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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate Idaho Preferred Month on the Locavore Express

BOISE--- For the second year, the Thunder Mountain Line in Horseshoe Bend will turn into the Locavore Express on August 29 and September 26. In celebration of September as Idaho Preferred Month[®], the Locavore Express offers local foodies a chance to sip Idaho wine as they enjoy a scenic train ride along the Payette River. A gourmet feast comprised entirely of Idaho food products in Banks is the ride's final destination.

September is Idaho Preferred Month[®] - 30 days dedicated to recognizing Idaho's bountiful food and wine and the local farmers, ranchers, winemakers and processors who grow and produce them.

Co-sponsored by the Idaho Dept. of Agriculture's [Idaho Preferred[®]](#) program and [Sysco](#) of Idaho, the Locavore Express aims to give locals and tourists alike a chance to explore Idaho's scenic countryside while savoring the state's culinary culture like a true locavore.

"Locavore is a term used to describe someone who eats and drinks foods and beverages that have been grown, raised or produced within 100 miles of their home," said Leah Clark, a trade specialist for the Idaho Dept. of Agriculture and manager of Idaho Preferred[®]. "We wanted to give people a chance to become Idaho



Rolling along Idaho's Payette River, the Thunder Mountain tour train becomes the Locavore Express Aug. 29 and Sept. 26.

locavores in a unique Idaho setting. The Locavore Express accomplishes that in a fun way. Last summer our single inaugural excursion sold out early – so if you want to come aboard, you better get your tickets now,” Clark added.

After enjoying a scenic ride from Horseshoe Bend, Locavore Express passengers will disembark at Banks to enjoy an all-Idaho gourmet meal featuring Idaho meats and fish, a variety of tasty cheeses, fresh fruits and vegetables, breads and fine desserts. Idaho Dept. of Agriculture officials, local chefs, farmers, ranchers, winemakers and specialty food producers will join Locavore Express passengers for their meal.

The 15-mile trip departs at noon from Horseshoe Bend and will return by 4:00 pm. Tickets cost \$42.50 per person and can be purchased at [Thunder Mountain Line](#) or call 1-877-IDA-RAIL (432-7245).

About Idaho Preferred®

The Idaho Preferred® program is designed to identify and promote food and agriculture products from the Gem State. Under the direction of the Idaho Department of Agriculture, Idaho Preferred® promotes the quality, diversity, and availability of the food and agriculture products we grow, raise and process in Idaho. For more information about Idaho Preferred® or Idaho Preferred Month®, visit www.idahopreferred.com, or contact Leah Clark at leah.clark@agri.idaho.gov, or 208-332-8684.

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