



RFSI

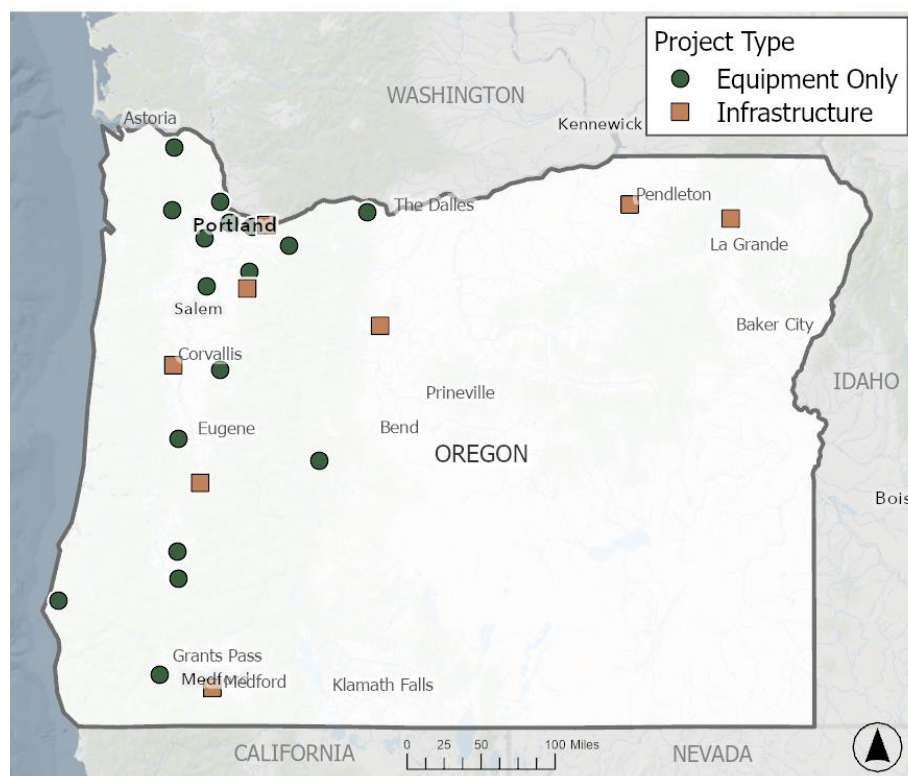
Resilient Food Systems
Infrastructure Program

Oregon



State Overview

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded the Oregon Department of Agriculture **\$5.9 million** through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program. The objective of RFSI is to expand capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced agricultural food products. These federal funds will support 25 Oregon infrastructure and equipment projects increasing access to new market opportunities benefiting local and regional producers and processors.



Project Highlights

- **Construct a specialty milling facility** for organic, heritage grains—such as wheat, barley, spelt, einkorn, and corn—to support 30 regional farmers.
- **Modernize a commercial kitchen** to expand value-added processing and create new markets for local producers.
- **Build a post-harvest processing and storage facility** to support aggregation, cleaning, processing, and distribution of fresh vegetables and crops grown on new small tribal farms.

Anticipated Outcomes*

327

Local/Regional
Producers Benefited

145

New Market Outlets
Established

4

Distribution Vehicles
Purchased

6

New Facilities
Constructed

175

New Value-Added Products
Developed

103

Processing Equipment
Purchased

35

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.

Oregon invested more than **\$2.9 million** across 8 Infrastructure projects, benefiting 149 local and regional producers. These projects include:

- Expanding dry storage space by constructing a new food storage facility that offers five times more refrigerated, frozen, and climate-controlled options for Central Oregon's food and beverage entrepreneurs;
- Developing an on-farm food processing facility to create value-added products using Oregon fruit, berries, and other specialty crops;
- Renovating a university's pilot plant to establish a co-manufacturing facility that small and medium-size food, beverage, and agricultural companies in the state can use; and
- Establishing a food hub facility with cold storage and a certified commercial kitchen for better aggregation and value-added processing.

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.

Oregon invested nearly **\$1 million** across 17 Equipment Only projects, purchasing more than 184 pieces of aggregation, processing, storage, and distribution equipment. Equipment types include specialty packaging machines, grain mills, distribution vehicles, food processors, and steam kettles. With this equipment, 178 local and regional producers will benefit from reduced harvest loss, improved product quality and shelf life, and access to 117 new markets.

Statewide Standouts



Six Oregon projects focus on cleaning, milling, packaging, and adding value to specialty grains grown by small and medium-sized farms.



Oregon dedicated over \$1 million to facilities and equipment for aggregation, storage, and distribution of specialty crops including vegetables, herbs, mushrooms, fruits, and berries.



Approximately one-third of Oregon's projects focus on value-added processing, including ready-to-eat foods, condiments, fruit preserves, frozen products, and beverages.



Two Oregon projects partnered with tribal communities to support food and farm business growth.