

BIGFOOT

This is Mountain Man Jack Cairns of KWGN. I've been speaking to a gentleman who has related a rather strange experience he had last night. "Sir, are you willing to share that story with our listeners?"

"Yes, Jack, I am. Last night as I was about to enter Tunnel No 1 while traveling Westward along Route 6 [Evergreen Quad, NE sector], I spotted what I took to be a large bear scampering up the side of the road. Since it was dark and I was feeling somewhat drowsy at the time, I gave it very little thought.



"At the entrance to Tunnel No 3, several miles down the road, this thing ... I have no idea what it was ... crossed the road right in front of my car. The creature was huge and hairy and let out the strangest shriek I've ever heard! Any ideas, Jack?"

"Well, I might. But let's turn this conversation over to our listening audience. Our lines are open ..."

1. _____ Does the grade of the highway over which the caller was traveling [a] gradually increase; [b] gradually decrease; or [c] alternately increase and decrease several times between the entrances to Tunnels No 1 and 3 in the direction of his travel?
2. _____ What class road is U.S. Highway 6?
3. _____ What is the total distance, in feet, through which highway construction crews had to blast while constructing these three tunnels?
4. _____ For what do the letters "WC", appearing on the quad between Tunnels No 2 and 3, stand?

"Good evening, Mountain Man Jack. This is Ranger Rick of the Pikes Peak Highway Patrol. The description given by that gentleman you just interviewed sounds an awful lot like the Bigfoot a busload of tourists reported seeing on Pikes Peak. As a matter of fact, our superintendent has even placed a "Bigfoot Crossing" sign several miles up our highway where that sighting supposedly took place."

5. _____ As they ascended Pikes Peak aboard the Cog Railway, passengers reported spotting creatures similar to these. Refer to the Colorado Springs inset to identify the small town where these passengers boarded the Pikes Peak Cog Railway.
6. _____ Back to the main highway map, in which county is the Summit of Pikes Peak located?

“Thank-you for that information, Ranger Rick. On our phone right now is Ranger Gerard Putz of the Denver Mountain Parks Emergency Headquarters [Morrison Quad, S sector]. Ranger Putz, you told me that you personally discovered some unusually large footprints in Bear Creek Canyon. Care to elaborate on that?”

“Don’t mind if I do. I was part of a rescue group summoned to check on some rock climbers attempting to scale the summit of Mount Morrison by way of Cottonwood Gulch [Morrison Quad, SW sector]. On our way up the gulch, we found footprints ... really BIG footprints. Those prints were twice the size of any I’d ever seen before. Until now, I thought this was simply a hoax since we never did find those strand-ed hikers.”

7. _____ Is the flow of the small stream at the bottom of Cottonwood Gulch **perennial** or **intermittent**?
8. _____ Is the survey control mark with an elevation of 6187’, located slightly to the West of Cottonwood Gulch along Bear Creek, [a] a vertical control; [b] a horizontal control; or [c] a spot elevation?
9. _____ What is the difference in elevation between the benchmark in question number 8 and the one located at the summit of Mount Morrison?
10. _____ What is the distance, in feet, between the two benchmarks referred to in questions 8 and 9 above?
11. _____ feet per 100 feet _____ Calculate the slope gradient, in feet per hundred feet, between the two benchmarks referred to in questions 9 and 10 using the formula: [change in elevation ÷ distance] X 100.

“This is Mountain Man Jack of KWGN. For those of you who have just joined us, callers have been sharing their tales of intriguing encounters with large, human-like creatures thought to be Bigfoot. Our lines are now open for your comments.”

“Hello, Mountain Man. This is Mary Lou Rankin, a field cartographer with the USGS. I’d like to share my fascinating encounter with a Bigfoot while on assignment to photograph several stretches of Interstate 70 thought to be in need of repair. My encounter would never have occurred had it not been for the extremely windy conditions that forced me to land my helicopter near the summit of Green Mountain [Morrison Quad, C sector].”

12. _____ Is the survey control mark at the summit of Green Mountain [a] a vertical control; [b] a horizontal control; [c] a spot elevation; or [d] a horizontal and vertical control?

- 13. _____ Mary Lou Rankin’s place of employment is part of a large complex at an azimuth of 070° and a distance of approximately 5.0 kilometers from the Summit of Green Mountain. What is the name of this large complex?
- 14. _____ During what year was this quad last field checked?
- 15. _____ What is the major economic activity along the hogback located West of Green Mountain?
- 16. _____
_____ What recent changes have taken place in the past several decades that are quite likely having a negative impact upon the lives of these mild-mannered, solitary creatures?

“After disembarking, I took shelter on the leeward side of a huge pile of boulders to wait out the wind. Just as I was about to doze off, I was startled by a loud, shrill cry. I peered over the pile of boulders to investigate and, much to my surprise, spied a large, hairy creature tossing aside huge boulders as if they were mere pebbles. After watching him for a while, I soon realized that he was searching out small rodents for lunch. Somehow he must have sensed my presence for, even though I had remained perfectly silent and motionless all the while, he turned and stared directly at me for what seemed like hours. Moments later he scurried down the mountainside heading in a Northwesterly direction.



- 17. _____ What is the difference in elevation between the adjacent, or neighboring **index** contours found on Green Mountain?

- 18. _____ What does the black, circular dot bearing the letters "WT", printed slightly East of the "plus-like" NE graticule tic mark, represent?
- 19. _____ What type of survey control marker, indicating an elevation of 6609 feet, is located South of the black, circular dot referred to in question 17?

"Jack, I was so petrified by that close encounter that I hopped back into my helicopter and took off in spite of the potential hazard imposed by those strong Southerly winds. Once in the air, I had little choice but to head Northward with the wind. I did, however, manage to maintain a flight course nearly parallel to Interstate 70.

- 20. _____ Into the area of what quadrangle did Rankin fly as she crossed the Northern neat line of the Morrison Quad?
- 21. _____ Upon crossing the Northern neat line of the Morrison Quad while attempting to maintain a parallel flight path above I-70, how distant is the I-70/I-25 Interchange?

"Just as I was passing directly above the I-70/I-25 Interchange, the winds shifted. I was then able to change course and return to the heliport adjacent to the intersection of Kipling Street and U.S. 6 in Lakewood [Refer to the "Denver" Inset of the Colorado Highway Map.]"

- 22. _____ How far, in miles, was Rankin's direct flight from the I-70/I-25 Interchange to the heliport?

"As soon as my helicopter was safely on the ground, I jumped into my car and headed for my home near Kountze Lake [Fort Logan Quad, W sector] so I could share this experience with my beloved husband and children."

- 23. _____ What special kind of contour lies adjacent to and surrounding Kountze Lake?
- 24. _____ State the coordinates at the graticule tic mark lying NE of Kountze Lake.

"Well, Mrs. Rankin, that's quite a tale. We'll now take a short station break, but don't change that dial. This is Mountain Man Jack Cairns. We'll be back in a moment with more Bigfoot encounters as told by our KWGN listeners.

"Are you there, Reverend?"



"Yes, Sir, I am. I, too, have a disturbing Big-foot experience to share. I can't give you my name 'cause I don't want my congregation to think their preacher is some kind of a nut. Several weeks ago, I drove to my secret hideaway to seek inspiration for my next Sunday's sermon. My favorite spot happens to be a friend's house at the top of the mound SE of Bergen Park [Evergreen Quad, Sector W]."

25. _____ What class road did the Reverend drive on to travel to the only house on that mound?

26. _____ What is the value of the intermediate contour immediately surrounding the cabin at the top of the mound?

27. _____ State the PLSS land description of the preacher’s friend’s cabin to the nearest quarter of a quarter section.

“As I was walking up to the steps of my friend’s house, a huge, foul-smelling creature suddenly grabbed me from behind and dragged me all the way to the very top of the hill.”

28. _____ What creek provides the residents of Bergen Park with much of its water supply?

29. _____ What is the directional flow of this creek?

“This huge, ugly beast drug me into the deep woods, literally dropped me onto the ground, and left. I sat up, too stunned and frightened to move.

“Within moments he had returned with his mate, who appeared to be about a foot shorter than himself, and a smaller Bigfoot, apparently his child. Hand-in-hand, they formed a small circle around me and started to move. As they circled round and round about me, they chanted the weirdest chant you could ever imagine. I feared this ritual was certain to culminate in a feast with myself as the main course.

“Then a strange and most unexpected thing happened. They let go of each others’ hands, and Mama Bigfoot picked up her child. She motioned for Papa Bigfoot to follow, and they disappeared into the woods.”



30. _____ Many sightings reported during the course of this evening’s broadcast had been made within the confines of the Evergreen and Morrison Quads. What county includes all areas located within these two quads? [Hint: Check the marginal information.]

31. _____ Why, do you suppose, were there no Bigfoot sightings made in the area contained within the Fort Logan Quad?

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Answer Key

USGS Quads: Fort Logan, Evergreen, Morrison. All are 7.5 Minute Colorado Quadrangles

Highway Map: Rand-McNally, Colorado

1. a
2. heavy duty
3. range: 2600' to 2900'
4. witness corner
5. Manitou Springs
6. El Paso
7. perennial
8. a
9. 1694'
10. range: 4600' – 5000'
11. range: 32.57' – 36.83'
12. b
13. Denver Federal Center
14. 1965
15. prospecting; mining; quarrying; or similar response
16. urban sprawl; new road construction; or similar response
17. 200'
18. water tank
19. spot elevation
20. Golden
21. 10 miles
22. range: 8.0 – 9.0 miles
23. depression contour
24. 39° 42' 30" N; 105° 05' 00" W
25. light duty
26. 8040'
27. SE ¼ NE ¼ Sec. 20 T4S R71W
28. Troublesome Creek
29. SE
30. Jefferson
31. too populated; too congested; or similar response

To purchase a set of USGS Quadrangle maps and highway map to accompany the “Bigfoot” Road Scholar unit, you may visit: <http://www.otherworlds-edu.com>