

EXTENSION TRENDS: **FORT HALL RESERVATION**

University of Idaho Extension, Fort Hall Reservation • www.uidaho.edu/forthall



2024 By the Numbers

- 2,227 direct contacts
- 1,227 youth participants
- 29 volunteers
- 750 volunteer hours
- \$118,825 extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help develop programming and disseminate the work we do for UI Extension, Fort Hall Reservation through our five advisory boards in beef, range, general agriculture, horticulture and 4-H/youth development.

UI Extension Educator



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2024 Impact

Educator Danielle Gunn led a bull grading team in the evaluation of 164 bulls. No bulls were rejected, demonstrating 100% of involved producers changed bull buying practices and implemented bull quality guidelines. Education was provided for a beef marketing program to help producers improve their price options on calves. Participants gained the knowledge and skills from the program necessary to use online beef marketing tools and to market their calves online with little oversight. Producers have implemented these skills for five years to improve ranch profitability and sustainability by negotiating higher overall prices per pound than prior to using online marketing options.

Extension efforts also focused on severe noxious weed infestations by collaborating with tribal departments to provide community education and outreach regarding the problem. The work led to significant impacts including a change in knowledge and behavior and the adoption of weed management principles. Specifically, a weed management plan has been drafted and a weed contractor was hired to treat 240 acres for scotch and musk thistle, black henbane, houndstongue, Russian and spotted knapweed, and rush skeletonweed. The contracted work was in addition to weed spraying efforts tribal departments conducted in coordination with UI Extension, Fort Hall Reservation.

Fort Hall Reservation 4-H

Educator Danielle Gunn collaborated with Tribal 4-H Program Director Nola Cates to provide tribal 4-H programming for tribal youth in 2024. Total programming efforts reached 1,227 youth, 99 fall and spring classes and 24 summer classes were offered, 418 projects were submitted to the Bingham County Fair and 263 projects were submitted to the Eastern Idaho State Fair. Twelve tribal 4-H youth completed livestock projects. Twenty-one tribal youth, seven teen camp counselors and five adult volunteers attended 4-H camp. Additionally, 24 adults assisted with 4-H livestock activities. Fifteen Tribal Youth in Agriculture classes were developed, taught, and evaluated. As a result, 100% of these youth stated they gained invaluable skills in responsibility, leadership and project management.

On the Horizon

Exciting programming for 2025-26 involves the continued pursuit of education and training for a Rangeland Fire Protection Association (RFPA) on the Fort Hall Reservation. Education, training and the development of an RFPA will give producers the training and tools necessary to help control range fires when they are first observed. Having trained people in the field can help mitigate the catastrophic range fires currently faced in changing landscapes and climates.