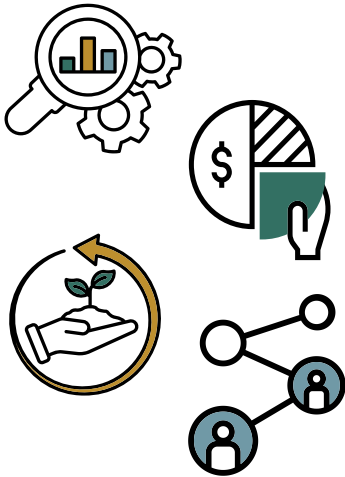
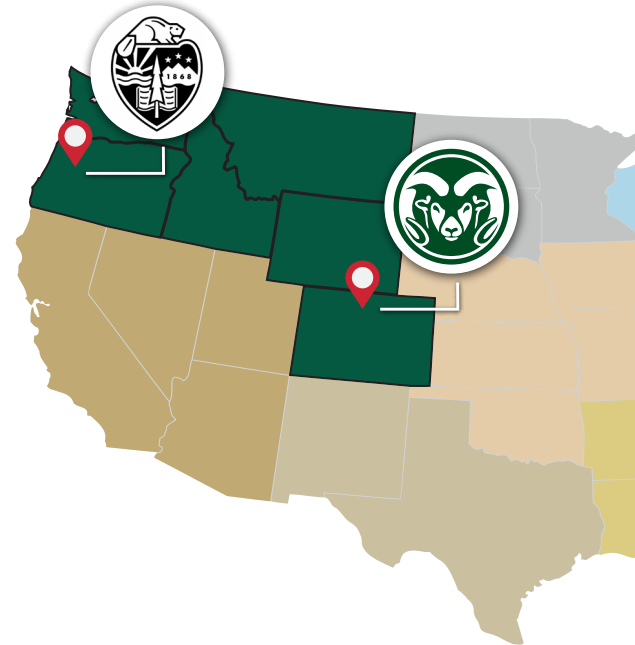




Connecting, Strengthening and Scaling Food Supply Chains in the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Region

Co-led by Colorado State University and Oregon State University, the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center works across the western states of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. **The Center supports farm, ranch and food businesses, as well as broader food supply chain enterprises through:**

- ◆ Technical assistance programs, curricula and one-on-one business support
- ◆ Capacity building through direct investments in projects, as well as professional development for regional food system leaders and innovators
- ◆ Coordination via strategic sharing of resources and coordinated action across the region, and between USDA and regional stakeholders



The Center provides foundational business development support for small and mid-sized farm and food businesses participating in local and regional food sectors, **focusing on these four high priority areas:**

1. Supporting meat supply chains that respond more nimbly to changes in demand or supply
2. Assisting food entrepreneurs in successfully entering local, regional or national markets
3. Expanding and diversifying markets for climate resilient agricultural products
4. Supporting right-sized, appropriately targeted investment in food value chain infrastructure to enhance business success and long-term viability

The Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center is a node for the region's small and mid-tier food and farm businesses and local and regional food sector development initiatives by supporting cross-regional collaboration, providing and analyzing relevant and timely data, and serving as a gateway for USDA programs and other third-party funding opportunities. Over one quarter of the Center's resources will be invested in farms, ranches or food businesses who need capital to launch and expand their businesses (known as Business Builder grants).

How to Get Connected

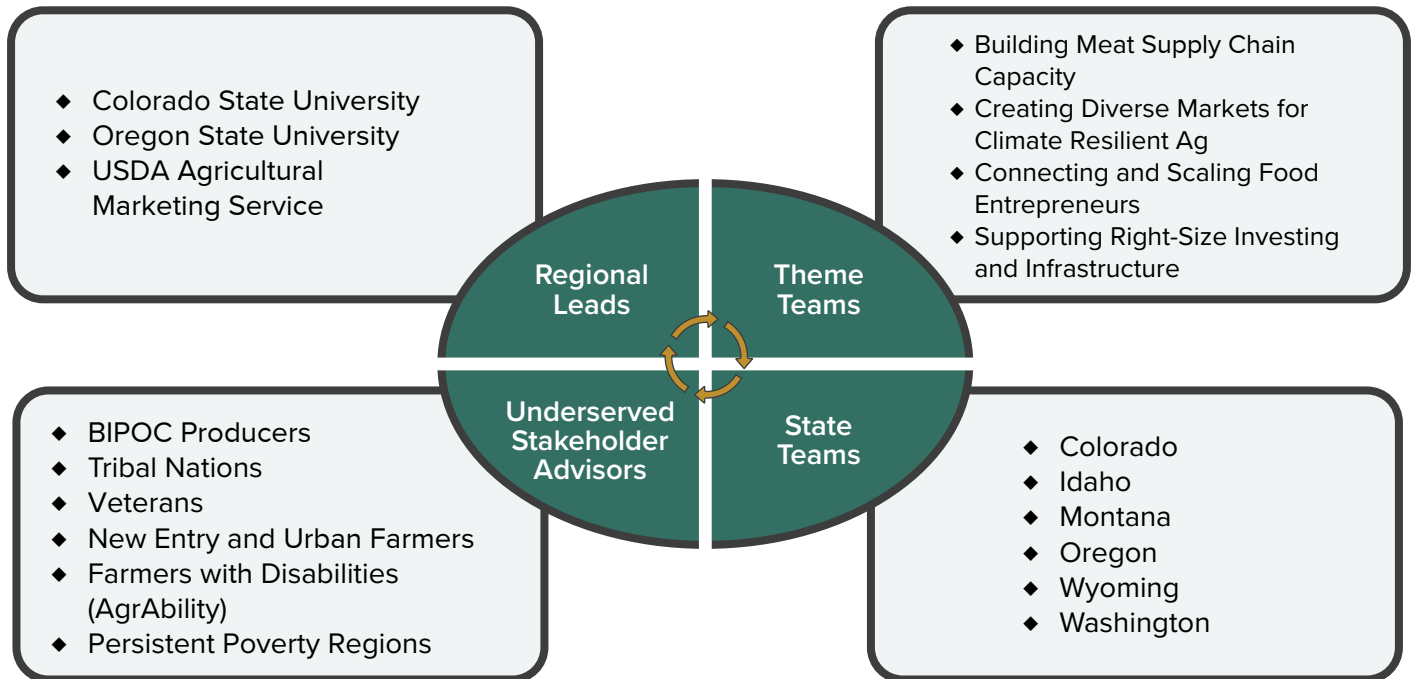
Website: [NWRockyMountainRegionalFoodBusiness.com](https://www.nwrmt.com)

Sign up for email communications: <https://col.st/u6pAT>



The Center’s leadership team, six state teams (Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming), four theme teams, and a cohort of food sector leaders from underserved audiences frames and engages across all initiatives and provide shared governance for the Center.

STRUCTURE



ACTIVITIES

| Coordination | Technical Assistance | Capacity Building |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Cultivate and coordinate partnerships across diverse organizations and regional initiatives ◆ Serve as a state/regional resource and capacity building hub for federal grants and programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Engage TA providers to support thematic needs and business development programs ◆ Support diverse activities and outcomes with emphasis on value chain and coordination, scaling up small/mid-tier operations and one-on-one assistance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implement Business Builder Awards to build capacity among under-invested operations ◆ Expand supply chain professional development and strategy for thematic and regional market leaders |

Center leads:

Partners and Collaborators:



Regional/multi-state: Tahoma Peak Solutions, Network of Incubators and Community Kitchens, Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Luna Bird, Food Corridor

Colorado: Colorado Department of Agriculture

Oregon: Oregon Department of Agriculture, OSU Food Innovation Center, Oregon Community Food Systems Network and Oregon Food Hub Network

Idaho: University of Idaho, Idaho Department of Agriculture, FARE Idaho, Sun Valley Institute, Arrowleaf Consulting Group

Montana: Montana Department of Agriculture, Montana State University

Washington: Washington State University, Washington State Department of Agriculture

Wyoming: University of Wyoming, Central Wyoming College

USDA: Ag Marketing Service Collaborators and NW-Rocky Mountain Regional Coordinator