

EXTENSION TRENDS: **FORT HALL RESERVATION**

University of Idaho Extension, Fort Hall Reservation • www.uidaho.edu/fort-hall-reservation



2025 By the Numbers

- 2,142 direct contacts
- 1,173 youth participants
- 27 volunteers
- 735 volunteer hours
- \$118,162 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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2025 Impact

Educator Danielle Gunn led the Fort Hall Bull Grading Committee, evaluating 157 bulls with a 99.4% pass rate, reflecting full adoption of improved selection practices. Nearly 60% received A or A-grades, a 5% increase from 2024, showing continued genetic improvement and lower bull replacement costs. Gunn also managed the Trichomoniasis program for 50 producers and 8,000 cattle. Through education and strict testing, Fort Hall recorded zero positive cases from 2023–2025.

To strengthen beef production, Gunn organized a hands-on beef school for beef producers focused on calf survival and marketing. Participants gained practical skills in calf care and sales strategies, leading to improved calf survival and stronger ranch profits.

In partnership with the Fort Hall Land Use Policy Commission and Agricultural Resource Management Program, Gunn led weed control initiatives, including adoption of a new tribal weed plan, a community weed removal event, and treatment of 300 infested acres. She also launched a biological control project for rush skeletonweed and coordinated a 150,000-acre Mormon cricket control program that protected 200,000 acres of rangeland. Additionally, Gunn led a gardening program, resulting in new horticultural skills, greater adoption of home gardening, and improved household food security.

Fort Hall Reservation 4-H

In partnership with tribal colleague Nola Cates, Gunn helped deliver a strong and engaging 4-H program that reached youth across multiple schools and community settings. Together, they provided a wide range of learning opportunities, including 28 Tribal Youth in Agriculture classes, seasonal programs and summer activities that inspired local youth to explore agriculture, leadership and community involvement. Youth participation and project completion remained high, with many showcasing their work at both county and state fairs. Several tribal members successfully completed livestock projects, gaining valuable hands-on experience in animal care and project management. Youth and volunteers also took part in 4-H camp, where tribal youth served as teen counselors and community adults supported camp activities and livestock programs. Participants consistently reported growth in key life skills such as leadership, responsibility and teamwork – reflecting the program’s continued success in empowering young people and strengthening community connections through 4-H.

On the Horizon

In partnership with the tribal Agricultural Resource Management Program and John Franson of Wilbur Ellis, Educator Danielle Gunn launched a demonstration project on downy brome control on tribal rangeland. Approximately 1.55 acres were treated with seven plots alongside controls. Project goals include improving range health, native vegetation restoration and wildfire risk reduction. Measurable results will be available in 2026.