got a call from a group of guys who want to take an off trail ride in Yellowstone National Park. For each Scenario, enter A, B, or C depending on which answer best describes the proper steps you would need to take in order for each of these off trail trips to be possible.
  - (A) Call the central backcountry office and get district approval.
  - (B) You don't need approval for this type of trip.
  - (C) This type of trip is not permitted.

### Scenarios

- \_\_\_ They would like to go off trail in order to access a fishing hole.
  - \_\_\_ You were hoping to take them on the same off trail trip which you got approval to ride recently.
  - \_\_\_ They want to go on a day ride to Hayden Valley.
  - \_\_\_ They were hoping to go off trail on their second night on an overnight trip.
5. You just rode into a campsite and are about to set up camp. You have an electric fence that you have brought with you. Where would you put your horses out for the night?
    - A. There are some drag logs in the meadow. I'd just use the drag logs.
    - B. I'd set up the electric fence near my camp so that I can hear the bells.
    - C. I would set up the fence along the river, so that my animals have access to water.
    - D. I would set it up wherever the best grazing is available.
    - E. I would set it up wherever the best grazing is as long as it was 100 feet from water and away from core camp.

6. You have 4 horses and 2 mules. One picket pin, and 550 ft of electric fence. Starsky and Hutch are friends, Trigger is fast to run, Charlie Brown is the most popular, Donkey Jote, and Clyde are your mules. How will you retain these six stock. Indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements:

(SD=strongly disagree, D=disagree, N=neutral, A=agree, SA=strongly agree)

- A. Put Trigger, Starsky & Hutch in the Electric Fence, and Put Charlie Brown on a picket. Let Donkey Jote, and Clyde free graze. (Circle one: SD - D - N - A - SA)
- B. Put Charlie Brown, Trigger, and Hutch in the Electric Fence, let Starsky and Clyde free graze, put Donkey Jote on a picket. (Circle one: SD - D - N - A - SA)
- C. Put Donkey Jote , and Clyde in the Electric Fence, Put Trigger on a picket and let Charlie Brown, Starsky and Hutch free graze. (Circle one: SD - D - N - A - SA)

7. In this picture the damage is likely caused by:



- A. A horse that likes to eat in a grid pattern
- B. Llama
- C. High Line
- D. Moose

8. What are some techniques you can use to reduce the impact of high lines?

- A. Set up a highline in a grassy area.
- B. Set up a highline on a rocky area.
- C. Set the highline with a small diameter rope so it doesn't shift around the tree.
- D. Set the highline up with tree savers.
- E. Tie immature stock so they won't run away.
- F. Tie to stout dead trees.
- G. Only use a highline for short periods of time.



9. What measures can be taken to prevent common resource damages that occur from tying to a tree.

- A. Place a set of hobbles on your horse, burro, or llama.
- B. Minimize the animals you tie to trees, only tie immature stock.
- C. Minimize the time stock is tied to trees.
- D. Tie only mature and well trained stock.
- E. Tie to young trees, since they are quick to recover.
- F. Tie to dead stout trees.
- G. Use fly wipe to prevent horses from kicking and pawing.

10. This aerial picture depicts the impacts of not moving a \_\_\_\_\_ often enough.



11. One of your clients mentioned to you that he isn't feeling to good. What are some things you should be thinking about?

- A. Which staff member has the highest medical training?
- B. What do we have in the First Aid Kit that could help him?
- C. What do we have scheduled for tomorrow? A layover day? Or an 18 mile day?
- D. Given his ailment what is our plan in the worst case scenario.
- E. Do I know how to access the park's medics?
- F. Is this a reoccurring thing? Did his medical release mention this? Did I look at my client's medical history before the trip?

12. How far away do you have to set up your tents from where you hang your food?

- A. 300 feet
- B. 100 feet
- C. 80 feet
- D. 150 feet

13. Your employer has asked you to take one of the new horses on its first trip to the park. List one or more things that it may encounter for the first time while in the park that may be cause for concern: \_\_\_\_\_
14. You are about to lead your first trip of the year into the park. What are some things you might want to discuss with your employer regarding your horses before departing?
- A. Is the route well marked?
  - B. How would he/she suggest retaining this group of horses? What are the group dynamics of these horses? Can some of them free graze?
  - C. What is the terrain like?
  - D. Are there any horses in the mix that will struggle with the terrain you are likely to cover? For example do any of the horses not like river crossings, high bridges etc.
15. You are trying to figure out how much time you need in the morning in order to pack out of camp. What are some things you should account time for?
- A. Kicking manure from the grazing area.
  - B. Covering up the latrine.
  - C. Removing un-burnt wood, and partially burnt wood from the fire pit.
  - D. Assessing the campsite for any damages.
  - E. Scanning the camping area for forgotten tent stakes and micro trash.
  - F. Finding the slicker that you hung on a tree branch.
  - G. Looking over your horses, and treating any injuries that might have occurred during the night.
16. For each situation choose whether you are required to (A) kick horse manure; or (B) remove manure.
- A. Manure within an electric fence: \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. Manure in core camp: \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. Manure within the boundaries of a picket pin: \_\_\_\_\_
  - D. At the trailhead: \_\_\_\_\_



## Answers

1. Some possible answers: Guide card, Current first aid, backcountry permit, Coggins
2. 2 Staff members
3. 25 (although we recommend no more than 20 stock on a day ride)
4. From top to bottom: B, C, A, B
5. E
6. While there is no set answer to how to retain stock. The general thought is the more comfortable and less constrained your stock the less impact they are likely to cause. If they like being together let them be together. For example do not put two horses that like to be together on opposite sides of an electric fence. The freer they are the less impact on one area they will have. But if you know one is going to run then have them constrained in a retention method that they are comfortable with.
7. C – a high line
8. B, D, F, G
9. A, C, D, F, G
10. Picket or picket pin
11. All answers are correct.
12. A – 300 feet (100 yards)
13. Bison, wolves, bears, busy trailheads, fishermen, llamas, backpackers – to name a few.

14. Any/All are correct - In addition to matching your stock's dynamics with the proper retention techniques there are also a variety of issues that can be avoided with proper anticipation. For example consider positioning experienced animals in the front and back of one that doesn't like river crossings if you know that you may encounter some difficulties with getting a horse to cross a river.



15. All are correct

16. From top to bottom: A, B, A, B