



Redwood Region RISE Catalyst Pre-development Funds

Preliminary Catalyst Awardees

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BLBS GRID Workforce Training Tiny Home Construction

Project Title:	BLBS GRID Workforce Training Tiny Home Construction and Renewable Energy Systems
Lead Applicant:	Building Lives By Building Structure Hoopa 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization (BLBS)
Collaborator(s):	GRID Alternatives North Coast
Total Funding Request:	\$331,702.00 (Staff: \$71,400.00, Staff Benefit Cost: \$21,420.00, Operating Expenses: \$10,000.00, Subcontracts and Subawards: \$126,000.00, Equipment and Materials: \$150,000.00)
Project Phase:	☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Humboldt County, Hoopa Valley Reservation, Yurok Reservation
Location of Headquarter:	Hoopa Valley Reservation
Primary Sector:	Renewable and Resilient Energy
Secondary Sector:	Housing

Project Summary (~250 words):

The BLBS-GRID Workforce Training project proposal combines affordable housing construction with renewable energy integration to address critical needs in the Klamath-Trinity region, while providing job training for Native American youth. The initiative, led by BLBS in partnership with GRID Alternatives North Coast, aims to complete two partially constructed tiny homes at the Hoopa Modular Plant while training 18 unemployed or underemployed individuals aged 16-24 in construction and solar energy system installation.

The project aims to address significant community challenges, with 73% of Hoopa's population being Native American and experiencing a 28% unemployment rate - more than double the national average. The program looks to restore and certify the facility's integrated cranes to establish an efficient assembly line production system, enabling increased construction capacity for future projects.

Each tiny home will be equipped with solar power and battery storage systems, combining affordable housing solutions with sustainable energy infrastructure. The comprehensive training program builds upon BLBS's track record of training approximately 150 individuals since 2020 and GRID's experience in providing no-cost solar installations and workforce development opportunities in Tribal communities.

The project's funding will cover staff salaries, materials for home completion, solar system installations, and workforce development implementation. The completed homes will be sold at market value, with proceeds supporting program sustainability. This initiative sets out to address housing shortages, unemployment, and renewable energy adoption while creating pathways to thriving-wage careers in construction and renewable energy sectors.

Career Pathways: Fire, Forest, Fish & Facilities

Project Title: Career Pathways: Fire, Forests, Fish & Facilities

Lead Applicant: Trees Foundation

Collaborator(s): Mid Klamath Watershed Council, Mattole Restoration Council, Mattole Salmon Group, Native Health in Native Hands, Northern Mendocino Ecosystem Recovery Alliance, Southern Humboldt Fire & Rescue, Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance, Trees Foundation

Total Funding Request: \$1,127,936.08 (Staff: \$41,750.00, Staff Benefit Cost: \$12,157.50, Operating Expenses: \$5,000.00, Travel: \$2,345.00, Subcontracts and Subawards: \$1,023,301.42)

Project Phase: ☒ Exploratory ☐ Last-mile

Region(s) Served: Lake County, Northern Mendocino County, Humboldt County

Location of Headquarter: Garberville, Humboldt County

Primary Sector: Working Lands and Blue Economy

Secondary Sector: Workforce Development, Arts and Culture (not Tourism)

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Career Pathways: Fire, Forests, Fish & Facilities project, proposed by the Rural Resilience Partnership (RRP), looks to bring together ten organizations to create sustainable wage opportunities and promote environmental stewardship in the Redwood Region. The initiative focuses on workforce development, climate resilience, and cultural preservation by training workers for natural resource jobs in forestry, fire suppression, watershed restoration, and native plant restoration. By establishing community cultural and training hubs across Lake, Mendocino, and Humboldt Counties, the project provides paid, accessible training close to home, minimizing barriers like travel and the need to sacrifice stable wages for training.

By October 2026, Career Pathways aims to launch a comprehensive workforce certification program, with standardized training curricula, clear career pathways, and employer partnerships for recruitment and job placement, focusing on underserved Native and remote rural communities. The goal is to train 200 individuals and place 50 in living-wage jobs. The success of regional facility development will be measured through planning documents and community engagement metrics.

Career Pathways offers paid training, certifications, and job pathways that equip workers to fill positions in growing industries like forestry and fire management. The project prioritizes underserved communities, including youth, rural residents, low-income households, and Tribal citizens, by addressing barriers to employment and fostering upward mobility. Partnerships with organizations like Native Health in Native Hands and Southern Humboldt Fire and Rescue provide immediate job opportunities. Facility development integrates sustainable materials and designs, while distributed training centers reduce commuting emissions and costs. The project honors Native communities and fosters ecosystem restoration using fire for cultural and ecological health.

Potential Joint Project – Timber & Workforce Development:

1. Carving a Legacy: Tribal Traditions, Woodworking, and Workforce Development
2. Connecting Local Mass Timber Production to Regional Housing and Building Needs
3. Developing a Climate Forward Workforce and Innovation Pipeline for Forest and Community Resilience

(1) Carving a Legacy: Tribal Traditions, Woodworking, and Workforce Development

Project Title:	Carving a Legacy: Tribal Traditions, Woodworking, and Workforce Development
Lead Applicant:	Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe
Collaborator(s):	WoodLab Designs
Total Funding Request:	\$740,907.66 (Staff—including benefits: \$406,250, Equipment: \$210,643, Subcontracts: \$35,000)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☐ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Humboldt County, Blue Lake Rancheria, Blue Lake Rancheria Ancestral Territory, All North Coast Tribes
Location of Headquarter:	Blue Lake, Humboldt County
Primary Sector:	Working Lands and Blue Economy
Secondary Sector:	Arts, Culture (not Tourism)

Project Summary (~250 words):

This project aims to promote economic diversification, climate resilience, and cultural preservation. It sets out to address challenges Indigenous artisans face in accessing traditional woods, expands market opportunities for non-commercial

timber species, and supports the Tribe's stewardship of 1,000+ acres of timberland. By integrating sustainable woodworking practices with Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), the initiative fosters environmental health, economic growth, and cultural revitalization.

The pre-development phase (June 2025–September 2026) includes a comprehensive feasibility study to assess equipment needs, site logistics, and market opportunities for wood products, focusing on non-commercial species like tan oak and pepperwood. The pilot study will procure essential equipment, including a portable sawmill, vacuum kiln, and traditional tools, to support sustainable processing and cultural practices. Culturally relevant training programs will be developed for Tribal members and disadvantaged individuals, with an emphasis on sustainable forestry, sawmill operations, and woodworking techniques.

Community engagement will be central, with workshops and forums to ensure that project goals reflect community needs, advance sustainable practices, and preserve cultural heritage. By prioritizing equity, the initiative empowers Tribal citizens, economically disadvantaged populations, and Indigenous artisans through job creation, training, and access to traditional materials.

The project aims to create sustainable timber markets, improve forest health, and reduce greenhouse gases through carbon-neutral energy sources. By September 2026, the pre-development phase would conclude with finalized equipment procurement, community buy-in, and a plan ready for implementation funding, setting the stage for a transformative, equitable project.

(2) Connecting Local Mass Timber Production to Regional Housing and Building Needs

Project Title:	Connecting Mass Timber to Regional Housing and Building Needs
Lead Applicant:	Mad River Mass Timber
Collaborator(s):	atelierjones
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, based in Humboldt County
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:

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.

(3) Developing a Climate Forward Workforce and Innovation Pipeline for Forest and Community Resilience

Project Title: Developing a Climate Forward Workforce and Innovation Pipeline for Forest and Community Resilience

Lead Applicant: Forest WRX Alliance

Collaborator(s): Anew, Blue Lake Rancheria, Cal Poly Humboldt, Cloud Forest Institute, Foundation for California Community Colleges, Gelinas and James Consulting, Humboldt and Mendocino Redwood Companies, Lake County Resource Conservation District, The Watershed Research and Training Council, Redwood Forest Foundation, Mad River Mass Timber

Total Funding Request: \$968,989.00 (Staff: \$140,000; Staff Benefit costs: \$35,000; Travel: \$7,500; Furniture, Equipment, and Supplies: \$4,999; Automobile lease: \$7,500; Indirect costs: \$26,500; Subawards: \$747,740)

Project Phase: ☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile

Region(s) Served: Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, and Mendocino Counties

Location of Headquarter: Humboldt County

Primary Sector: Working Lands

Secondary Sector: Workforce Development

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Forest WRX Alliance proposal aims to enhance forest and community resilience in the Redwood Region by integrating workforce development, educational pathways, sustainable building solutions, and new funding streams. It includes four main components: Workforce Training Assessment & Dashboard Development, Climate Tech and Natural Resource Management Program, Mass Timber Manufacturing for Rural Housing, and Carbon Market Development.

The project focuses on addressing regional challenges such as workforce shortages, limited infrastructure, and wildfire risks. By fostering partnerships with Tribal organizations, educational institutions, and industry partners, this project plans to create systemic change in how the region approaches forest management, workforce development, and sustainable building practices.

Success will be measured through workforce engagement, partnerships, and specific deliverables across all four main components, to be completed by September 2026. The proposal prioritizes equity by providing accessible training, integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), and creating pathways for economic opportunities, small business development, and sustainable housing solutions for underserved communities. The project creates thriving-wage jobs by developing workforce training, career pathways in sustainable construction and mass timber manufacturing, new educational programs at Cal Poly Humboldt, while opening new markets through carbon credits and expanding rural job opportunities and advancement. This also helps with sustainable economic growth by combining Traditional Ecological Knowledge with modern forestry practices, supporting sustainable building markets, and establishing the region as a leader in climate technology.

This project helps advance California's climate goals by reducing wildfire risk, supporting carbon sequestration in mass timber products that replace high-emission building materials, and integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge with sustainable practices and innovative carbon market mechanisms. To support historically excluded communities, this project will provide stipends for Tribal and community participation in the planning processes, ensure there is representation in all processes, and provide targeted support for those in rural or remote areas.

Del Norte Center for the Performing Arts & Civics

Project Title:	Feasibility Study & Business Plan for the Del Norte Center for the Performing Arts & Civics
Lead Applicant:	Partnership for Performing Arts
Collaborator(s):	Del Norte Unified School District, Del Norte County Office of Education
Total Funding Request:	\$768,250.00 (Staff Salaries: \$250,000, Staff Benefit costs: \$75,000, Operating Expenses: \$20,000, Travel: \$10,000, Research and Communication Tools: \$30,000.00, Subcontracts and Subawards: \$2,870,000.00)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☐ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Epicenter Del Norte County, Tolowa Dee-Ni' & Yurok territory, with broader regional impact
Location of Headquarter:	Del Norte County
Primary Sector:	Arts, Culture, and Tourism
Secondary Sector:	Infrastructure and Transportation

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Performing Arts and Civic Center (The Center) is an initiative to create a cultural and civic hub in Del Norte County—one of the state's most remote and underserved areas. The Center seeks to provide versatile performance venues for music, theater, and dance, as well as educational spaces for workshops and after-school programs. It will also serve as a community hub for events and an emergency response resource. It is located outside the tsunami zone, and will provide a safe space for relief efforts during crises. It is also in close proximity to the Fire Department, hospital, and regional airport. The facility will address gaps in cultural infrastructure, foster community cohesion, and celebrate the region's diverse cultures, including Native, Hmong, and Latino communities.

Plans for this project have already begun. Architectural plans have been completed and submitted to the Division of the State Architect for approval, and the site has undergone a preliminary assessment for construction feasibility.

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These provide the foundation for the next stage, which will focus on operational and financial planning for future success.

Catalyst Funds will support feasibility studies, a business plan, and staffing needs. The Center will generate an estimated \$1.9 million annually, boosting tourism and local businesses, while creating jobs. It will also help address social isolation, mental health, and disaster preparedness, and promote equity through inclusive programming. The Center aims to create a thriving, inclusive community while enhancing economic and social resilience for Del Norte County.

Potential Joint Project – Meating Growing Needs:

1. Del Norte Meat Processing Facility
2. North Coast Food System Network

(1) Del Norte Meat Processing Facility

Project Title:	Del Norte Meat Processing Facility
Lead Applicant:	Hmong Association of Crescent City
Collaborator(s):	N/A
Total Funding Request:	\$500,000 (Architectural and Engineering Design: \$400,000.00, Technical Assistance: \$100,000.00)
Project Phase:	☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Primarily Del Norte County; secondarily, the entire Redwood Region
Location of Headquarter:	Crescent City, Del Norte County
Primary Sector:	Working Lands and Blue Economy
Secondary Sector:	Infrastructure and Transportation

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Hmong Association of Crescent City plans to build a USDA-approved meat processing plant in Crescent City, to address the region's growing need for accessible meat processing. Following the closure of the Redwood Meat Company, farmers in the Redwood Region have faced long-distance transportation challenges, and are forced to travel over 160 miles for meat processing. The new facility will offer services for processing cattle, pigs, sheep, and poultry, supporting local farmers and strengthening regional agriculture. It will also include a retail component and grocery space to benefit the community economically.

The plant will meet culturally specific needs of the Hmong community, which currently lacks a reliable source for these products. The facility will be owned and sponsored by the Hmong Association, which represents around 500 local residents. A feasibility study confirmed the project's financial viability for the next

ten years, and the business plan estimated the plant will process about 160 animals per month and create five full-time jobs. Success will be measured by the completion of the facility, the number of local farmers utilizing the processing services, and overall economic impact.

The project will primarily benefit small to mid-sized farmers in Del Norte County, helping them reduce logistical costs and supporting regional food systems. The plant will also empower marginalized communities, with a focus on the Hmong and Latinx populations, and provide a model for rural economic development. Revenue generated will support ongoing community programming for the Hmong Association.

(2) North Coast Food System Network

Project Title:	North Coast Food System Network
Lead Applicant:	North Coast Growers' Association
Collaborator(s):	Helianth, Foggy Bottoms Boys, The Ink People, Humboldt Made, North Coast Growers Association, Del Norte and Tribal Lands Community Food Council, Humboldt County Farm Bureau, Blue Lake Rancheria, Aquilli Metzli Masa Coop, Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria
Total Funding Request:	\$1,806,574.10 (Staff: \$411,354.00, Benefits: \$137,106.60, Operating Expenses: \$153,512.50, Travel: \$29,404.00, Subcontracts/Awards: \$1,664,984.00, Equipment: \$458,947.00)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Tribal Lands, Del Norte and Humboldt Counties
Location of Headquarter:	Humboldt County
Primary Sector:	Working Lands and Blue Economy
Secondary Sector:	Food Security and Access

Project Summary (~250 words):

The North Coast Growers' Association (NCGA) looks to work together with various food system collaborators to form the North Coast Food System Network (the Network). The Network is a strategic initiative meant to strengthen the food production, processing, distribution, and workforce development capacities across the region, by helping increase food infrastructure and capacity. It seeks to expand upon existing and developing relationships to support community-based organizations and priority communities. It will run for 17 months, and aims to connect multiple types of food systems organizations and businesses through quarterly meetings, connections and relationship building, and shared visioning and marketing outputs that create pathways for access to funding for smaller projects.

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Projects that align with the goals of the Network and main sector, Working Lands and Blue Economy, include projects that are meant to build or establish places that can act as local sources of food or teaching centers for cooking. Projects like these are created for and by the communities they will serve, but often do not have the capacity to access and administer large grant opportunities. The project aims to leverage the capacity and experience of NCGA to administer funding, and support project initiators throughout and beyond the grant term. A large majority of the funding requested from the Catalyst grant is intended to go to community-led and owned projects, and most of these projects will benefit priority communities.

Fire Lines & Fiber Bioregions: A Regional Wool Industry Cluster

Project Title:	Fire Lines & Fiber Bioregions: A Regional Wool Industry Cluster
Lead Applicant:	Kaos Sheep Outfit
Collaborator(s):	Fibershed, University of California division of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Total Funding Request:	\$607,856 (Staff: \$459,000.00, Travel: \$5,000.00, Subcontracts and Subawards: \$85,005.70)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☐ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Del Norte, Mendocino, Lake Counties
Location of Headquarter:	Mendocino County
Primary Sector:	Working Lands and Blue Economy
Secondary Sector:	N/A

Project Summary (~250 words):

The working lands of Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties present a puzzle: How is it that so much wool – good for innovative products like natural fertilizer pellets, medical packaging, and more – is grown here, but does not supply the nation’s largest textile manufacturing hub...in Los Angeles? How is it that the project sponsor alone grows 57,000 pounds of wool within the Redwood RISE region while its waterways fill with microplastics and its dumps with imported fast-fashion made of synthetic fibers? And why is there little vocational training and workforce development in good-paying jobs in contract grazing, vineyard management, and more?

This exploratory feasibility study seeks to answer these questions and propose solutions to these problems by identifying the needs, gaps, strengths, and weaknesses in the economic development idea of a Regional Wool Industry Cluster. The study seeks to examine modernized, regional fiber production from raw wool to finished product, and show how a set of cooperative, mutually beneficial, agricultural businesses might operate under certain sets of assumptions.

Study Objectives:

- Production
 - Enhance the region's capacity for sustainable fiber and food businesses.
 - Assess vocational training and workforce development needs for contract grazing and regenerative land stewardship.
- Processing
 - Analyze market demand and potential products for raw fiber.
 - Explore the concept of a Regional Wool Industry Cluster as an innovation hub for product R&D and industry collaboration.
- Procurement & Delivery
 - Evaluate demand for value-added wool products (e.g., flame-retardant wool for Cal Fire).
 - Develop supply chains and partnerships to boost producer profitability.
 - Assess investment needs for modernizing or building wool processing facilities.

Lake County Healthcare Education Innovation and Simulation Center

Project Title:	Lake County Healthcare Education Innovation and Simulation Center
Lead Applicant:	Lake County Economic Development Corporation
Collaborator(s):	Adventist Health, Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, Lake County Economic Development Corporation, Lake County Government, Lake County Office of Education, Lake County School Districts and CTE Programs: Konocti Unified School District, Lakeport Unified School District, Upper Lake Unified School District, Kelseyville, Unified School District, Lake County Tribal Health Consortium, Mendocino Lake Adult & Career Education (MLACE), Mendocino-Lake Community College District, Mendocino Office of Education, Motherwise, Partnership Healthplan of California, Redwood Coast K16 Educational Collaborative, Sonoma State University, Sutter Health, Workforce Alliance of the North Bay, Woodland Community College.
Total Funding Request:	\$964,573.00 (Staff: \$34,000.00, Operation Costs: \$154,000.00, Subawards/Contracts: \$960,350.00)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☐ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Lake and Mendocino Counties
Location of Headquarter:	N/A
Primary Sector:	Health and Caregiving
Secondary Sector:	N/A
Project Summary (~250 words):	

The Lake County Healthcare Education Innovation and Simulation Center (LCHEISC) is dedicated to enhancing healthcare education and workforce development in Lake County. The center will offer advanced simulation facilities,

work-based learning, and community health programs, focusing on three key areas: the SPARK Program for young students, Healthcare Workforce Development, and Community Outreach. This initiative represents a major investment in the region's health and education, preparing future healthcare professionals and promoting community wellness.

The SPARK Program (Students Promoting Awareness of Real-World Knowledge) introduces students in grades 4–8 to healthcare careers through hands-on experiences aligned with California's Science Standards. Serving 4,500–6,000 students annually, it includes interactive simulations, guided tours, and mentorship from healthcare professionals and high school ambassadors. This early exposure fosters interest in healthcare careers, expanding the workforce pipeline and ensuring equitable access for students who may not have considered the field.

The Healthcare Career Development Pathway provides training for high school students and adults, emphasizing skill-building and certification. Programs include Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and Medical Assistant (MA) training for adults, as well as high school pathways like EMT and Patient Care certifications. Professional development ensures current practitioners stay up to date with industry advancements. This pathway is crucial for addressing workforce demands by expanding skill development and centralizing training resources.

The Community Outreach Program enhances health literacy and life-saving skills for residents, with culturally relevant programming to engage diverse communities. It offers health and safety training, including CPR and parenting classes, and provides a collaboration space for industry partners, public seminars, and community health resources. By improving public health knowledge and safety, the program fosters a culture of health and preparedness, advancing community-led solutions for childcare and health equity.

Middletown Rancheria Community RISE Project

Project Title:	Middletown Rancheria Community RISE Project
Lead Applicant:	Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California
Collaborator(s):	N/A
Total Funding Request:	\$ 1,111,111 (Staff: \$100,000, Operating Costs (includes travel): \$100,000, Environmental Assessments: \$100,000, Master Plan: \$350,000, Barnes Street Housing (non-construction costs): \$460,000)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Deeply rural areas, Tribal Lands, Lake County
Location of Headquarter:	Middletown Rancheria (Lake County, California)
Primary Sector:	Arts, Culture, and Tourism
Secondary Sector:	Workforce Development

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Middletown Rancheria Community RISE Project is an initiative by the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians looking to address systemic challenges facing their 265- member Tribal community and the broader Lake County region. The project emerged from community consultation, with 69.2% of the General Council supporting five key priority areas: Housing, Climate Justice/Resiliency, Youth Programs/Financial Literacy, Entrepreneurship, and Cultural Resiliency. Survey data revealed that 79.49% of General Council members struggle with monthly expenses, while 55.26% face barriers to achieving living wages in non-Tribal employment.

The proposed six-month pre-development phase will focus on creating a comprehensive Master Plan, including feasibility studies, program development, and SWOT analysis. Key components include the Barnes Street Housing Project addressing post-2015 Valley Fire housing shortages, environmental initiatives such as hydropower and geothermal energy development, and cultural preservation through a Tribal museum and linguistic preservation program. The project will employ six part-time Tribal Elder and Youth Culture Keepers and establish a Youth Tribal Council to guide apprenticeship programs.

Environmental aspects include geomapping, water system evaluation, and implementation of renewable energy solutions. The initiative particularly emphasizes workforce development through apprenticeships, certification training, and mentoring programs. The project aims to create sustainable economic opportunities while preserving cultural heritage, addressing the region's 16.8% poverty level, and responding to environmental challenges. The plan incorporates both Tribal and non- Tribal community needs, focusing on creating long-term solutions for housing, employment, and cultural preservation while promoting environmental sustainability.

Potential Joint Project – Foods Network & Energy Independence

1. Redwood Corridor SEEDS Network
2. Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program

(1) Redwood Corridor SEEDS Network

Project Title:	Redwood Corridor SEEDS Network
Lead Applicant:	North Coast Opportunities
Collaborator(s):	Women With Bows, School of Adaptive Agriculture, UCANR
Total Funding Request:	\$872,260.61 (Staff: \$122,205.00, Benefits: \$39,105.60, Operating Expenses: \$55,275.00, Travel: \$26,420.00, Subcontracts/awards: \$546,000.00, Equipment: \$4,500.00 + \$6,000.00)
Project Phase:	☒ Exploratory ☐ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Mendocino County Location of Headquarter: Mendocino County
Primary Sector:	Food Security and Access
Secondary Sector:	Working Lands and Blue Economy
Project Summary (~250 words):	

The Redwood Corridor SEEDS Network seeks to integrate Tribal food sovereignty initiatives, land access programs, entrepreneurial commercial kitchens, and value chain infrastructure to address food access. The Network aims to create plans for community hubs that are tailored to unique needs of each community along the Highway 101 corridor, that feature commercial kitchens, food storage and processing equipment, space for local farmers to sell their produce, and space for community gatherings.

This project aims to help those living in the area, particularly marginalized communities, by restoring stewardship and foraging access to Indigenous peoples, improving land access for small-scale, low-income farmers, and directly addressing food deserts. By reducing expenses, reducing field entry barriers,

providing access to commercial kitchens and facilities, and connecting individuals with technical support and a network of fellow food entrepreneurs, these hubs will also create local economic opportunities.

As part of this project, Women with Bows will provide dedicated leadership and coordination to ensure the successful execution of all components. Specifically, they will manage and oversee activities across key areas, including community engagement, recipe development, equipment procurement, and project planning, and already have a team of three full-time staff. The School of Adaptive Agriculture will facilitate listening sessions, where they will meet with locals in the served areas and conduct needs assessments. In addition to food preservation, the hubs will serve as community centers or co-working spaces during blue-sky times to ensure that these spaces are familiar and trusted community resources. When needed, they can be repurposed as emergency resource hubs.

(2) Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program

Project Title:	Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program
Lead Applicant:	Pinoleville Pomo Nation
Collaborator(s):	GRID Alternatives Bay Area North Coast
Total Funding Request:	\$529,743.00 (Staff: \$49,920.00, Benefits Costs: \$14,976.00, Operating Expenses: \$25,000.00, Internships: \$44,000.00, Travel: \$10,000.00, Subcontracts: \$307,750.25, Research and Communications: \$5,000.00, Equipment: \$4,000.00)
Project Phase:	☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Tribal Lands
Location of Headquarter:	Pinoleville Pomo Nation, Mendocino County
Primary Sector:	Renewable and Resilient Energy
Secondary Sector:	N/A

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Pinoleville Solar Port Installation and Renewable Energy Workforce Development Program, led by the Pinoleville Pomo Nation (PPN), seeks to address two critical challenges facing Native Americans in Tribal service areas: energy independence and employment opportunities. The project combines sustainable infrastructure development with workforce training, serving PPN's 350 citizens while creating a model for future Tribal initiatives.

Key infrastructure components include:

- Installation of a 42 KW solar system on a carport (44.3ft x 90ft)
- Two electric vehicle plug-in stations
- 12 covered parking spaces

- Projected 25% reduction in annual utility costs for the Tribal government complex

The workforce development component will create 10 internship positions:

- 4 positions in renewable energy
- 6 positions in Tribal traditional skills, agriculture, and social services
- Average 150 hours per internship
- Focus on Tribal youth (16–26) and adults

The project builds on PPN's existing partnerships with GRID Alternative, which has already completed three phases of roof-top solar systems. Additional collaborators include local Tribes (Potter Valley, Redwood Valley, Sherwood Valley, and Coyote Valley), Ukiah Unified School District, Consolidated Tribal Health Clinic, NCO, and Mendocino College.

This "last-mile" part of the project, supported by a completed feasibility study from 2022, aligns with PPN's 5-year Strategic Energy Plan. The initiative emphasizes culturally sensitive decision-making and community participation, ensuring that project benefits are equitably distributed throughout the Tribal community.

Red Hills Bioenergy Facility & Central Wood Processing Plant

Project Title:	Red Hills Bioenergy Facility & Central Wood Processing Plant
Lead Applicant:	Scotts Valley Energy Corporation
Collaborator(s):	Pinoleville Pomo Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program, Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance
Total Funding Request:	\$345,316.00 (Staff: \$313,924.00, Workforce Training: \$16,850.00, Overhead: \$31,392.40)
Project Phase:	☐ Exploratory ☒ Last-mile
Region(s) Served:	Lake County and Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribal Land
Location of Headquarter:	Lakeport, Lake County
Primary Sector:	Renewable and Resilient Energy
Secondary Sector:	Workforce Development

Project Summary (~250 words):

The Scotts Valley Energy Company (SVEC), a Tribal subsidiary of the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, seeks to develop a bioenergy facility to convert agricultural and forest waste into renewable energy while producing carbon-neutral biochar. This project addresses multiple needs in Lake County and surrounding areas by transforming non-commercial forest material into electricity and biochar for agricultural use, while simultaneously reducing wildfire risk and generating Tribal revenue. The technology's dual-purpose approach seeks to address both environmental challenges and economic development needs in the region.

Key operational targets include:

- Generating 200 net kW of clean energy per hour
- Reducing 2,140 tons of biomass annually
- Producing 360 tons of biochar

- Generating \$325,000 in annual revenue
- Creating 10-12 full-time operational positions

The project focuses on workforce development, community resilience, and clean energy production. Primary beneficiaries include the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians and its members, local agricultural businesses, and disadvantaged communities in the region. The facility aims to contribute significantly to regional sustainability efforts by providing clean energy to the grid while addressing critical biomass management needs.

During the pre-development phase, SVEC will focus on finalizing design plans, securing funding, and recruiting workers. The project maintains equity by prioritizing employment for Tribal members and Indigenous communities while ensuring community participation and culturally sensitive operations throughout all phases of development and implementation. This comprehensive approach aims to ensure long-term sustainability and community benefit.