

# EXTENSION TRENDS: **GEM/BOISE COUNTY**

University of Idaho Extension, Gem and Boise County • [www.uidaho.edu/gem](http://www.uidaho.edu/gem)



## 2025 By the Numbers

- **12,831** direct contacts
- **695** youth participants
- **72** volunteers
- **2,840** volunteer hours

## Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Gem and Boise counties.

## UI Extension Educator



**Rebecca Mills**  
208-365-6363  
[rmills@uidaho.edu](mailto:rmills@uidaho.edu)

## 2025 Impact

In 2025, two in-person small acreage-focused events were held in Gem County for the first time in 8 years. These two events, a Cultivating Success Whole Farm Planning Course and a Pasture Management Field Tour, resulted in 33 attendees. Participants from both programs reported increased knowledge. One couple in particular attended both events as a result of a site visit and has stayed in contact with UI Extension faculty and programs throughout the year because of the good experience and knowledge they received.

## 4-H in Gem/Boise County

A highlight of the UI Extension 4-H program in Gem and Boise counties was the expansion of the 4-H archery project. In 2024, two new volunteers were trained in the archery discipline, bringing the number of volunteers up to five. In 2024-2025, youth membership increased from 10 to 31 youth. The clubs utilized endowment funds to cover the cost of renting a shooting range for club meetings and for the first time there was an archery shooting contest held at the 2025 Gem-Boise County Fair.

## On the Horizon

Two staff members left in 2025, and the positions were refilled. With new staff comes new energy and excitement. UI Extension will begin a project interview event in July reminiscent of the record book interviews that were held pre-COVID but with a new twist. This effort is at the request of 4-H volunteers and parents who see the value of teaching interview skills to youth. A committee is working to rebuild the public speaking contest and hopes to see it grow again in 2026.