

USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture's extramural competitive grants program. AFRI supports research, education, and extension in several areas, including sustainable bioenergy and climate change.

Proposals Involving the University of Idaho

The University of Idaho partnered with other Western universities on seven major research proposals that were funded for a combined \$126.6 million. These projects will have lasting effects on economy, communities, and the environment regionally and beyond.

Regional Approaches to Climate Change (REACHH) for Pacific Northwest Agriculture

Funded in fall 2010 for \$20 million over 5 years. The University of Idaho is the lead institution partnering with Oregon State University and Washington State University. The overall goal is to ensure the long-term viability of cereal-based farming in the inland Northwest by identifying farming practices that curb climate change.

Accomplishment reports and fact sheets are available at www.reacchpna.org.

Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance

Funded in spring 2010 for \$40 million over 5 years. Washington State University is the lead institution, and the University of Idaho is partnering on education for K-12 and technology transfer to industry. The Northwest is well positioned to serve as a supply center for bio-based aviation fuel and chemicals within 5 years. The Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance examines using everything - from construction waste to forest residues - to create a sustainable aviation biofuel industry. Accomplishment reports and fact sheets are available at

www.nararenewables.org.



Site-Specific Climate-Friendly Farming

Funded in spring 2011 for \$4.6 million over 5 years. Washington State University is the lead institution, and the University of Idaho is partnering to provide remote sensing and LiDAR technology. This project focuses on reducing agricultural greenhouse gas emissions by managing nitrogen at the site-specific level. It helps growers scientifically manage cropping practices and nitrogen applications for maximum profit and minimum nitrogen loss. More information is available at

www.reeis.usda.gov/web/crisprojectpages/0224618-site-specific-climate-friendly-farming.html.

Greenhouse gas monitoring array being installed into wheat stubble.

Advanced Hardwood Biofuels Northwest

Funded in fall 2011 for \$40 million over 5 years. University of Washington is the lead institution, and the University of Idaho is partnering to provide liquid fuels research, outreach to K-12, and industry technology transfer. The overall goal is to prepare the Pacific Northwest for a 2015 introduction of a 100% infrastructure-compatible biofuels industry that meets the region's Renewable Fuel Standard targets using sustainable and regionally-appropriate woody energy crops. A new, advanced, and sustainable poplar-based biofuels industry will support a region of large and small forest growers and bring jobs to rural communities. Accomplishment reports are available at <http://ahb-nw.com>.

Improving Barley and Wheat Germplasm

Funded in spring 2011 for \$5 million over 5 years. University of California - Davis is the lead institution, and the University of Idaho is partnering to identify beneficial gene forms that strengthen wheat and barley against diseases and pests, improve nitrogen-use efficiency, and resist drought. The goal of this research is to develop new wheat and barley varieties better adapted to changing environments. Further information is available at

www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?accn_no=421691.

Accelerated Development of Commercial Hydrotreated Renewable Jet Fuel

Funded in summer 2012 for \$7 million for 5 years. The University of Arizona is the lead institution, and the University of Idaho is partnering to optimize feedstock characteristics and supply through research focused on breeding productive oilseed crops and developing best management practices. Concurrent business development efforts will connect feedstock producers and rural economic development interests with biorefinery developers and business and financial institutions that are needed to establish commercial biorefinery operations. Further information is available at



www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN_NO=422846.

University of Idaho Canola Program

Bioenergy Alliance Network of the Rockies

Funded in Fall 2013 for nearly \$10 million for five years. Colorado State University is the lead institution and the University of Idaho is an active collaborator. The BANR university-industry collaboration is a multi-institutional, interdisciplinary effort that spans the vast Rocky Mountain landscape. Research focuses on converting some of the dead lodgepole pine wood into biofuel will help offset the use of fossil fuels and create economic growth. The project will undertake comprehensive economic, environmental, and social/policy assessment, and integrate research results into a web-based, user-friendly decision support system. Further information is available at <http://banr.colostate.edu>

Request: Fund at \$316.4 million, the FY 2014 level in FY 2015.

Account: Agriculture Appropriations, NIFA, Research and Education Activities, Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

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