

Goat Tips

(Updated July 2020)

It is normal for some goats that are hiking loose to stray 10-20 yards back to eat while you travel, they will run to catch up only to stop and nibble a tasty plant and let you get ahead again. They will rarely let you get out of sight though, this eat and run behavior will decrease as the goat tires after a couple of miles and they fill their belly's. Most goats file in behind in front or alongside you plodding steadily along on the trail at your pace.

If you have two or more goats, you will notice that they seem to compete for positions on the trail after they get it worked out remember the hiking order. If you have to tie the goats together in a string tie them in the proper order attaching the carabineer to the back of the SADDLE, NOT the pannier. It will make the difference between an orderly hike and a tangled mess.

When a goat stops in front of you to eat and blocks the trail, keep walking and go around his backside the best you can and he will then turn and start walking again just as you pass him, if unable to pass then act like you are and make the same noise like walking in place, or gently pull on his tail with a "let's go". Remember if you stop, they all stop. While walking some goats will push you to the side and off the trail just step back and around the back side of the goat to the other side and then he may start pushing you the other way just keep stepping to the other side they just want to be next to you this should stop in a little while.

While walking up or down Switch Backs always lead the goats. Keep your group close together at all times while on the trail you are all part of the herd and the herd stays together for safety and no one gets lost.

Things that would make a goat want to stop or lay down are saddle sores, rubs, injuries, and sharp objects poking the goat from the inside of the panniers or saddle pad. Remember the goat is hauling most of the weight; slow your pace down or you will wear him out early. If the goat still doesn't want to go, you should take some time to make sure everything is ok before going on and that the goat is not over loaded. If the goat is breathing hard or panting slow down or stop and rest. Goats walk at about 2 miles per hour depending on trail conditions Don't out walk them.

If the goat just refuses to go, and in curling his upper lip out, he is sensing something he considers DANGER.

A goat is a pack carrying hiking companion, NOT a pack animal. If you wouldn't carry it, don't ask the goat too.

You need to be their best friend and at the same time be the boss. You are the alpha of the herd. The goats look up to you for what to do.

Rule Number One: Don't ever chase a goat away from the scene of its crime. You cannot catch him and the goat knows it. Just making it leave the areas is not a correction. In the goat's way of thinking it won the confrontation and you may actually be teaching the goat to play games in which it tries to see how much stuff it can get out of the bag before dancing away just out of reach. To the goat this is fun, but to the humans in camp it leads to thoughts of goat murder. A correction is made by contact with the goat. Anything you squirt or toss that contacts the goats is the same as if you touched it. Be careful if you throw something to make sure it isn't going to hurt the goat. **Pain is not necessary! It will not work!** Only the verbal command and something to contact the goat and make it move away.

Rule Number Two: When teaching camp manners, NEVER feed a goat people food. Once a goat gets a piece of your bread, or some of your potato chips, you will be mobbed every time you eat. It is annoying for guests when the goats are pushing and shoving them, hoping for a hand out. It is also potentially dangerous for children. Save the people food for people. If you are eating and a goat steps up for a sniff or nibble of your lunch tell it "NO" or "BACK" and make the goat back off. Squirt it or push it back with your foot or knee or open hand. Don't pet or scratch your goat while you are eating. The goat will learn to go elsewhere or at least keep its distance when you are eating. With a little thinking, you can adapt this training to include the whole cooking area. If you have an extra persistent goat (usually one that has been fed before) then you may have to tie it while cooking and eating. Teaching them camp manners is simply teaching them what things they are not allowed to do or areas they are not allowed in.

A little fore thought on your part can stop a lot of problems before they happen. If you leave panniers or backpacks with great smelling stuff in them laying around, out of your area of control; then don't be surprised when the goats start poking into all of the bags pulling out clothes and food. Yes, they can open zippers.

Especially with goats in camp always keep the food under your supervision. Do not allow any goat to sniff around any_pannier bags or packs. The bags should be an "off limits item" at camp. Using the command of "NO", point at the goat and back it up with a squirt or small pine cone if necessary. BE CONSISTENT; don't let a goat get away with any negative behavior without correction being made. Remember don't chase a goat away. At night the food should be pulled into a tree in a "bear proof" manner. If there are no bears in your area then put the food inside the tent. Always tie the goats up while you are inside your tent. NEVER LEAVE GOATS TIED WITH NO ONE WITH THEM!

As far as the tent is concerned never allow any goats inside. Goats are one of the few animals that enjoy being inside and once in, they will charge in every time the door is open. All goats should always be tied at night in sight but not so close were they can interfere with the tents.

Do not allow anyone to squirt your goats for fun. They trust you to praise them when they do well and correct them when they mess up. If the goat gets squirted for no reason it will be confused and may think it has done something wrong.

Do not allow the goat to do something sometimes and then correct it for doing it at other times. Decide what is acceptable behavior in the beginning and stick with it. Be consistent!

Do not grab a goat by the horns, they don't like it. It will cause them to start using their horns when interacting with people. Goats will hit each other with their horns especially at feeding time and the other goat may get pushed into a person, (please watch your young children).

Do not holler and carry on at the goats for reasons beyond their control, do not lose your temper, argue or fight with each other, goats do not like contention among people. A trusting relationship is built around consistency. Talk calmly to and pet the goats thought out the day; they need your approval and they will give you their best.

When saddling or working with the goats tie each goat to a tree or stack separately with a short leash where they cannot reach each other.

Feeding Goats Goat's eat the same as deer, they browse all day and night. At the end of each day give each goat a small hand full of the treats provided as a thanks job well done (with a vitamin B1 in the bottom of your hand for the first three days of your trip with the treats. Make sure hands are clean) While you are setting up camp have a person take the goats over to a close by meadow so they can eat for about 45 minutes or until they start playing then take back to camp and tie out, also about every two hours or so as you hike, stop for about 10 minutes so they can get all the food they need to maintain their energy. Try to stop at water so they can drink if needed.

Loading Panniers- Do not put equipment on the goats that you are not willing to carry yourself. If you want something you wouldn't carry, get a horse. Try to keep the volume close to the same in each of the side panniers and within about 8 to 16 oz. of each other, and heavy items at the bottom, load only soft or smooth items next to the goat in the panniers; hard angled items to the outside. **Total weight should not exceed the goats limit listed on the saddle. (¼ of their body weight, saddle already calculated into limit)**

Saddles- Give the goat a good brushing before saddling and after saddle is removed, check saddle pad and strips for burs and sharp items. Stand on left side of goat and place the saddle forward on goat and slide back into place (the forward part of saddle should be just past the shoulder blade). Do not slide saddle forward on goat. Place butt strip into position and lift the goat's tail. Attach the chest strap with the clip, then do up the sternum straps pull down and up at the same time. The strap should be about 3 to 4 fingers-width aft of the front legs; on the sternum bone, not the soft part of the belly. When tight you should just get one snug finger between the goat and the strap at the bottom, two fingers it's too loose. Make this check one more time before you start hiking some goats will inflate their chest and the saddle will be too loose. Now take each front leg below the knee bend the hoof up and back and then lift the knee up to at least a 90 towards his chin to pull and stretch the skin under the sternum strap so it will not bind and cause a sore when walking. The belly or aft strap should not be tight you should be able to get all 4 fingers or your hand between the goat and aft strap so he can breathe.

Hanging the panniers- Support the weight of the first pannier until the second one is on so not to twist the saddle. Do up the two side straps and pull to just take up the slack and a little more to compress the panniers so there not so wide but not so much that it can rock side to side (only undo on the A bag). Then clip the two lower clips on bottom side of each pannier to the two belly strips. Wrap the leash onto top of saddle, so you can get to it if needed.

At end of day remove panniers first, then the saddle from the left side of goat, brush goat down good. Apply bug repellent if needed. Check for saddle sores. Let loose goats browse in or near camp. Place all equipment together under a tree or cover to keep dry, secure the Orange Screw stakes for night time, try to give each goat a tree to get under for shelter if it's going to rain. and offer them some water from the dish, lake or stream then tie them for the night before you go to bed.

If you lose a goat, most of the time they will go up for safety, or to get away from bugs. They may have followed another hiker down the trail (you should always grab at least one leash when passing other hikers). Or, if close, may go back to the trail head.

Call them, clap and listen for the bells. If someone is always watching them when loose you should not lose them.

Water- Most goats do not like to get their feet wet or be in the rain; but will if need to. When crossing small or large streams let the goats see where you crossed they will rock hop, jump, or look for another way, or just walk through and get wet. You may need to lead them across if they totally balk. Be careful and don't let them cause you to fall in. Once you cross, stop on the other side. If they are thirsty, they will drink. Pause till they have all had the water they want, then move on. They may drink up to a gallon of water at a time and may not drink for several days. At the end of each day offer the goats a drink of water from the water bowl provided or take them down to the stream or lake to drink. If a goat is panting it doesn't mean he's thirsty; he just may be HOT. Slow down the pace a little or find some shade for a while to cool down.

Tying goats out at night- Secure the Orange screw stakes as close to tents as you can, but not to

interfere with camp. Space so that they cannot get tangled up with each other or wrapped around items. If possible, each goat should have shelter; under a tree or tarp if needed. Each goat should be attached with his leash hooked by carabiner to the black rope on the orange screw stake. In the morning unhook the goats so they can start eating. Remove the orange screw stakes as you free them, so not to leave them at camp. **DO NOT** tie the goats and leave them unattended. You are putting them at risk and they do not like to be left alone. Once at camp, the goats are usually left loose until bed time; this is their dinner time. Keep a close eye on the goats as they may follow any one that walks by your camp. If needed have someone take the goats over to the meadow to eat while the others setup camp for the night.

Goats will get hypothermia if left in the rain and cold the same as people.
Do not over hike the first day so you and the goats have time to adjust.

Goats cannot standup while being pulled forward.

Trail etiquette- All livestock have right away over hikers, bicycles, and ATVs (though some of them don't know this, you might need to gently remind them). Horses mules and Lamas have right away over goats. Most horses, mules and lamas are spooked by goats, when horses or lamas are seen, let them know you are there and you have pack goats and that you are getting off the trail. Then move to the lower to the LOW side to let them pass (about 40 feet or more. Hold leashes and stand still) Talk normally to the horse people as they pass so not to spook the horses (when a horse spooks it will most likely run uphill). Goats are very social animals; they like to stop and visit with other people on the trail. If you see other people coming down the trail take hold of the leach and ask the people to step off the trail. Lead the goats past until they are out of sight; only then, tuck the leash back under the panniers without ever stopping. If people are gaining from behind and need to pass; it is best to move off the trail (again holding leashes) and let them get out of sight before moving on. Use good judgment, common sense and be polite.

Dogs- Ask all people to have physical control their dogs. Most all dogs will want to chase and/or bite at the goats. If this happens do what you need to too disable the dog (try using the water first then a big stick or...). Be careful handling strange dogs; you may get bitten. The dog owners are responsible for their dogs and they should be on a leash at all times or under control. If something does happen with a dog to a goat, get pictures of goat, and if possible of dog and owners with names.

NAPgA Best Management Practices: (see pannier tag)

AT ALL TIMES KEEP YOU'RE DISTANCE FROM BIG HORN SHEEP AND OTHER WILDLIFE AND AVOID CONTACT AT ALL COST.

INVENTORY LIST
Per Goat Rental
Cost of items if lost or damaged

1. Two or more goats with collars & name tags \$1050. each.
2. 8 ft Leash, one per goat with two carabiners \$30.
3. Saddle, \$450.
4. Panniers, one set of 2 per goat (includes a rain fly) \$350.
5. Orange screw tie out stake with sleeve \$25
6. Water bowl 2.5 qt \$25.
7. Grooming Brush \$5.
8. Scale 0-50# for weighting panniers \$35.
9. Squirrt bottle used for discipline \$5.
10. Bug repellent \$0.
11. Treats, ¼ cup per goat per day \$0.
12. Goat coats as needed \$70 each.
13. Emergency info packet. (first aid for goat's book, vitamin B-1, leave no trace & outdoor ethics info cards, whistle.) \$40.

BY HIGH UINTA PACK GOATS.



GOAT APPROVED

Updated Summer 2020



HIGH UINTA PACK GOATS

614 SPRING CREEK RD. EVANSTION, WY 82930

1-877-722-5462 (1-877-packgoat)

www.highuintapackgoats.com

Date From _____ to _____

Invoice # _____

Rental Agreement

High Uinta Pack Goats agrees to provide animals in good health and working condition. All necessary worming and vaccinations as well as any other routine health concerns will be taken care of prior to the renter receiving the animals. Veterinary Health Certificates will be provided where required for \$35. All equipment will be provided in good working order.

If problems develop with animals or equipment during a prolonged rental period, we will provide necessary replacement items to the renter free of charge at trail heads. If you keep them for the full rental you will pay the full amount.

Renter agrees to use the animals responsibly and treat them in a friendly, humane manner: High Uinta Pack Goats reserve the right to contact local authorities if abuse or neglect is suspected. The Renter agrees to provide adequate supervision, never leaving the animals unattended for any amount of time or allow them in hazardous areas. Should the animals be killed, lost or injured due to neglect the Renter agrees to pay High Uinta Pack Goats for the cost of replacement and up to three years of loss of income or necessary medical costs related to an injury. The Renter assumes responsibility for veterinary care should it become necessary during the rental period. Normal wear and tear on equipment is expected, however if it is lost or damaged due to neglect, the Renter agrees to reimburse High Uinta Pack Goats for the cost of repair or replacement.

Renter agrees not to transport goats further than 250 miles (approximate) one way. Renter verifies that they have appropriate auto insurance.

High Uinta Pack Goats monitors the compatibility of the people and animals, as well as the treatment the animals receive at the hands of the people leasing the animals. These measurements can only be made on a subjective basis therefore;

High Uinta Pack Goats reserves the right to refuse or retract the right of any party to use these animals at any time, for any reason, with or without cause. There are times when personalities of the goats and people do not click.

Names of Goats Rented:

Panniers # _____ Kit # _____

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT:

Value of equipment about \$2000.00 per goat rig.

High Uinta Pack Goats
AGREEMENT TO USE ANIMALS
LEASED FROM HIGH UINTA PACK GOATS

IMPORTANT: THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT; PLEASE READ IN FULL AND UNDERSTAND BEFORE SIGNING.

You/your minor child (if applicable) may be hurt using the animals and associated equipment that you are leasing. If you are unwilling to assume all the risks of you/your minor child's use of these animals and associated equipment DO NOT sign this document, in which case you/your minor child will NOT be authorized to use these animals and you will be refunded any monies you have paid to lease and use the animals. If you sign this document BUT make any alterations to it, you are NOT authorized to use the animals.

I REPRESENT AND WARRANT THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS DOCUMENT, AM OF SOUND MIND, HAVE LEGAL AUTHORITY, AND FREELY ACCEPT AND FULLY ASSUME THE RISK THAT I/MY MINOR CHILD CAN SUFFER PROPERTY DAMAGE, ILLNESS, SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR EVEN DEATH BY USING THE ANIMALS OR PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED WITH THESE ANIMALS, not only the ways described above

1. Assumption of Risks. I, for myself or as the parent/legal guardian of the participating minor child whose name is listed below ("Participant"), wish to use goats or other animals and their associated equipment provided by High Uinta Pack Goats and will engage in unsupervised activities, including without limitation: transportation, feeding, watering, caring for the animals (including possible first aid treatment to the animals), packing and unpacking the loads on the animals, walking in proximity with the animal as a pack animal in what may be hazardous terrain and being, both day and night, in close proximity with the animals in wilderness conditions. I understand that there are inherent risks and dangers associated with the use of these animals which could put me/my minor child at risk of serious injury or illness. These dangers include but are not limited to: Being gored intentionally or unintentionally by the goats horns, (The horns are never to be held or handled, as this action may be accepted as a challenge by the goat.), being bitten, scratched, cut or stepped on, being butted or bumped or otherwise knocked off the trail, being injured by other animals or insects attracted by the presence of the goats (Domestic dogs can present a serious hazard), failure to follow instructions or other safety procedures provided by High Uinta Pack Goats, possible failure or fault of the associated equipment provided by High Uinta Pack Goats. I understand that these animals are capable of independent and unanticipated actions without warning. I am also aware that hazards may exist throughout the activity associated with the use of these animals and that the established rules and training provided by High Uinta Pack Goats do not and cannot guarantee my/my minor child's safety. I am/my minor child is able to perform the essential functions required to use these animals and I am/my minor child is freely and voluntarily participating in this activity and the use of these animals. e, but also in ways that are unknown and unexpected, even if I follow/my minor child follows instructions or advice.

2. Waiver, Release and Indemnification. I understand and agree that High Uinta Pack Goats are not insurers of my/my minor child's conduct. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, I HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE, COVENANT NOT TO SUE, AND DISCHARGE HIGH UINTA PACK GOATS AND ALL OF THEIR TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS, MANAGERS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS, AGENTS AND REPRESENTATIVES (COLLECTIVELY, THE "RELEASEES") FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, AND CAUSES OF ACTION WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO ANY LOSS, DAMAGE, OR INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, THAT MAY BE SUSTAINED BY ME/MY MINOR CHILD OR ANY OTHER PARTIES ENCOUNTERED WHILE THE ANIMALS ARE IN MY/MY MINOR CHILD'S CARE, ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO MY/MY MINOR CHILD'S USE OF THESE ANIMALS, LOSS OR DAMAGE TO ANY PROPERTY OR BODILY INJURY SUSTAINED BY SUCH OTHER PARTIES. I ALSO AGREE THAT IN THE EVENT THAT ANY PERSON BRINGS ANY CLAIM OR ACTION INDIVIDUALLY OR ON BEHALF OF MY MINOR CHILD RELATED TO ANY INJURY OR LOSS SUFFERED BY MY MINOR CHILD AS A RESULT OF MY MINOR CHILD'S USE OR ASSOCIATION OF THESE ANIMALS, THAT I WILL INDEMNIFY THE RELEASEES AGAINST SUCH CLAIMS, INCLUDING PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES. I AGREE THAT THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BIND MY GUARDIAN, HEIRS, ADMINISTRATORS AND EXECUTORS FOREVER.

PRINT NAME OF PARTICIPANT: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT: _____

Date _____

High Uinta Pack Goats

Certificate of Goat Training

This is to certify that _____ has completed Pack Goat Handler training provided by High Uinta Pack Goats. This training consisted of lecture, hands on, and hike.

The training included, but was not limited to, the following safety rules, instructions and directions:

- Safe Handling of the Animals.
- Proper Grooming.
- First Aid Care.
- Saddle Placement & Securing Saddle.
- Loading & Balancing Panniers.
- Loading Panniers onto Goats.
- Tying goats out at night.
- Trail Leading goat to goat & Switch Backs.
- Feeding / Watering.
- Water crossing.
- Discipline & camp manners.
- Walking with Goats – Their unpredictability.
- Problems to Watch for – Limping, saddle off Center, straps.
- Learning to Read the Animals. (Body language)
- Trail Etiquette.
- NAPgA Best Management Practices.
- Camp at least 200 feet from lakes, streams, trails and other people.
- Leave No Trace. Pack out what you pack in.
- NO camp fires allowed within ¼ mile of most lakes in the Uinta Mountains
- Please treat goats and equipment as if it were your own

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT:

_____ Date _____

SIGNATURE OF TRAINER:

_____ Date _____



Goat certified

Updated Summer 2020

COMPANY OR ORGANIZATION _____

*NAME: _____

*ADDRESS: _____

*City _____ *State: _____ *Zip _____

*TELEPHONE : (_____) _____

*EMAIL: _____

ALT. CONTACT: _____

ALT PHONE: (_____) _____

-----Owner use only-----

Number of days _____ Number of Goats _____ Trailer: Y / N

Date Picked up/delivered _____ Destination _____

Date to be returned _____ Training Date _____

Special Notes _____