



NEWS RELEASE

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Richfield Mushroom Farm Receives Impact Idaho Fund Investment

- Impact Idaho Fund investment provides startup capital to Ironwood Mycology in Richfield
- Ironwood Mycology aims to be the area's first sustainable mushroom farm
- Plan will renovate an old church into a year-round mushroom farm
- Operation will provide fresh mushrooms to individuals through farmers market participation and sales to local retail stores

Hailey, ID – The Impact Idaho Fund has made an investment in the area's first sustainable mushroom farm. Ironwood Mycology, located in the south central Idaho community of Richfield, plans to convert an old church into a year-round mushroom growing operation. Zackary Wood, owner and operator of Ironwood Mycology, is launching the farm to provide area residents with delicious and healthy fungi and educate the community to their many benefits.

"We've invested in Ironwood Mycology for a number of reasons," says Impact Idaho Fund Chief Investment Officer, Catherine Rotchford. "Not only do they increase the diversity of local food in our area, they are committed to running a zero-waste operation and eventually incorporating solar power with the goal of making the farm energy independent. Their operational principles directly align with the objectives of the Impact Idaho Fund."

In addition to their energy goals, Ironwood Mycology plans to source all their inputs locally including sawdust from local mills and agricultural by-products from wheat, corn and soy producers.



“My goal is to make experiencing new varieties of mushrooms approachable and affordable for everyone,” says Wood.

Startup capital invested by the Impact Idaho Fund will help Ironwood Mycology purchase the specialized equipment necessary for a small scale mushroom operation.

“Investment from the Impact Idaho Fund has allowed me to start Ironwood Mycology off the right way,” says Wood. “I am able to make the capital investments in equipment that will put me in a good position to start growing 25 pounds of mushrooms per week immediately. From there it will be easy to expand the operation to meet demand.”

Ironwood Mycology anticipates that their mushrooms will be available at the Wood River Valley Farmers Markets and local retail stores starting in June.

“Beyond the funding, I’m grateful to the Impact Idaho Fund team for their help in identifying markets for my mushrooms and finding farmers willing to provide the by-product that will act as the growing substrate,” added Wood.

Ironwood Mycology is the fifth regional food business to receive investment from the Impact Idaho Fund. To date, \$375,000 has been invested to build regional resilience. Sun Valley Institute for Resilience is currently seeking donors and investors to continue expanding the reach and impact of this funding tool.

About the Impact Idaho Fund

The Impact Idaho Fund (IIF) attracts and mobilizes mission-driven capital for innovative projects advancing community resilience in central and southern Idaho. Investments target the buildout of regenerative, renewable and sustainable practices related to food and farm, land, water and energy use. To date, funded projects have brought more nutrient-dense, locally-grown food to market and helped farmers conserve water in a year of exceptional drought. The funding process and close working relationship between IIF staff and fund recipients is helping farmers to make sound financial decisions. For more information, please visit sunvalleyinstitute.org/impactidahofund

About Sun Valley Institute for Resilience

5B Resilient is a program of the Sun Valley Institute for Resilience (SVIR). SVIR advances community resilience in Idaho’s Wood River Valley region by educating, investing and



collaborating to ensure that the economy, environment and people thrive. SVIR is dedicated to supporting our whole community and we are working to develop programs that meet everyone's needs. For more information, please visit: www.sunvalleyinstitute.org