



**UC Cooperative Extension**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



# PLUMAS & SIERRA COUNTIES ANNUAL REPORT

## 2025



# Our Team

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## ***DIRECTOR'S REPORT***

With leadership from our locally based advisors and staff, and tremendous support from dedicated 4-H volunteers, UCCE Plumas-Sierra continues to provide locally focused research, educational programming, and leadership in the following areas:

- Livestock and Natural Resources
- Forestry
- Weed Science
- 4-H Program Youth Development

Our partnerships with county government, community organizations, ranchers, dedicated 4-H volunteers, and support from our communities make this possible! Thank you!

Michele Fisch

Area Director-Placer, Nevada, Plumas, Sierra

# Livestock & Natural Resources

Tracy Schohr



## IRRIGATED PASTURE ENHANCEMENT

Expanded research to investigate soil health to improve forage productivity and water efficiency. Hosted a workshop on the topic. Continuing work on interseeding and weed management for pasture improvement.



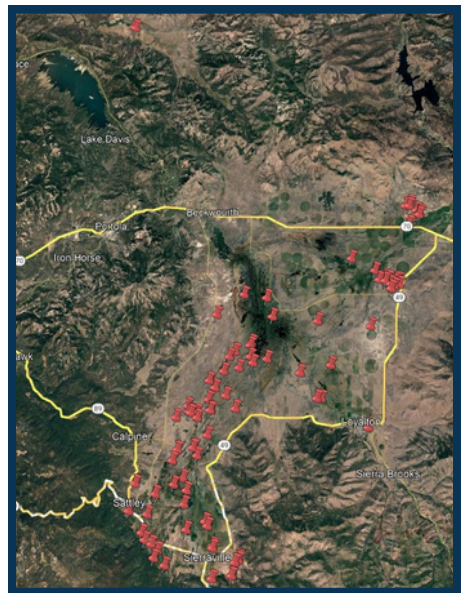
## RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

Working with an interdisciplinary team to quantify grazing to reduce fire fuels. Conducting research for grazing as a tool in post-fire recovery in forested ecosystems.



## LEADING THROUGH TRAUMA

Hosted session for local community leaders to become better equipped to help farmers, ranchers and foresters under stress from predators, wildfires, markets, and succession.



## RANCHING WITH WOLVES

The Beyem Seyo wolf pack routinely preyed on cattle, creating significant financial and human health impacts on livestock operators in Sierra Valley.

- Facilitated US Fish and Wildlife conversations,
- Coordinated educational trainings for ranchers;
- Hosted tours for agency representatives;
- Depredation report management;
- Economic impact study;
- Rancher outreach; and
- Coordinated Sierra Valley Core Team communication.

SIERRA VALLEY WOLF CONFIRMED  
DEPREDATIONS MARCH 7, 2025, TO  
OCTOBER 10, 2025



# Forestry & Natural Resources

Kane Russell



## Promote Sustainable Forest Management:

- Held a month-long weekly webinar series on post-fire forest resilience for local landowners
- Co-developed demonstration sites for forest resilience and post-fire reforestation in collaboration with Plumas NF and local partners

## Strengthen Community Wildfire Resilience:

- Implemented prescribed burns alongside Plumas Cal-TREX participants, local landowners, and university students
- Received \$1 million in grant funding for fuels reduction work in Taylorsville, Quincy, and Meadow Valley in partnership with local organizations

## Address Barriers to Project Implementation:

- Conducted a region-wide needs assessment to identify most pressing forestry and fire issues for natural resource professionals and landowners

# 4-H Youth Development Program



## Jennifer Kettle

Jennifer Kettle serves as the Community Education Specialist for the 4-H Youth Development Program. With a background in community engagement, program coordination, and youth-focused services, she is passionate about creating meaningful opportunities for young people to learn, grow, and thrive.



In her role, Jennifer is committed to strengthening the 4-H program by expanding access, supporting volunteers, and fostering inclusive, hands-on learning experiences. Through 4-H, she is proud to support the continued growth of Plumas County by helping develop confident, capable youth who will contribute to the community for years to come.

### 2024-2025 STATS:

- Volunteers: 70
- Youth Members: 212
- Plumas County Clubs: 4
- Sierra County 4-H Clubs: 3

### 2025-2026 HIGHLIGHTS & GOALS:

- All 5 Major 4-H County Events Returned to Schedule!
  - 4-H Awareness Day
  - Livestock 101 Camp
  - Presentation Day
  - Small Animal Field Day
  - Spring Fling & Fashion Review Day
- Horsemastership/Horse Show Being Planned!
- Established the Plumas & Sierra Counties 4-H Program Leadership Team Council with Administrative Oversight, 4-H Grows, Incentives & Recognition, and Ad Hoc Committees taking the place of the former Bi-County Council.
- CES Attended 4-H Camping Institute as the first step to bringing a 4-H Camp Back to Plumas & Sierra County in the Near Future!

