

RFSI

Resilient Food Systems
Infrastructure Program

Nevada



State Overview

USDA awarded the Nevada Department of Agriculture **\$2.2 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 10 Nevada infrastructure and equipment projects increasing access to new market opportunities, benefiting local and regional producers and processors.



Project Highlights

- **Modernize storage and distribution infrastructure** at one of Nevada's oldest dairy farms to expand processing plant capacity and supply new markets with milk from at least six regional producers.
- **Expand processing and distribution capacity** for unique mushroom-based meat alternatives and other value-added agricultural products.
- **Improve the quality and shelf-life of fresh produce** with cold storage and refrigerated distribution.

Anticipated Outcomes*

70

Local/Regional
Producers Benefited

58

New Market Outlets
Established

32

New Value-Added
Products Developed

1

New Facility
Constructed

23

Storage/Aggregation
Units Purchased

7

Distribution
Vehicles Purchased

52

Processing Equipment
Purchased

11

Jobs Created

*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.

Nevada invested nearly **\$1 million** into two Infrastructure projects benefiting three local and regional producers. These projects are:

- Modernizing and expanding a dairy processing plant with additional milk storage silos, an upgraded clean-in-place system, and a new distribution vehicle; and
- Constructing and equipping a facility for post-harvest processing, including sorting, cleaning, packing, and cold storage of watermelons to improve product quality and expand market opportunities.

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.

Nevada invested nearly **\$500,000** across 8 Equipment Only projects purchasing more than 63 pieces of aggregation, processing, storage, and distribution equipment—including refrigerated delivery vehicles, produce washers, a food dehydrator, and a bottling machine. The state expects 67 local and regional producers will benefit from reduced harvest loss, improved product quality and shelf life, and access to 55 new markets.

Statewide Standouts



Seventy percent of Nevada projects include a refrigerated delivery vehicle or trailer to support aggregation, storage, and distribution of perishable foods.



More than half of Nevada's projects invest in cold storage equipment such as refrigerated shipping containers, walk-in coolers, and refrigerated trailers.



Nearly \$700,000 of Nevada's RFSI funding focuses on improving the quality and shelf-life of fresh produce, including herbs, salad greens, root crops, squash, fruit, cantaloupes, and melons.



Nevada is investing in four projects that purchase value-added processing equipment to make infused vinegars, plant-based meat alternatives, and dried herbs, teas, and spice blends.