MISSOURI \*USA\*

# CASTOR RIVER

HABITAT & FARM



INVESTMENT DECK RAISING \$5M USD

Harvesting Profits, Sustaining Tomorrow

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This confidential Presentation (this "Presentation") is furnished on a confidential basis to a limited number of sophisticated prospective investors for the purpose of providing certain information in relation to a potential investment opportunity (the "Investment Opportunity"). By accepting this Presentation, the recipient agrees that it will, and will cause its representative and advisors to, use the information only to evaluate its potential interest in the Investment Opportunity and for no other purpose and will not, and cause its representatives and advisors not to, divulge any such information to any other party. Neither Castor River") nor any of their respective affiliates makes any representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein and nothing contained herein should be relied upon as a promise or representation as to past or future performance of the Investment Opportunity or any other entity.

The Investment Opportunity is suitable only for sophisticated investors and requires the financial ability and willingness to accept the high risks and lack of liquidity inherent in such investment. Prospective investors must be prepared to bear such risks for an indefinite period of time. No assurance can be given that the objectives of the Investment Opportunity will be achieved or that investors will receive a return of their investment. The recipient acknowledges that, to the maximum extent permitted by law, Environmental and its related parties or affiliates disclaims all liability to the recipient or to any other person for any expense, cost, loss or damage of any kind including direct, indirect or consequential loss or damage (however caused, including by negligence) incurred by any person arising from or relating to any information included or omitted from this Presentation, whether by reason of such information being inaccurate or incomplete or for any other reason. This Presentation does not constitute and should not be considered as any form of financial opinion or recommendation. The recipient should conduct its own inquiries as to the adequacy, accuracy, completeness and reliability of any information, whether such information is contained in this Presentation or not, relating to the Investment Opportunity.

In addition, certain information contained herein has been obtained from published and non-published sources prepared by other, which in certain cases have not been updated through the date hereof. While such information is believed to be reliable for the purpose used herein, neither Castor River or any of its respective directors, officers, employees, partners, shareholders or affiliates assume any responsibility for the accuracy of such information, and such information may not have been independently verified by Castor River. Certain information contained in this document constitute "forward-looking statements," which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "anticipate," "project," "estimate," 'forecast," "intend," "continue," "target," or "believe" or the negatives thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. Due to various risks and uncertainties, actual events or results or the actual performance may differ materially from those reflected or contemplated in such forward-looking statements. Nothing contained in this document may be relied upon as a guarantee, promise, assurance or a representation as to the future. Except as otherwise indicated, the information provided in this Presentation is based on matters as they exist as of July 15, 2024, and not as of any future date and will not be updated or otherwise revised to reflect information that subsequently becomes available or circumstances existing or changes occurring after the date hereof. The views expressed in this Presentation are subject to change based on market and other conditions.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal rates of return ("IRRs") are presented on a "gross" basis (i.e., they do not reflect any management fees, carried interest, taxes, transaction costs and other expenses to be borne by certain and/or all investors, which will reduce returns and, in the aggregate, are expected to be substantial). In considering the targeted performance information contained herein, prospective investors should bear in mind that forecasted or targeted performance is not necessarily indicative of future results, and there can be no assurance that comparable results will be achieved.

The distribution of this Presentation in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. This document does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy in any state of the United States or other U.S. or non-U.S. jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such state or jurisdiction.

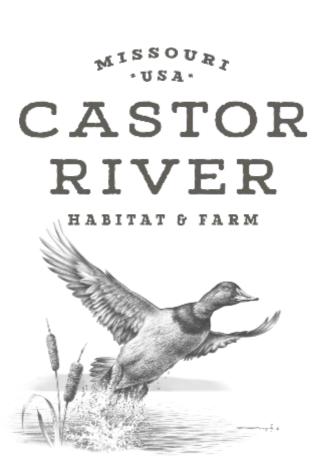


CASTOR
RIVER

# TRACEABILITY, RESPONSIBILITY & QUALITY

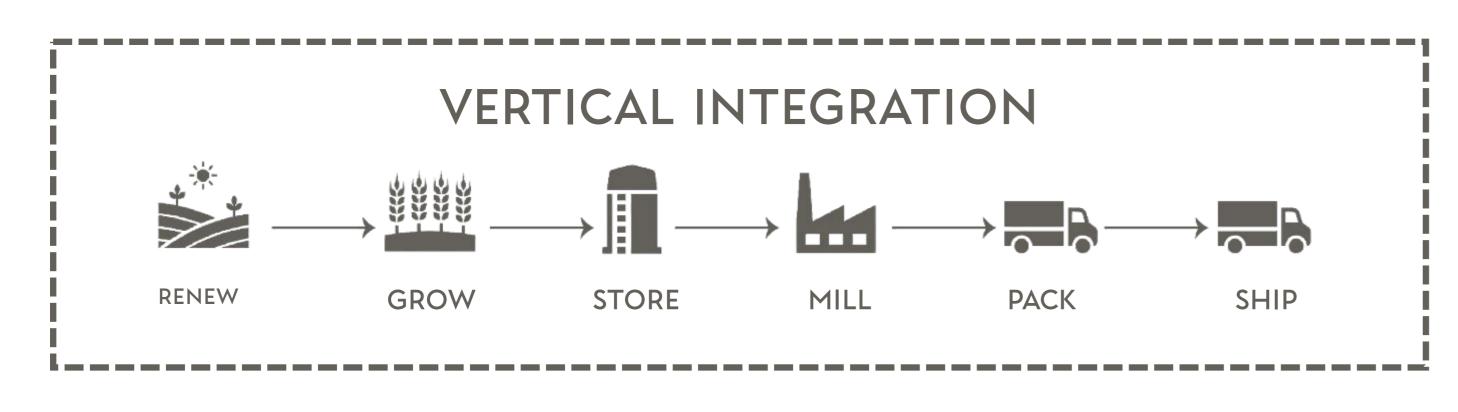
## REGENERATIVE

- No tilling, burning or flooding
- No insecticides or fungicides
- Cover crops
- Produces nutrient dense food
- Improves soil, water & air quality
- Reduces soil erosion



#### SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

- Award winning conservation
- Compostable packaging
- Certified Non-GMO
- Lower carbon footprint
- Increased Organic Matter
- Lower water usage







JOHN HUNTER II

CONSERVATOR | FARMER | CEO

At the second se

A PERSONAL COMMITMENT

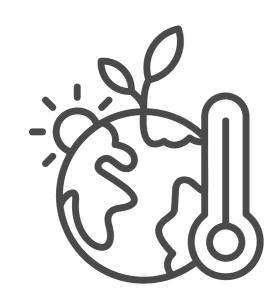
# THIRD-GENERATION CONSERVATOR OF THE HUNTER FAMILY LEGACY

66

Castro River Habitat and Farm was founded as a tribute to the work and sacrifice given by the ones who came before us, and as a commitment to all who will follow. Our unrivalled passion for soil health and the habitat we protect, has transformed this family farm into the sustainable food company it is today

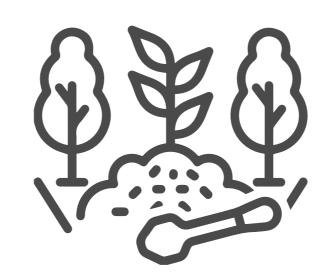


## REGENERATIVE FARMING



#### CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Regenerative architecture practices,
like no-till farming, help combat
climate change by sequestering
carbon in the soil. Choosing our
regenerative rice means taking a
proactive step towards a sustainable
future for our planet.



#### SOIL HEALTH

No-till farming, minimizes soil disturbance, preserving its structure and promoting biodiversity. Healthy soil means healthier crops, better water retention, and increased resilience against pest and disease. By choosing regenerative rice, you're investing in the long-term vitality of our land.



#### WATER CONSERVATION

With no-till farming, we minimize erosion and runoff, which means less water, pollution, and better water conservation. By maintaining a healthy soil structure, our regenerative rice fields can better absorb and retain water, reducing the need for irrigation.





#### REGENERATIVE FARMING

Rice is the most consumed grain on the planet and is the staple of diets all over the world. In the U.S., 27 pounds of rice per person per year is consumed: 4.8 million metric tons. The modern U.S. consumer has grown increasingly concerned with the impact that the food supply chain makes on the environment and data reveals how that affects their purchase decisions.

65%

#### **OF CONSUMERS**

Look for products to help them
live sustainably and socially
responsible

60%

#### OF CONSUMERS

Buy products from companies they believe are socially & environmentally responsible.

54%

#### **OF CONSUMERS**

Purchase products from brands that take a stand on social or environmental issues

43%

#### OF CONSUMERS

Tend to purchase products and services from high purpose brands

The United States rice market revenue is around 6.5 billion dollars and is expected to grow at 2.6% annually. This figure represents "at home" sales channels we currently operate in.

CASTOR RIVER WANTS TO CAPTURE 1% OF U.S. MARKET SHARE IN THE NEXT

10 YEARS TO GENERATE OVER \$65 MILLION IN REVENUE.

#### INVESTMENT PROFILE

## RAISING \$5M USD

Harvesting Profits, Sustaining Tomorrow



O1 INVEST IN SALES
CHANNEL STRATEGY

Acquire talent and engage relationships with proven track records of success in the CPG and food service industry that will help accelerate our growth.

DEVELOP SUPPLIER PARTNERSHIPS

Develop an onboarding and training program to assist growers in their transition to regenerative farming. Through our partnership agreements we will secure exclusive rights to the regenerative rice they produce.

03 AMPLIFY THE BRAND

The Castor River Habitat & Farm brand represents much more than rice. We feel that the brand has the long-term potential to transcend food and become a lifestyle. We aim to deploy capital behind trade and consumer marketing efforts to achieve velocity centric goals.

CASTOR

CASTOR RIVER

### ABOUT US

Dedicated to Freshness and Sustainability

#### KEY COMPANY TRAITS

- Regenerative Agriculture
- Family Run Company
- Vertically-Integrated
- Woman-Owned Business
- Rural Economy

#### IT ALL STARTS WITH THE SOIL.

For the last 65 years, the Hunter family has been growing healthy and nutritious food in Southeast Missouri's Delta Region. Third generation farmer, Johnny Hunter II, specializes in soil conservation—putting a focus on nurturing rich, healthy soil to produce rich, healthy crops year after year. His award-winning farming methods lower carbon emissions and elevate the quality and taste of Castor River Habitat & Farm rice.



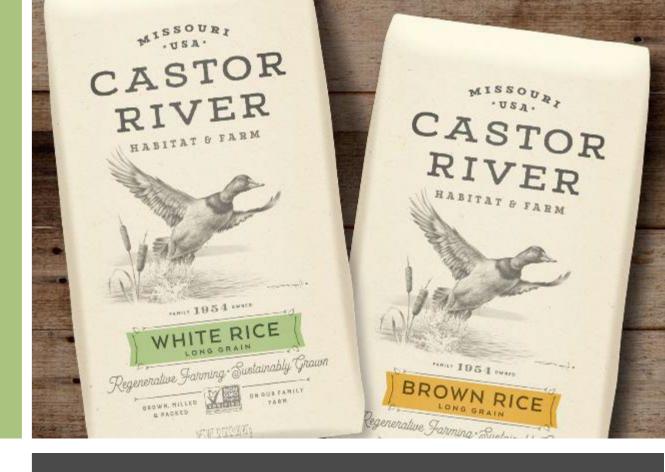
### SMALL TOWN FARM. SMALL TOWN VALUES,

Castor River Habitat & Farm has always been family owned and operated. We never outsource—every bag of rice you'll find has been handled by our team from seed to shelf. We're dedicated to freshness, sustainability and quality products that are nutritious, great tasting and anything-but-ordinary. Each and every bag of rice is packed with care to ensure that only the best makes it to your table.





We currently have ongoing discussions with Good Food Holdings Ltd., Loblaws and Kroger. Current 2023 branded sales mix: 58% CPG/Retail and 42% Food Service.





We are now in over 2,500 grocery retail locations including Walmart, Whole Foods, The Fresh Market, Dierbergs, Central Market and other regional chains and independents. We have seven DC's with KeHE, three with UNFI, Chex Finer Foods, and other regional distributors.

We now have a mix of food service warehouse distribution and drop-ship relationships with US

Foods, Performance Food Group, Gordons

Food Service and DOT Foods. In October 2023

we presented the company at the annual Retail

Innovation Council meeting to develop private label opportunities.

We are a self-funded family enterprise, utilizing cash from operations and debt financing to fund operations and growth. We are raising \$5,000,000 in capital to execute marketing strategy, support growth and channel strategy execution for the CPG, food service, and private label channels.

CASTOR RIVER HABITAT & FARM

#### COMPANY OVERVIEW

Castor River Habitat & Farm is the CPG and food service brand for rice products grown, milled, packaged, and distributed by the Castor River family of companies, privately owned, and managed by the Hunter family based in Southeast Missouri. Castor River launched its CPG brand in 2018 with a direct-to-store and distribution sales model.

In 2021 we updated the branding to 'Castor River Habitat & Farm' to differentiate from other brands using 'farm(s)' and emphasize our regenerative agriculture efforts. In 2022 we added food service distribution becoming a regenerative rice supplier for the Just Salad restaurant group, University of Missouri, and Washington University in St. Louis.



## INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## PROVEN MARKET DEMAND

High-Quality Product: Castor River Farms produces premium regenerative rice, meeting increasing consumer demand for sustainably grown and high-quality food products.

Market Growth: The global market for sustainable and organic foods is rapidly expanding, offering significant growth potential and a strong return on investment.

## STRONG FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Revenue Growth: Consistent year-overyear revenue growth with robust profit margins driven by premium pricing and cost-efficient farming practices.

Scalable Operations: Existing infrastructure and operations are well-positioned for scale, ensuring efficient use of the \$5M investment to expand production capacity and market reach.

## HABITAT RESTORATION AND RURAL IMPACT

Sustainability Commitment: Dedicated to sustainable farming practices that support environmental conservation, biodiversity, and long-term ecological balance.

Rural Community Engagement: Strong ties to local Missouri communities, providing jobs, education, and economic support, enhancing the brand's reputation and rural impact



### INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## INNOVATIVE FARMING PRACTICES

Regenerative Agriculture: Utilizing advanced regenerative farming techniques, Castor River Habitat & Farm improves soil health, reduces carbon footprint, and increases crop resilience.

**Technology Integration:** Leveraging state-of-the-art agricultural technologies for efficient water management, pest control, and yield optimization.

## EXPERIENCED MANAGEMENT TEAM

Industry Expertise: Led by a seasoned team with extensive experience in agriculture, sustainability, and business management, ensuring strategic decisionmaking and operational excellence.

Proven Track Record: Demonstrated success in implementing regenerative practices and achieving market penetration, positioning Castor River Farms as a leader in the regenerative agriculture product sector.

## GENERATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Passion and Dedication: Family-run, woman-managed businesses like Castor River Farms operate with a long-term vision, focusing on sustainability and legacy rather than short-term gains. This generational perspective ensures stability and steady growth for investors over time.

#### **Responsible Financial Management:**

Prudent investment over risky ventures with profits reinvested back into the business to fuel growth and innovation.



### BUILT TO SCALE



A PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE PROFITS







#### CONSISTENT REVENUE GROWTH

Castor River Farms has
demonstrated strong year-overyear revenue growth, driven by
high-quality products and efficient
operations. Our premium pricing
strategy and cost-effective
practices contribute to healthy
profit margins, setting the stage for
substantial financial returns.

#### CLEAR PATH TO EXPANSION

With the \$5M investment, we plan to significantly expand our production capacity and market reach. This strategic expansion is designed to capture a larger market share and accelerate revenue growth, ensuring that we achieve our target returns.

#### FOCUSED GROWTH STRATEGY

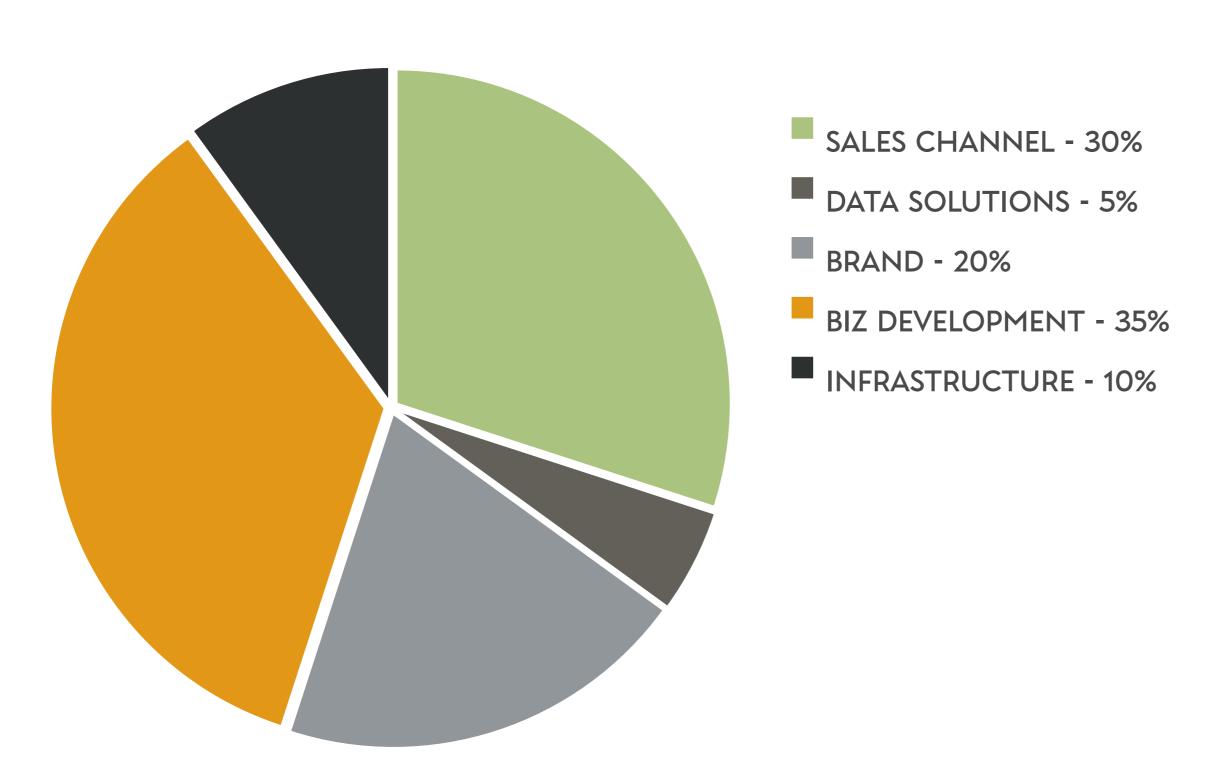
We have a clear, well-defined growth strategy that focuses on expanding our farming operations, increasing market penetration, and enhancing our product offerings.

This strategic vision, combined with our operational excellence, positions us to deliver the targeted large returns over the next five years.



CASTOR RIVER HABITAT & FARM

## GROWTH CAPITAL PRIORITIES



#### SALES CHANNEL STRATEGY & EXECUTION

• 3rd party relationships and compensating brokers based on results

#### DATA DRIVEN SOLUTIONS

Syndicated data, reports, trends, and extrapolate trends to address opportunities

#### HIGH END BRAND COMMERCIALIZATION

Money being put towards "Awareness" – Consumer Education –
 Influencers/Social Media

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT/STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Brand ambassadors

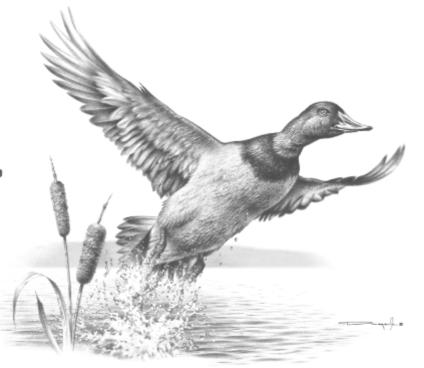
#### INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL

- Invest in high quality facility improvements to increase milling capacity and food safety
  - Satake Color Sorter
  - Second Magnet
  - Automated 1lb/2lb Packaging Line
  - Expand Warehouse
  - Semi Truck Loading Dock



## CUSTOMER SUCCESS & MARKET PENETRATION

















**Albertsons** 











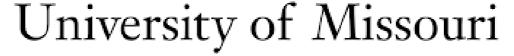
















## EXPANDING DISTRIBUTION REACH

MISSOUR!

CASTOR

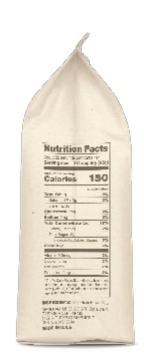
HABITAT & FARM





























CASTOR RIVER HABITAT & FARM

## EXPERT STRATEGIC PARTNERS

AmeriGrow Ventures USA New Nexus Group JPG Resources Mclean Design Green Nature Marketing JMK Consultants Limbaugh Law Firm RubinBrown Food Masters Logistics LCG Foods Distribution



### ROBUST SALES PIPELINE

#### PRIVATE LABEL TARGETS

Whole Foods (Awaiting conditional award of business)

Walmart

Good Food Holdings

Loblaws

Kroger

Wegmans

**BENEFITS**: Higher CRF margins (no trade spend or slotting fees), DC consolidation, leverage to include brand distribution.

Customer's exclusive offering

#### **RETAIL TARGETS**

WFM (Regional expansion)

NE regional accounts - CRF has a DC located here, we have a distributor, smaller/regional footprints that allow for regional expansion

BENEFITS: Grow velocities within existing east coast retailers (The Fresh Market, Whole Foods Florida), new outlets where upfront ROI makes sense. DC concentration and efficiencies. Focus on increasing on-shelf velocities with existing distribution (marketing, awareness, and trial). Leverage cross-promotional opportunities for similar usage occasions.

#### FOOD SERVICE TARGETS

NE Sysco clients (Consolidated distribution center)

NRA show leads (need to get this from broker as I am not directly involved)

Caesar's Group (Las Vegas)

Chipotle

CAVA

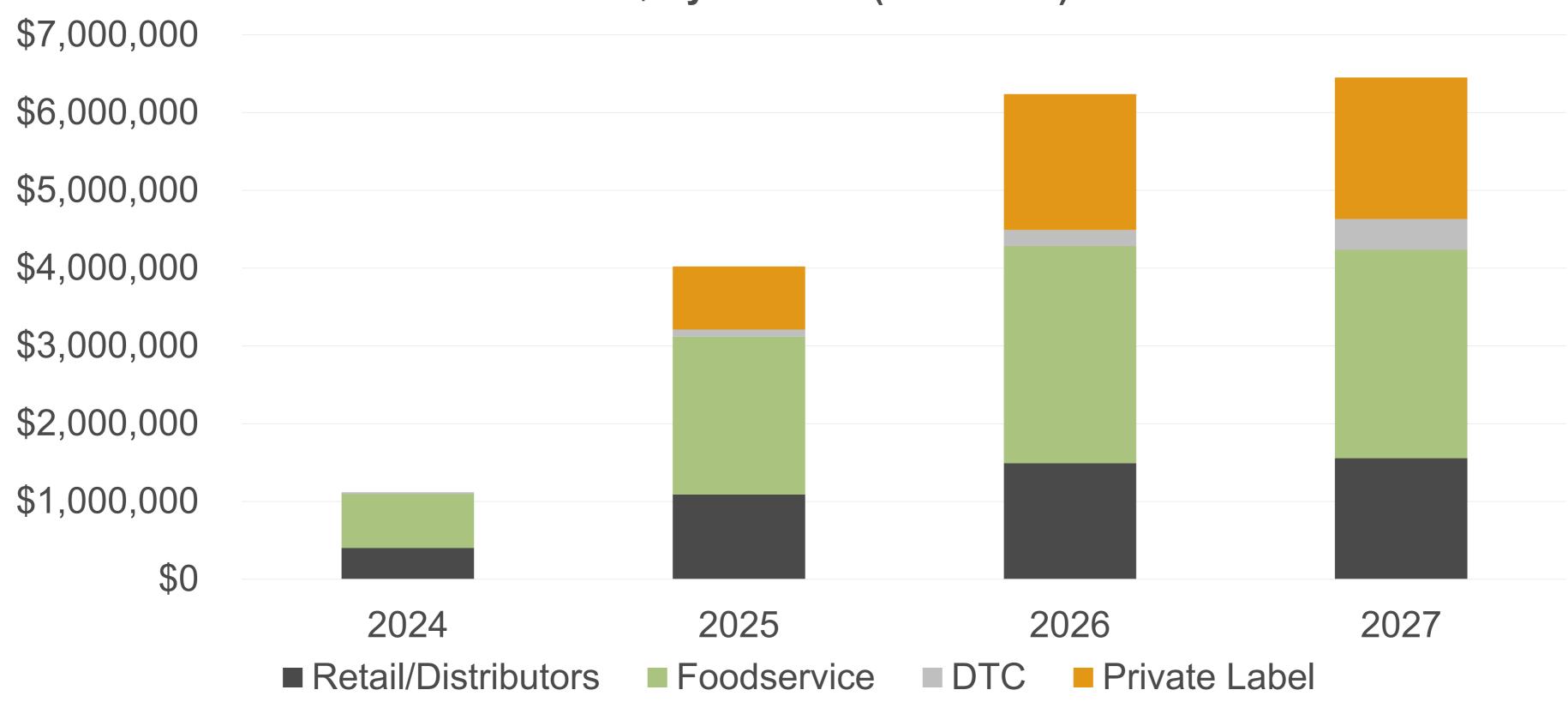
**BENEFITS:** Higher CRF margins (no trade spend or slotting fees), distributor consolidation, branding (awareness/PR) and trial/validation.

Customer's exclusive offering



### PROJECTED GROWTH

#### Gross \$ by Channel (2024-2027)









## JOHNNY HUNTER CEO

Founder of the Missouri Delta Soil Health Alliance.

### MANAGEMENT TEAM BIO

Since 2005, Johnny has founded or co-founded 7 companies – of which 3 were exited and 4 continue to operate through his leadership. When looking at a deal, Johnny likes to focus on three things: people, opportunity, and capital. He believes in the importance of "boots-on-the-ground" and loves creating value where others are unable to see success. Johnny considers his values in both life and business as a legacy passed down through generations. He is a third-generation farmer specializing in soil conservation and soil health through sustainable farming systems. For the last 65 years, the Hunter family has been sustainably growing crops in Southeast Missouri's Delta Region.

RETURN TO FARMS - In 2006, 24-year-old Johnny returned to the family farm and began his solo farming career. He implemented conventional methods of farming which proved successful at the time. In 2012, the Midwest was hit with a record setting historic drought and the farming practices and irrigation that had made so many good crops for no longer worked. He faced a large financial setback and was left wondering what had gone wrong. He spent the next many months researching and realizing the magnitude and significance of soil health. Years of heavy tillage and overuse of chemicals and fertilizers had left the soils degraded and unhealthy. He ultimately changed his farming methods completely and went 100% no- till and 100% cover cropped within a year.

CASTOR RIVER FARMS - To continue his family legacy, Johnny decided to build a rice mill and brand of national repute; a brand that represented all that was good about his family, his land, and the sustainability he could bring to the market. The idea was to have a rice mill business on a no-till farm that emphasizes soil health and its link to a high-quality product. Johnny and his family launched Castor River Farms on Jan 1, 2018. Nearly four years later the rice is available in over 2,500 retail locations nationwide.





## COURTNEY HUNTER GILMER COO & General Counsel

#### MANAGEMENT TEAM BIO

Courtney Hunter Gilmer serves as the Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel of Castor River Habitat and Farm. With a robust legal and business background, Courtney brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the company, ensuring its operations and legal frameworks are aligned for optimal success.

After graduating from the University of Missouri and Vanderbilt University Law School, Courtney began a distinguished 21-year legal career in Nashville, Tennessee. Courtney honed her skills in financial services litigation, financial regulatory compliance, and chapter 11 bankruptcy during her time with two prominent Nashville law firms. Transitioning from the law firm environment, Courtney joined a financial services company as Legal Counsel and Compliance Officer. In this role, she gained invaluable experience working directly with businesses to address and resolve legal and compliance issues. This hands-on experience has been instrumental in shaping her ability to provide innovative solutions tailored to meet the specific needs of businesses operating within complex regulatory environments.

Courtney joined her brother Johnny Hunter at Castor River Habitat and Farm in 2024. Her client-centric approach ensures that she can deliver practical, effective solutions that drive business growth. At Castor River Habitat and Farm, Courtney leverages her extensive background to oversee the company's operations and legal strategies, positioning the brand for sustained growth and success in the competitive CPG, foodservice, and private label markets.





## CHRISTINE BARNES

Chief Financial Officer

#### MANAGEMENT TEAM BIO

Christine is the Chief Financial Officer at Castor River, Inc., where she oversees all financial aspects of the company's operations. With a career of 11 years in finance and accounting, Christine brings extensive expertise in financial strategy, budget management, and corporate finance.

Christine joined Castor River, Inc. in 2020 and has been instrumental in driving financial growth and stability. Her leadership has guided the company through financial and entity restructuring, revenue growth, and industry expansion. Under her stewardship, Castor River, Inc. has consistently improved their profitability margins through effective cost control. Additionally, she has overseen advancements in technology integration, resulting in improved monitoring of operational efficiencies. Christine has also implemented risk management frameworks that mitigate financial risks and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. She is recognized for her strategic acumen and proficiency in aligning financial objectives with broader business goals.

Prior to joining Castor River, Inc., Christine gained valuable experience in various key roles. She worked as a staff accountant in a local CPA firm preparing and reviewing client tax returns, financial statements, and payroll reports. She held the position of accountant and payroll manager in a nationwide appraisal company that diversified into multi-family development during Christine's time there, where she honed expertise in financial planning and analysis along with risk management. Christine holds a Bachelors degree in Accounting from Southeast Missouri State University, and a Masters in Business Administration from Missouri State University.





## JAMES MOSS Chief Commercial Officer

### MANAGEMENT TEAM BIO

James Moss has +25 years' experience in FMGC, primarily in the functional areas of Commercial Sales and Finance. He has worked in larger organizations such as Cadbury Schweppes' beverage division (Dr Pepper Snapple Group) in both London, UK and Dallas, Texas and GlaxoSmithKline's Consumer Healthcare division in Los Angeles, California. Since 2005 he has either been CEO or led the Sales function for various PE and VC-backed emerging food and beverage brands.

His ability to execute a strategy with smaller brands while implementing measurable benchmarks has assisted with the growth of brands that are seeking to enter or expand within the complex US market. He is an active member within the US food and beverage industry, often contributing on boards and discussion panels at key industry events.

James has a B. Science in Business (Marketing) from the University of Colorado @ Boulder and an MBA (Finance) from the University of Denver. He also teaches Entrepreneurial Business part-time at the University of Colorado and lives in the US food-centric city of Boulder, Colorado.

Skills: Financial Planning & Analysis, Strategic Planning, Sales & Marketing, Operational execution.



FEAST MAGAZINE

## RECOGNIZED & AWARDED EXCELLENCE

Castor River Farms grows and mills quality rice, green rice on sustainable maintain land in southeast Missouri.

For Johnny Hunter II, taking the reins at Castor River Farms meant continuing and evolving his family's business and legacy

The farm, which is located near the Castor River in southeast Missouri has been in the family for three generations. Hunter's grandfather, Furg, transformed their land in the Missouri bootheel from swap plan to row crops, leveling it, draining it and implementing modern irrigation.





TASTEMAKERS

## A JOURNEY TO PROMINENCE

"Rice production on planet Earth goes back thousands and thousands of years," says Johnny Hunter of Castor River Habitat & Farm. "Rice is one of the, if not the, most consumed grains on the planet." The majority of rice production relies on tillage, flooding and post-harvest burns.

Those practices aren't aligned with Hunter's focus on soil health, so he cultivates rice by farming "with nature, not contend against her at every turn." After a decade of soil-first farming, Hunter says that he's found that "the more closely we can align ourselves with nature, the easier our life gets."











CASTOR RIVER HABITAT & FARM

# PREMIUM REGENERATIVE RICE BRANDED PRODUCTS



## GET IN TOUCH

We're a small-town farm that's big on changing the rice industry. If you have questions about our farming methods, or want to see Castor River Habitat & Farm in a grocery store near you, let us know—we love to talk rice.

#### CASTOR RIVER HABITAT & FARM

1402 N OUTER ROAD SUITE E, DEXTER, MO, UNITED STATES, MISSOURI





