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The Great American Eclipse Forum
"NASA predicts Idaho will see over 1 million visitors for the eclipse"

Twin Falls, Idaho: In the days leading up to August 21, 2017, Southern Idaho will experience an influx of visitors hoping to catch a view of the highly anticipated total solar eclipse. Officials predict many services will be affected by the additional traffic and hope to best prepare local businesses for the event. Southern Idaho Tourism, The Area Chambers of Commerce and the CSI Herrett Center will offer a business minded Eclipse Forum on August 2nd at 2:00 p.m. to provide planning information and answer questions.

The Great American Eclipse will give a select number of states an international stage and draw hundreds of thousands of visitors from across the world. Based on early predictions Eastern Idaho is expected to see over 500,000 visitors alone. This may put a strain on roadways, food production, emergency services and possibly cell phone and Wi-Fi signals. Some officials have been planning for a year or more and hope to make the best of the situation. "There will be some headache associated with the additional traffic, but the economic impact and tourism publicity will be exponentially beneficial for our area" States Shawn Barigar, CEO of the Twin Falls Area Chamber. He suggests people also be prepared for the return traffic, as many may be looking for alternate routes out of town.

Chris Anderson, Astronomer at the Faulkner Planetarium, along with the Idaho Transportation Department, South Central Public Health District and others will be on site for presentations and questions. The Forum will take place on August 2nd at the CSI Herrett Center at 2pm. RSVP's are requested due to limited seating.

Please contact Melissa Barry at mbarry@visitsouthidaho.com or (208) 732-5569 to reserve your seat. For additional information or questions please contact Southern Idaho Tourism.

Southern Idaho Tourism: *Our mission is develop and promote tourism and recreation in Southern Idaho – striking the balance between economic development and our natural resources. SIT is a non-profit organization.*

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