

# Central Sandhills Area 2024 Impact At-A- Glance

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**"The (GSL) Open House allows the attendee the opportunity to learn information on a variety of issues and concerns."**

When attendees of the August 20, 2024 Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory (GSL) Open House were asked what they liked most about the day, research updates and interactive sessions ranked highest. Approximately 200 people attended the day-long program that also featured market and weather outlooks, history, and a chance for ranchers, ag professionals, and UNL faculty and staff to interact one-on-one. One highlight was a Panel featuring Nebraska Ranch Practicum Alumni (pictured above), a Nebraska Extension program at GSL that began in 1999. One alum, Nancy Petersen stated, "The Ranch Practicum was the single most valuable education I ever got. To this day, I still use much of what I learned in this training." The 2025 GSL Open House will be August 20, 2025.

### Programs At-A-Glance

- *Grab and Go 4-H Summer Workshop Bags provided four workshop activities in each bag. Thirty-six were purchased, generating 144 4-H projects for county fair.*
- *Private Pesticide in-person trainings were conducted in all four counties and reached over 25 ranchers.*

## 7.3%

increase in 4-H Enrollment in Blaine, Grant, Hooker, and Thomas counties in 2024.

## 2,400+

population of the Central Sandhills area, which includes four county governments, four county fairs, four school districts, three state legislative districts, three health departments, two time zones, two educational service units, and one Nebraska Extension office.

## 114

4-H projects from the Central Sandhills Area exhibited at the Nebraska State Fair and how many miles of Highway 2 the Central Sandhills Area includes.

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**INSPIRE NEBRASKANS & THEIR COMMUNITIES**

**ENHANCE THE HEALTH & WELLBEING OF ALL NEBRAS-KANS**