



Season Extension in Idaho

Melissa B. Hamilton and Jennifer Werlin
Extension educators, UI Extension, Valley and Teton Counties
mbhamilton@uidaho.edu, jwerlin@uidaho.edu

1-25-2021



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Food Systems

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Today's Presenter(s)



Melissa B. Hamilton
Associate Extension Professor,
University of Idaho Extension,
Valley County



Jen Werlin
Assistant Extension Professor
University of Idaho Extension,
Teton County



Colette DePhelps, facilitator
Area Extension Educator, Community Food Systems
University of Idaho Extension, Northern District



Webinar Tips



Close all other programs running on your computer



Check your sound – problems with clarity, speed, etc. switch to the phone

Call-in number provided in the welcome email

Mute computer sound when using phone



Type in questions for speakers (or for help with viewing & sound) into question box



Handouts are available to download on your computer

Today' Webinar Topics

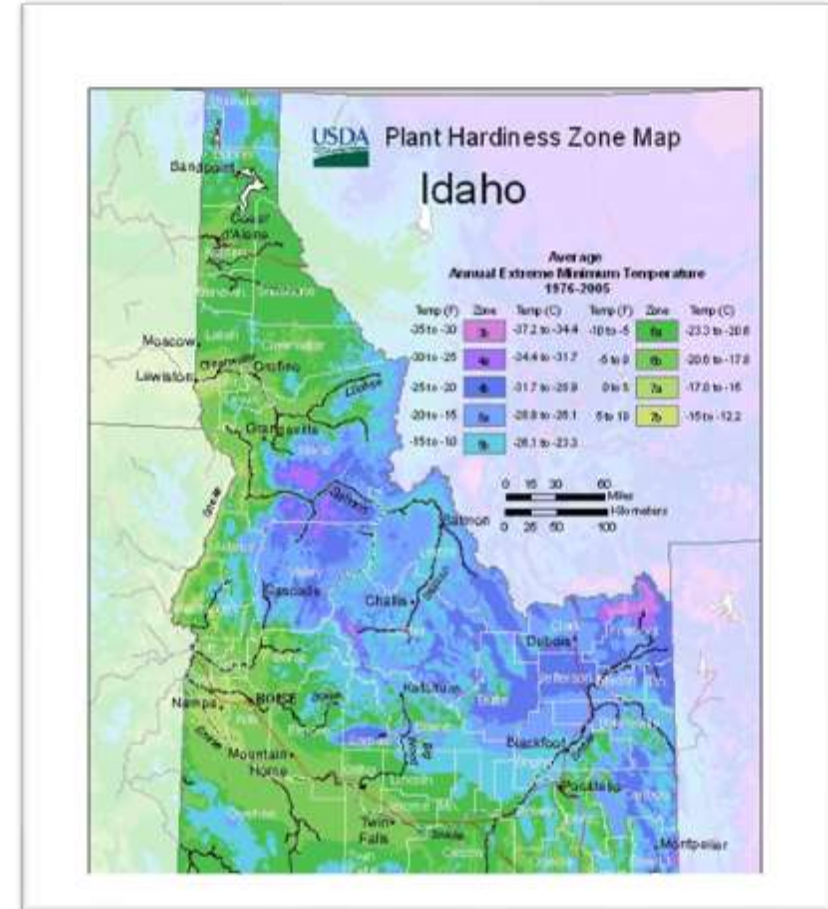
- Overview of Season Extension
- “Low tech” Solutions
- “Medium tech” Solutions
- “High tech” Solutions
- Resources

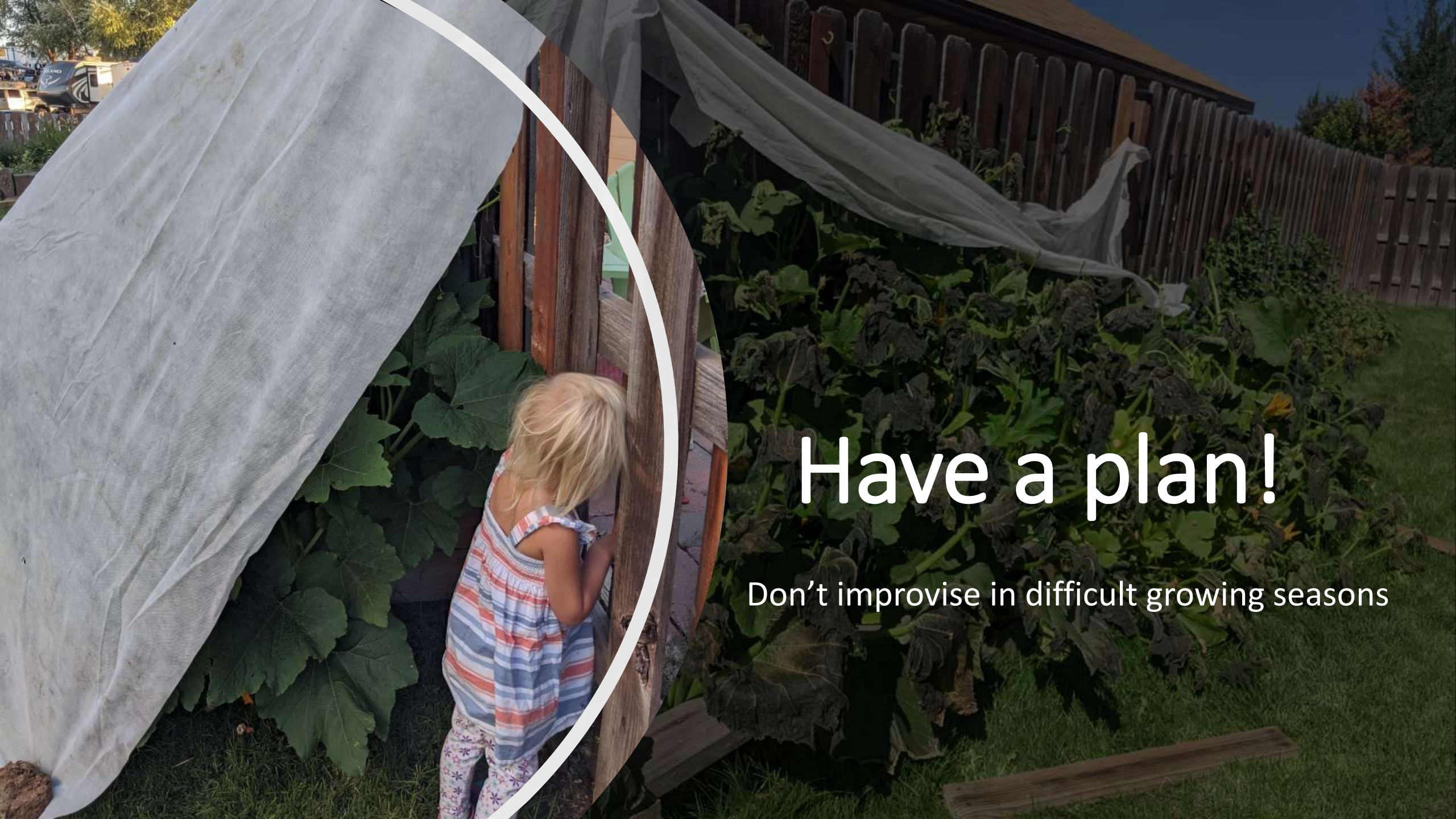




Do your research, understand your climate

- Growing Season Days
- USDA zone:
 - <http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/>
- Local cultural knowledge zone
- Microclimates





Have a plan!

Don't improvise in difficult growing seasons



Understand your goals

- Extend the growing season for cold hardy crops / warm loving crops?
- Grow in the winter?
- Consider site selection



Think about maintenance and depreciation

- How often will the equipment need to be updated / replaced?
- What kind of annual maintenance is needed to maintain the infrastructure?
- How much snow does my area get? How will this affect the structure?



Hardiness & Planting Calendar

- Half or semi-hardy: plant 2-4 weeks before last killing frost
- Hardy: Plant as soon as ground can be worked (6-8 weeks)
- Tender: Need protection from freezing
- UI Publications:
 - **Planning an Idaho Vegetable Garden:**
<http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL0775.pdf>
 - **Spring Vegetable Planting Guide for Idaho:**
<https://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/html/BUL965-Spring-Vegetable-Planting-Guide.aspx>



“Low tech” Solutions

- Wall-o-waters
- Cloches
- Floating row covers
- Raised beds



Raised beds





Floating Row Cover



Transparency of
row cover / frost
cloth is
important!



What is what?

Cold frame

Low tunnel

High tunnel

Greenhouse



“Medium tech” Solutions

- Cold frame
- Mulches
- Hot beds
- Hoop houses (low and high tunnels)





Cold frames can be semi-permanent or temporary structures



Hot Beds

- Compost & electric





Mulches

plastic or vegetative



—

Raised bed,
with low tunnel

Steel electric
conduit is
great for low
tunnels





High Tunnel, DIY, 8x7, hog panel,
6mm UV treated polyethylene plastic







“High tech”
Solutions



High Tunnels



Hoop Houses – High Tunnel

- USDA NRCS-EQIP high tunnels: cost-share program
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/>
- \$\$
- Apply by mid-Dec.
- Contact local NRCS office



Photo credit: www.nrcs.usda.gov







Calgary, Canada
Rob Avis –
Verge
Permaculture

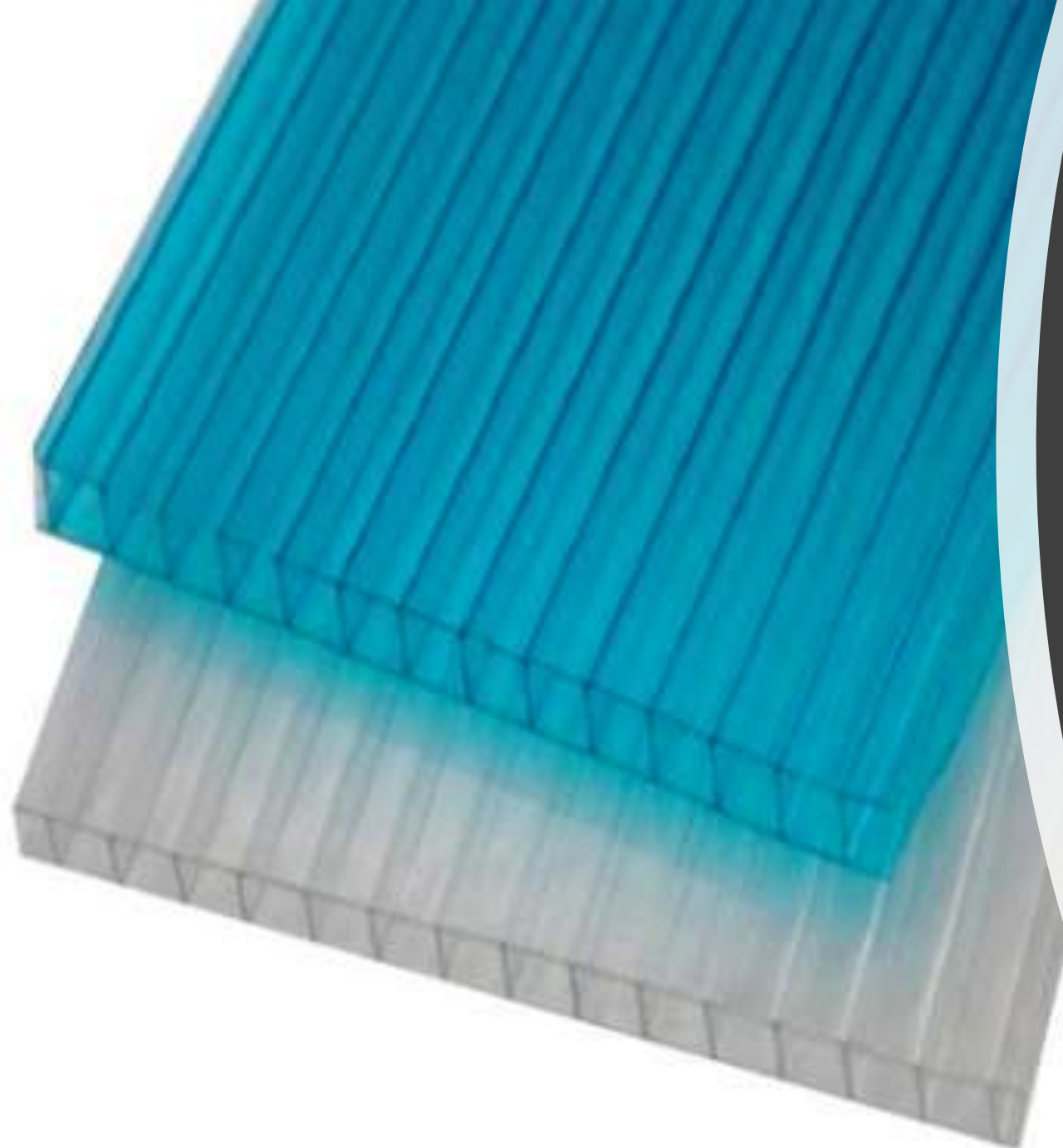


Passive Cooling Keeweenaw, MI





Walipini's/
underground
greenhouses



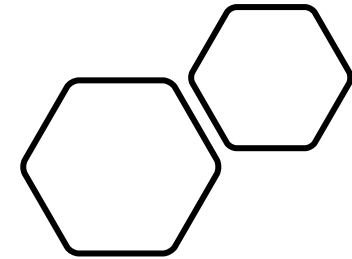
Glazing

- Ultraviolet-stabilized polyethylene
- Acrylic or polycarbonate double-layer structured panels
- Glass

Greenhouse Glazing Extension Publication:
https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1007&context=extension_histgarden

COLD-CLIMATE GREENHOUSE RESOURCE

A guidebook for
designing and building a
cold-climate greenhouse



Southeast Regional Sustainable
Development Partnership

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

CSBR
Center for Sustainable Building Research

**Eagle
Bluff**
Environmental

Center for Urban
Regional Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF



Resources

- NRCS High Tunnel Grant Opportunity:
 - <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/id/programs/financial/equip/>
- SARE:
 - <https://www.sare.org/resources/high-tunnels-and-other-season-extension-techniques/>
- UI Extension Short-Season, High-Altitude Gardening:
 - <https://www.extension.uidaho.edu/resources2.aspx?title=Gardens%20and%20Landscapes&category1=Gardening&category2=Short-Season,%20High-Altitude%20Gardening>





Questions?





Upcoming Webinars

January Theme:

Planning for Your Markets & Reaching Your Customers

January 26: Four Strategies to Reach Your Customers Online

February Theme:

Digging Into Soils and Compost

February 2: Managing and Monitoring Soil Fertility

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https://uidaho.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_40fi2kCzOOFOJHE

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