

EXTENSION TRENDS: **NIMIIPUU RESERVATION**

University of Idaho Extension, Nimiipuu Reservation • www.uidaho.edu/nimiipuu-reservation



2025 By the Numbers

- **7,988** direct contacts
- **2,294** youth participants
- **46** volunteers
- **1,012** volunteer hours
- **\$124,650** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension, Nimiipuu Reservation: Ryan Oatman, Ann McCormack, Kim Cannon, Kathee Tifft and Abraham Broncheau.

UI Extension Educator



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2025 Impact

The UI Extension, Nimiipuu Reservation program recorded 7,988 direct contacts including 69 teaching contacts and 14,752 indirect contacts in 2025. Approximately 80% of programming included intergenerational learning. Teaching workshops and programs have continued to be frequently requested by Tribal departments, state departments, schools, and other outside organizations. There was continued participation in all programs with a strong growing interest in leadership development workshops from youth. The youth leadership programs around saving salmon has been noticed by the community resulting in youth being asked to speak at several events including the Northwest Intertribal Fish Commission Annual Meeting, Intertribal Agriculture Meeting, and the Tribal Fish Committee. The work of these young leaders also caught the eye of another donor who made a generous donation to help with travel expenses. The Nez Perce Tribe also donated to the youth leadership group by providing additional financial support. The Apple Corporation has also offered support by providing 90 iPads and cases and over \$53,000 to support work in reviving the Nez Perce language and providing STEAM education.

Nimiipuu Reservation 4-H

The UI Extension, Nimiipuu Reservation 4-H program had a busy 2025. Impact was increased in keystone areas while also expanding into new adventures. The program also saw growth with new partners that added tremendously to available resources. The Culture is Connection/Culture is Prevention program remains one of the best, most attended programs with multiple generations learning Native American arts, culture, language, and history together. The cultural craft workshops help teach STEAM in a fun engaging way that involves the family. One of the most notable classes this year included building portable sweathouses. The structures taught participants how to gather the materials in the forest, how to harvest the materials respectfully and responsibly, and how to construct and prepare a functioning sweathouse. The participants also learned leadership skills, teamwork and how to be good stewards of the land. Kayaking and rafting were offered in 2025. Youth participated in overnight trips as well as day trips learning to be safe and responsible on the water while also learning to look at water as a living being abundant with life.

On the Horizon

The kayaking and water education program will be expanded in 2026 and will include Nez Perce history and language. Educator Danielle Scott is currently part of a planning group to develop a curriculum around outdoor sports, after noticing the strong interest in youth to get out on the water and learn to navigate waterways and the ecosystem surrounding water. In the summer of 2025, youth participated in activities at five bodies of water in Washington, Oregon, and California. The outcome of those events included more youth groups from other areas wanting to get together to spend time on the water together. Two trips are being planned for summer 2026.

The robotics program will continue, as well as more classes using technology, thanks to donations from the Apple Corporation. After more than a year in the works, Apple released the new Nez Perce language keyboard. This is exciting because teaching and preserving the language is a key part of the work that UI Extension, Nimiipuu Reservation does. Access to this keyboard is a game changer.