

EXTENSION TRENDS: **IDAHO COUNTY**

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2025 By the Numbers

- **18,341** direct contacts
- **1,373** youth participants
- **144** volunteers
- **6,640** volunteer hours
- **\$33,385** extramural funding

Our Advisory Councils

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Idaho County: Helen Rowland, Gary Crea, Tia Schumacher, James Boggan, Julia McCarthy, Sarah Park, Rick Turner, Ron Van Buren, Casey Cochran, Tesse Pineda, Heather Kestner, Leslie McIntire, Abby Jones, Katrena Hauger, Andrea Solberg, Dustin Elliot, Eve McColloch, Lance McColloch, Kristi Brooks and Teri Wassmuth.

UI Extension Educators



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2025 Impact

Educator Meranda Small organized and hosted regional Beef Schools in Lewiston, Cottonwood, and Sandpoint, focusing on beef cattle genetics, reproduction tools, and calving management. Beef Quality Assurance Training and Certification was provided at a small farms event. The Young Cattle Producers Conference completed its 9th year with 18 producers attending. Small continues to serve as an Idaho Beef Quality Assurance state coordinator in partnership with the Idaho Beef Council. Pre-breeding exams and forage sampling information was offered as part of the Beef 101: Pacific Northwest Beginning Rancher Program grant during its second phase. Small is also a co-PI on a Western Extension Risk Management grant, Mitigating Risks Towards a Secure Beef Supply in Western States, serving as the lead for Idaho.

Educator Kirstin Jensen partnered with her co-author of Five for Five –5 Minutes to Better Health to present at the Joint Innovation and Cooperative Extension Meeting to leaders from across the nation. Partnerships continued with FCS faculty from five different universities and local school districts to offer curriculum trainings and update the Eat Smart Idaho website. Five for Five received the UI Extension Excellence in Extension Award, the IEAFCS Educational Curriculum Package Award, and the NEAFCS 3rd place national and 1st place Western Regional awards. Jensen received \$132,584 in external donations/grants to plan and conduct Dementia Friends informational sessions and eight healthy lifestyle events for PICH Extreme Adventure Club reaching 235 youth participants. Her walking program continues to thrive reaching 280 participants throughout Idaho County. She serves as the lead for the Western Regional Family & Consumer Sciences Physical Activity Collaborator.

4-H in Idaho County

UI Extension in Idaho County oversees 17 4-H clubs and at least one club in each of the county's seven communities. Over 425 youth participated in clubs in 2025 with almost 100 adult volunteers leading the way. The 4-H Ambassador program is a group for teens in 9-12 grade. Teens are selected each fall to participate in monthly meetings to develop leadership, public speaking and organizational skills. Ten teens participated in 2025. In addition to overnight camp, two separate day camps were offered. Sewing Day and 4-H Day Camp are free of charge with all materials provided. Older 4-H youth were invited to attend an Etiquette Dinner. The Farm and Forest Fair was offered to area schools to promote the importance of natural resources. Eleven schools attended with a total of 280 students. This program was replicated for the first time in the Lewiston Valley, reaching an additional 270 youth from the surrounding area. Following completion of the county fair, youth were invited to attend the 4-H Meats Field Day and participate in a carcass judging contest where they learned about carcass criteria reflective of the industry and then evaluated several classes, watched a cutting demonstration, and sampled products from various livestock species.

On the Horizon

Beef Quality Assurance Continuing Education Credits are now being offered. The third phase of Beef 101: Pacific Northwest Beginning Rancher Program will be offered in 2026. Idaho Young Cattle Producers will hold its 10th offering.