



RFSI

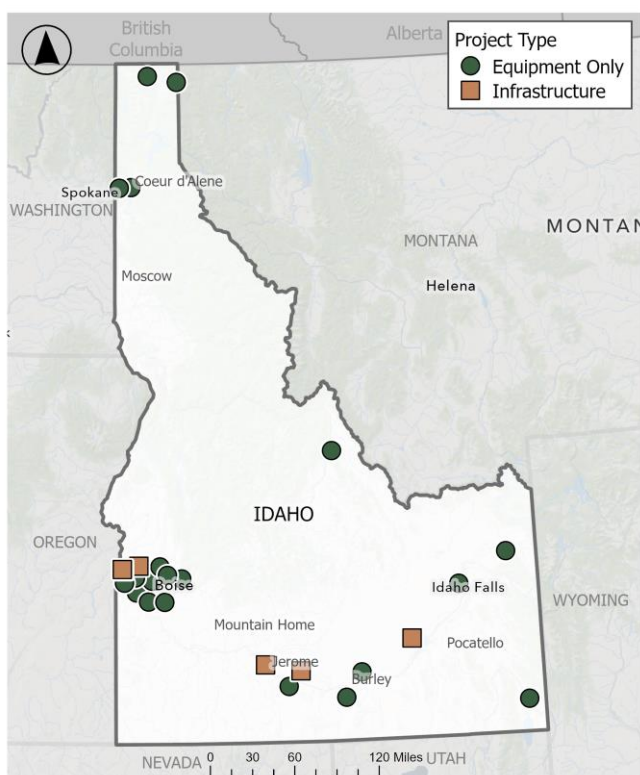
Resilient Food Systems
Infrastructure Program

Idaho



State Overview

USDA awarded the Idaho State Department of Agriculture **\$6.2 million** through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program. The objective of RFSI is to expand capacity for aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced agricultural food products. These federal funds will support 27 Idaho infrastructure and equipment projects increasing access to new market opportunities, benefiting local and regional producers and processors.



Project Highlights

- **Install new sorting systems to scan local apples and peaches for quality and food safety**, improving access to new regional markets for local fruit growers.
- **Acquire a blast freezer to enhance value-added production of ice cream**, increasing processing volumes and market access, benefiting 18 local markets.
- **Purchase filtration equipment to improve wine preparation and bottling**, increasing market access for six local producers.

Anticipated Outcomes*

364

Local/Regional
Producers Benefited

1,676

New Market Outlets
Established

176

New Value-Added
Products Developed

16

Jobs
Created

24

Storage/Aggregation
Units Purchased

6

Distribution
Vehicles Purchased

60

Processing Equipment
Purchased

**These numbers are reported by states and subawardees.*

RFSI was awarded to the 56 States and Territories in May 2023. Each state conducted a competitive grant review and selection process. States identified their funding priorities through extensive outreach with key industry stakeholders, which guided their selection process to ensure a robust state and local food system representation. Selected projects fund locally and regionally produced food products, including specialty crops, dairy, grains for human consumption, aquaculture, and other food products, excluding meat and poultry.

Infrastructure Projects: Snapshot

Infrastructure Grant projects can involve facility and equipment expansion and upgrades, new construction, and modernized information technology systems.

Idaho invested more than **\$4 million** across 6 Infrastructure projects benefiting 76 local and regional producers. These projects are:

- Purchasing processing equipment to improve efficiency and expand processing capacity at an aquaculture facility, increasing market access for local trout producers;
- Installing a color detect automated system to improve food safety systems for apples and peaches;
- Investing in High Temperature Short Time pasteurizing equipment to increase milk processing for 25 producers;
- Procuring specialized equipment to increase capacity to package and develop 12 new value-added potato chip products;
- Improving cold storage management for processed fruits and vegetables, benefiting 40 local and regional producers; and
- Expanding a packaging and transportation system for an onion processing facility to increase sourcing from 21 local and regional producers and develop 32 new value-added products.

Equipment Only Projects: Snapshot

Equipment Only projects are intended to purchase special purpose equipment such as cold/dry storage, distribution vehicles, and processing and packaging equipment.

Idaho invested more than **\$1.5 million** across 21 Equipment Only projects purchasing more than 62 pieces of aggregation, processing, storage, and distribution equipment—including a semi-automated bottling line, stacked barrel lager tank, a blast freezer, and a washing and grading machine. The state expects 288 local and regional producers will benefit from reduced harvest loss, improved product quality and shelf-life, and access to 495 new markets.

Statewide Standouts



Idaho is investing \$3.4 million into projects to process, aggregate, and distribute produce, such as apples, peaches, onions, potatoes, and wine grapes.



More than 20 percent of Idaho's RFSI funding improves the supply chain for local and regional grain products, such as wheat, barley, and wild rice, supporting 156 producers.



More than \$1 million of Idaho's RFSI funding supports supply chain solutions for the dairy industry, increasing market access for 55 local and regional producers.