

RRRISE Catalyst Fund Proposal Connecting Mass Timber – Summary Sheet

Project Title: Connecting Mass Timber to Regional Housing and Building Needs

Lead Applicant: Mad River Mass Timber

Collaborator(s) (if applicable): atelierjones (mass timber specialized architecture firm)

Total Funding Request: \$500,000 (Operating Expenses: \$25,000.00, Community engagement and meetings: \$50,000.00, Architectural and Engineering Services: \$375,000.00, Permitting work: \$50,000.00)

Project Phase: ☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile

Region(s) Served: Redwood Region, but based from Humboldt

Location of Headquarter: Blue Lake, Humboldt County

Primary Sector: Working Lands and Blue Economy

Secondary Sector: Housing

Project Summary (~250 words):

Mad River Mass Timber (MRMT) proposes a pre-development project to address the Redwood Region's building and housing needs using locally sourced and manufactured mass timber. MRMT will be California's first mass timber manufacturer, leveraging sustainable forest management to produce low-carbon building materials for affordable, student, workforce, and rural housing, university expansions, and community infrastructure.

Partnering with the sustainable architecture firm atelierjones, MRMT will engage tribal and priority communities to identify housing needs and develop prefabricated timber kits for flexible, rapidly deployable housing solutions. They will also pursue pre-permitted design strategies to streamline regulatory approvals, reducing costs and wait times for local projects. Specifically, Master Permitting strategies will be pursued with local County and City jurisdictions to try and ensure pre-permitted status of the designs, potentially available for a low-license fee, to reduce costs and time-to-permit for interested local parties.

This initiative looks to:

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1. **Expand Markets:** Connect sustainable forest management with high-value markets to foster a regenerative timber economy.
2. **Build Capacity:** Strengthen local planning agencies' sustainable building knowledge and integrate expertise from designers, timber producers, and policymakers.
3. **Enhance Resilience:** Create skilled career paths, modernize timber construction, and provide affordable housing solutions to improve community resilience in the rural region.