



University of California, RREA Popular Report, FY 2014

The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources administers the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Program of California. It uses the limited RREA federal funds allocated annually to implement a competitive grants program that requests proposals to develop and/or support projects/activities that address the educational and extension needs in the management of California's valuable renewable resources on forests and rangelands. The RREA funding brings Extension programs and materials to a wide range of California citizens including range and forest landowners and managers, local and state policy makers, and school-aged youth. For each RREA dollar invested typically \$7 is leveraged from other sources such as state, private, and local government funds. During FY 2014 the California RREA competitive grants program funded five Extension projects and while each of these deserves special recognition for their accomplishments, only a few can be highlighted.

➤ ***California Naturalist Program Support, Forest/Rangeland Stewardship and Health***



California Naturalist Program Training

Utilizing RREA funds the UC ANR *California Naturalist Program* is rapidly building a statewide network of dedicated environmental stewards. The program is designed to introduce the public, teachers, interpreters, docents, green collar workers, natural resource managers, and budding scientists to the wonders of our unique ecology and engage these individuals in the stewardship of California's natural communities; after California Naturalist training rangeland owners and managers reported improving management of 284,629 acres. California Naturalist certification is provided after completing a 40-hour course and many of the program graduates volunteer with federal, state, local agencies, and nonprofits reporting thousands of in-service hours. *"It feels really good to do something I enjoyed and learned from!"* Training participant

➤ ***The California Fish App: An Educational Tool, Forest and Rangeland Water and Wetland Resources***



The California Fish App Home page

A mobile application, *California Fish* was developed with the aim of increasing public understanding and knowledge of California freshwater fish species to better allow for public participation in fish conservation and water management issues; an accompanying opportunity was that of increasing California youths involvement in STEM fields by collaborating with the UC ANR statewide 4-H program for the apps beta-testing. Six months following the apps launch over 23,000 users have visited the website. *"A lot of great work has been done here!"* Website user comment

Federal partnerships, like those supported through UC Cooperative Extension and RREA continue to make a difference at the local level and expand our impacts. Please visit our website at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/rrea/> for full stories of our RREA successes. Contact: William Frost, Associate Director, UC Cooperative Extension, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1312, wefrost@ucanr.edu.