

# UC Cooperative Extension in El Dorado County

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# University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE)

*Your bridge between local issues and the research expertise of the  
University of California*



# UCCE – A Partnership At Many Levels



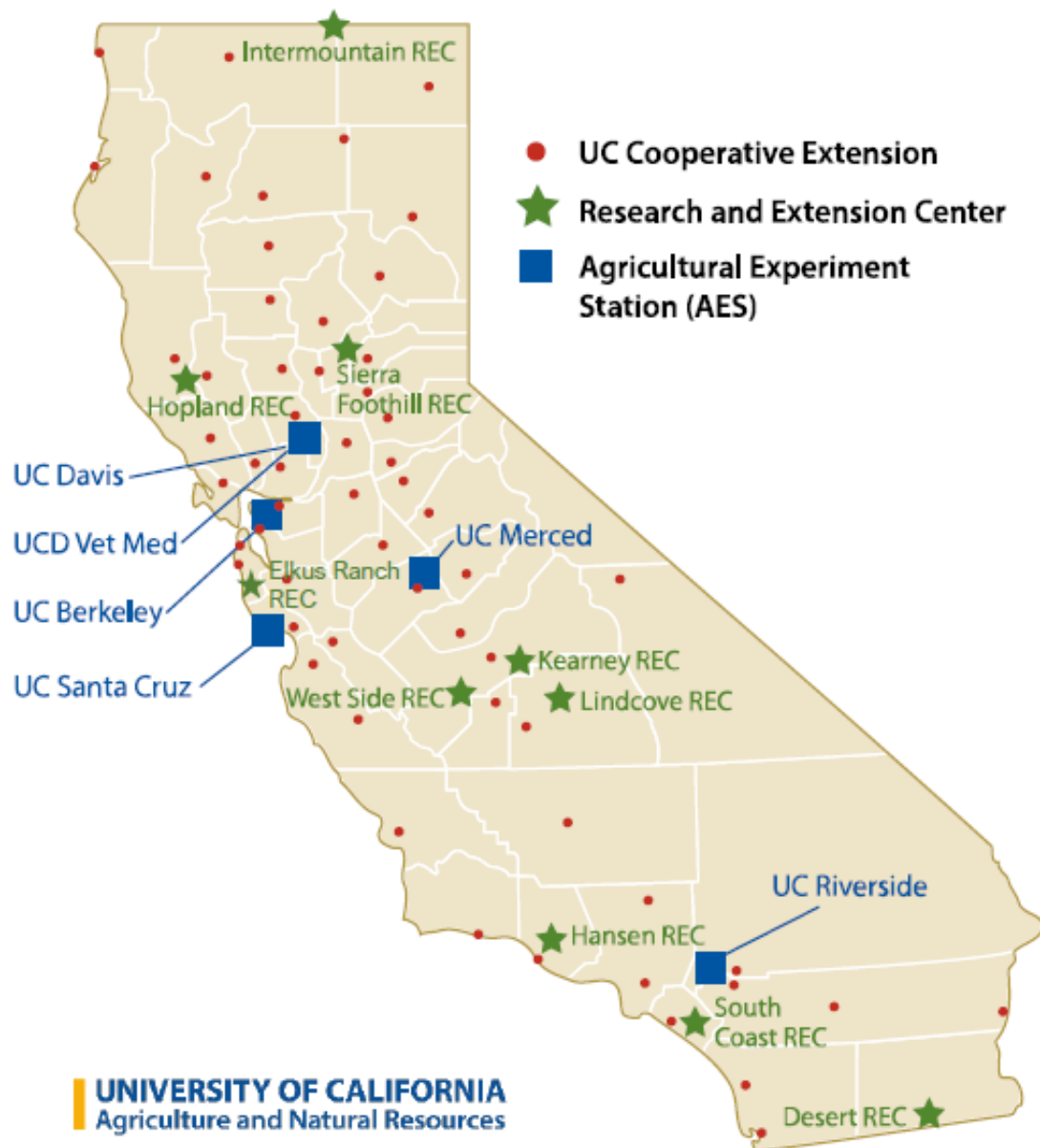
## **Smith-Lever Act of 1914 (7 U.S.C. §§341 et. seq.):**

- Established the Cooperative Extension System nationwide to disperse research and science to local communities

## **Extension operates through a three-tiered system:**

- **Federal** oversight by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- **State-level** activities led by land-grant institutions , in California, as administered by **University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR)**
- **Local**, county funded implementation by extension staff and volunteers

# UCANR Statewide



- **1,300 Employees Statewide**
- **54 UC Cooperative Extension Offices**
  - Serving all 58 CA counties
  - 190 Advisors conduct research & education in local communities
  - 350 Community Educators deliver programs
- **5 Agricultural Experiment Station (AES)**
- **Campuses**
  - 513 AES researchers
- **10 Research & Extension Centers**
  - >13,000 acres of living laboratory
- **Presence on 9 UC Campuses**
  - 106 campus and county-based Specialists
- **17 Statewide Programs and Institutes**
  - Over 18,000 volunteers contribute 1.35M hours of public service, valued at nearly \$52M

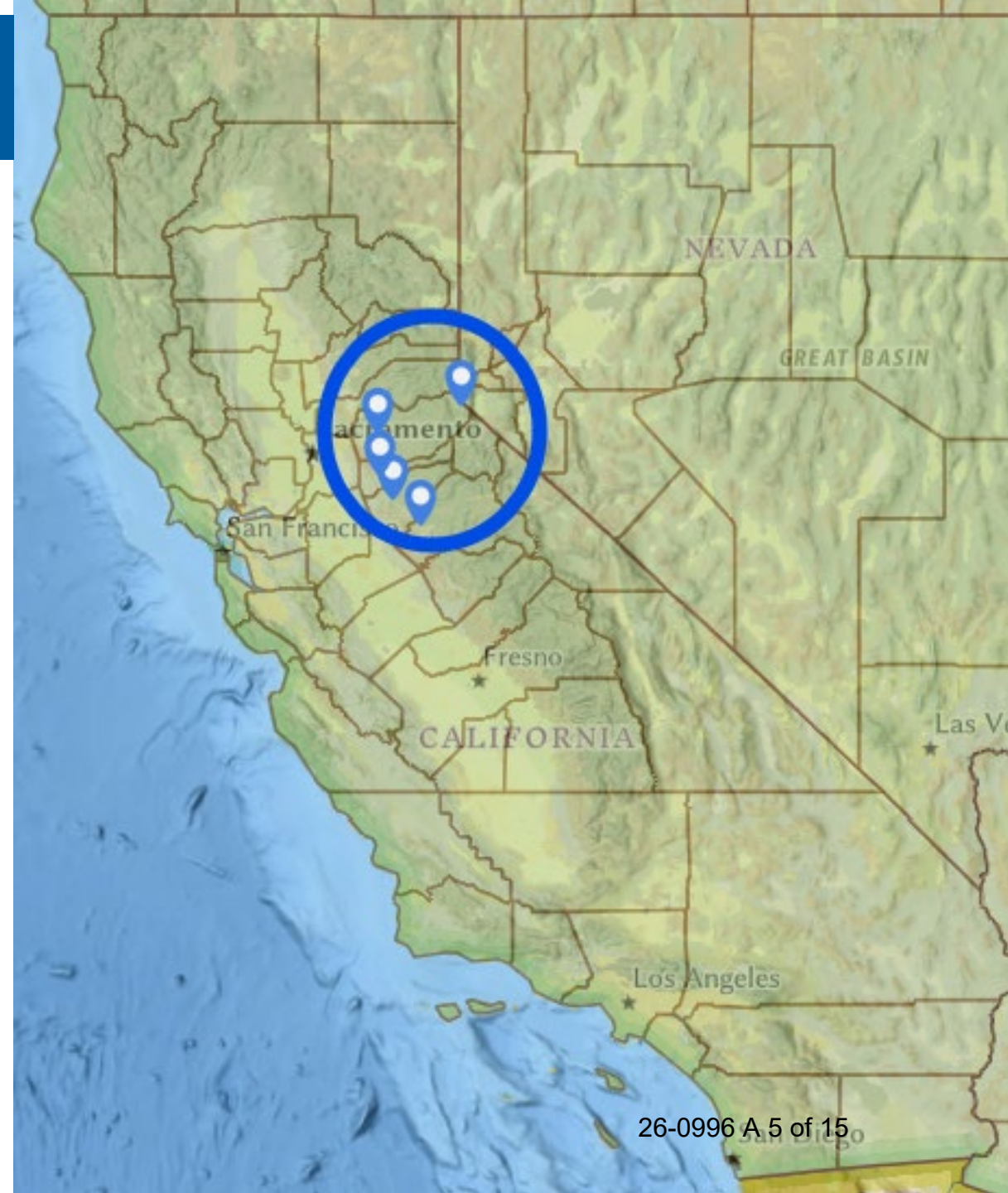
# UCCE Central Sierra

## Multi-County Partnership (MCP) established in 2011

- El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties
- Operating together to leverage resources
- Headquartered in Placerville, 5 offices throughout area
- 9 academic advisors, 23 program staff

## Supported by MCP Advisory Council

- CAO and one member of the Board of Supervisors from each county, plus the EDC Ag Commissioner
- Provides a forum for ongoing direct communication between counties and MCP Area Director
- Guides the development of the annual budget, prior to approval in individual counties and from the University



# UCCE El Dorado County



**4-H Youth Development Program**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



**UC Master Gardener**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



**UC Master Food Preserver**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



**UC Environmental Stewards**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



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



**UC Integrated Pest Management**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



**UC ANR Policy Institute**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



**UC ANR Fire Network**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



**Community Nutrition & Health**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**\*4-H, MG, & MFP staff are funded mostly through County support, supplemented sometimes by state dollars or grants generated by Advisors**

# UCCE El Dorado County 4-H

***4-H helps young people to reach their full potential as competent, confident, leaders of character who contribute and are connected to their communities.***

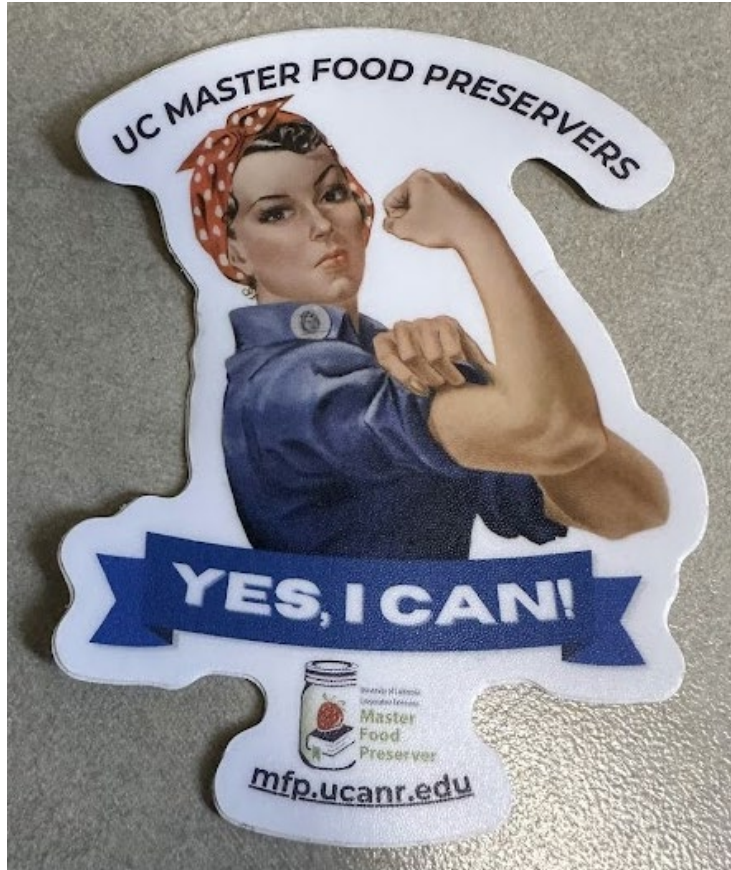
- 2 dedicated staff (including Angela Johnson, pictured right)
- 8 Community Clubs
- Multitude of projects focused on experiential learning: geology, livestock, domestic animals, quilting, hiking, legos, gardening, and more
- **Upcoming:** El Dorado County Fair, 4-H Enrollment

## **2024-2025 Program Year Outcomes:**

- 673 enrolled youth
- 73 volunteers donated 8,646 volunteer hours



# UCCE EDC Master Food Preservers (MFP)



*Using research-based practices to safely preserve food in the home, reduce food waste, increase food security, and provide engaging ways to explore healthy food.*

- 1 dedicated staff member (Haley O'Mara)
- Programming in both West Slope and South Lake Tahoe
- Virtual and in-person education provided on canning and home preservation, jams, cheesemaking, freezing...
- **Upcoming:** Preserving Stone Fruits; Save the Taste, Stop the Waste; Garlic; Avocados; Why Dry

## **2024-2025 Program Year Outcomes:**

- 3,034 education interactions
- 25 volunteers donated 2,470 volunteer hours

# UCCE EDC Master Gardeners (MG)



*Providing practical, scientific gardening information to the home gardeners.*

- 1 dedicated staff member (Haley O'Mara)
- Programming in both West Slope and South Lake Tahoe
- MG Help Desk, classes, Sherwood Demonstration Garden, info booths at events, and more
- **Upcoming:** Herbs; Gardening for Pollinators; High Elevation Edible Gardening; Control Invasive Weeds

## **2024-2025 Program Year Outcomes:**

- 6,855 education interactions
- 148 volunteers donated 14,925.5 volunteer hours



# UCCE Research and Extension

## *Youth Development and Community Wellness*

- **2 Academic Advisors:**
  - JoLynn Miller, 4-H Youth Development
  - Kitty Oppliger, Community Nutrition and Health
- **Activities:** youth career readiness and leadership development, volunteer engagement, connecting science to policy, mental well-being, community nutrition education

### **Example Projects:**

- Identifying pathways for 4-H participants to receive community college credit
- Supporting nutrition education for school-aged children



# UCCE Research and Extension

## *Agriculture and Small Farms*

- **3 Academic Advisors:**
  - MacKenzie Patton, Integrated Pest Management
  - Hardeep Singh, Local Food Systems
  - Scott Oneto, Farm Advisor
- **Activities:** insect and disease management, irrigation, the use of biochar in ag systems, invasive and noxious weeds

### **Example Projects:**

- Pest management in stone fruits
- Monitoring for Mediterranean Oak Borer
- Training on invasive weed ID and management in Tahoe Basin
- Dryland walnut farming



# UCCE Research and Extension

## *Livestock and Natural Resources*

- **2 Academic Staff:**
  - Dan Macon, Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor
  - Brian Allen, Assistant Specialist
- **Activities:** small ruminant production, livestock-predator interactions, virtual fencing, workforce development

### **Example Projects:**

- El Dorado County Ag Pass Training
- Virtual fencing for noxious weed management
- Livestock grazing to manage fuel loads



# UCCE Research and Extension

## *Forestry, Woody Biomass and Living with Fire*

- **3 Academic Staff:**
  - Cindy Chen, Woody Biomass and Forest Products
  - Susie Kocher, Forestry
  - Bob Woodke, Indigenous Disaster Resilience
- **Activities:** forest management and stewardship, use of wood products, prescribed fire

### **Example Projects:**

- Wood products for energy
- Biochar for soil health
- Tree school and forest education for the layperson
- Reforestation Camp



Susie Kocher (right), UCCE Forestry Advisor

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# UCCE EDC – Get Involved!!

## **Volunteer:**

- Master Gardeners, Master Food Preservers, 4-H Club/Project Leaders
- 4-H Presentation Day Judges

## **Attend Events:**

- See 4-H projects, MFPs and MGs at the El Dorado County Fair
- Upcoming classes with MFPs and MGs
- Attend Open Days at Sherwood Demo Garden

## **Support!!**

- Help us promote programs and events
- Join research projects as a collaborator



**Sue Mosbacher, UCANR Staff Judging 4-H Presentations**

# UCCE EDC – More Information

## UCCE Central Sierra Contact Information:

- [UCCE Central Sierra Website](#)
- Address: 311 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667
- Phone: (530) 621-5502

## Social Media:

- Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn

## Newsletters:

- Monthly Central Sierra
- Individual Program Newsletters

