

VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CHIEF JOSEPH RIDE VETERINARIAN

From Dr. David Rustebakke:

I would recommend the West Nile and 5 way; this includes West Nile, Tetanus, Eastern and Western Encephalitis, Rhino (EHV 1 and 4), and Equine Influenza. Let us not forget what happened at West Yellowstone in 2012; a horse came in with Influenza, and half the camp horses were sick by the end of the week. If you have not been keeping up with your vaccinations every year, I would recommend you give the Flu Avert which gives a much quicker immunity against Influenza. I would also recommend you get the vaccinations from your local veterinarian rather than through an online source; the quality control is going to be better through your local veterinarian.

If your horse has not been vaccinated every year they may need two doses 3 weeks apart to get a good immunity. If that is the case you need to give the first dose soon in order to have time to give the two doses and develop a good immune response prior to the ride. I can't emphasize enough how important this is; a lot of riders had their ride ruined in 2012 because they did not have their horses properly immunized.