



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**January 14, 2022**

**Contact:** Amy Mattias  
Program Director  
Sun Valley Institute for Resilience  
(208) 309-0414  
[amy@sunvalleyinstitute.org](mailto:amy@sunvalleyinstitute.org)

## Impact Idaho Fund to Invest in Wild Spaces Micro-dairy

*Hailey, ID* – Sun Valley Institute for Resilience, through the Impact Idaho Fund program, has made an initial investment in the new Wild Spaces micro-dairy based in Glens Ferry, Idaho. The small dairy operation run by Wilder Jones will focus on supplying raw milk and dairy products to southern and central Idaho. Jones, a generational organic farmer, has launched this dairy operation to fill a gap in the local food economy after two southern Idaho small dairy operations, Old Almo Creamery and Picabo Desert Farm closed in 2021.

The farm, located on 160 acres in Glens Ferry, currently has three dairy cows. They are planning to add more in years to come, without exceeding 10 active milking cows. Jones is focusing on a regenerative, no confinement dairy operation. He also plans to offer the farm's product in reusable glass containers. Wild Spaces Farm is anticipating milk being available in the spring of 2022.

The investment by the Impact Idaho Fund will assist Wild Spaces Farm in building necessary infrastructure including a milking barn and processing parlor, as well as acquiring the animals, equipment and certification necessary for a small-scale dairy operation. Impact Idaho Fund staff have been working with Jones since the summer of 2021 on the financial framework for the operation.

"I've really enjoyed working with the people at the Impact Idaho Fund," says Wild Spaces owner Wilder Jones. "I am looking forward to continuing the ongoing friendship and working relationship with this group of people who share my ideology. As I launch the dairy, it is incredibly valuable to be part of a team and not feel like I have to go at it alone."

Program Director, Amy Mattias adds, "we are excited to be adding Wild Spaces Farm to the Impact Idaho Fund portfolio. Wilder's operation will fill a much-needed gap in our regional food



system and be a demonstration of a regenerative and profitable model for small-scale dairy farming in southern Idaho.”

The Impact Idaho Fund is made possible through investment and donations made by the community. In December 2021, Sun Valley Institute for Resilience received a second transformational gift from The Heinz Family Foundation that supports ongoing fund administration and the financial and technical support offered by IIF staff to current and potential projects.

For more information and opportunities for supporting the Impact Idaho Fund visit [sunvalleyinstitute.org/impact-idaho-fund](https://sunvalleyinstitute.org/impact-idaho-fund)

## **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](https://sunvalleyinstitute.org/impactidahofund)*

## **About Sun Valley Institute for Resilience**

*The Impact Idaho Fund is a project of the Sun Valley Institute for Resilience (SVIR). SVIR is a catalyst for lasting quality of place, advancing economic, ecological and social resilience by pioneering transformative solutions from our home in central Idaho. We build social, economic and ecological resilience by connecting capital to community needs, fostering collaboration, raising awareness and serving as a catalyst for change. This history of advancing resilience allows SVIR to mobilize resources in the face of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Sun Valley Institute is dedicated to supporting our whole community and we are working to connect resources to the people who need them most. Please reach out by email or through our social media with any community needs that you are seeing. For more information, please visit:*



[www.sunvalleyinstitute.org](http://www.sunvalleyinstitute.org) and follow the institute on Twitter @SunValleyInst and Instagram at @SunValleyInstitute and Facebook at facebook.com/sunvalleyinstitute.