

Mid-Columbia Council of Governments

Community Profile

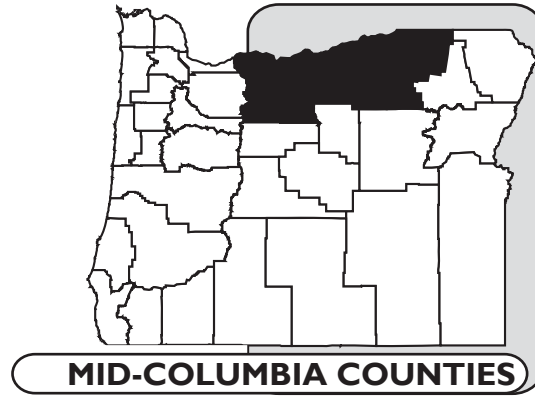
Population 135,000 (8 county region)

Location The Dalles

Position Description

Sponsor Mid-Columbia Council of Governments

Supervisor Bill Fashing, Community Development Director
 Josh Bruce, OPDR Assistant Director
 Michael Howard, OPDR Program Specialist



Assignment The Mid-Columbia Council of Governments was originally organized and approved as a legal entity in June 1979, by the resolutions of Wasco, Hood River and Sherman counties. In July 1992, the counties of Gilliam and Wheeler joined in creating Mid-Columbia Council of Governments. The purpose of Mid-Columbia Council of Governments is to respond to the request from federal and state governments, for local government to assume a greater responsibility in local decision making, and to address the need for local governments to cooperate and work together for greater efficiencies. This agency consolidated five counties and streamlined the costs of running the programs operating under one entity.

The two RARE participants placed with the Mid-Columbia Council of Governments will focus on the update and development of local Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans. One RARE participant will manage mitigation planning work in Clackamas, Hood River and Wasco Counties; the other RARE participant will manage mitigation planning work in Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla and Wheeler Counties. The RARE participants will work collaboratively to facilitate regional trainings and will each be responsible for managing the NHMP planning process at the local level. RARE participants will be trained and closely supervised by Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience staff members.

RARE Participant



William Clark

William Clark grew up in the La Grande, Oregon. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Oregon. Continuing his education, William recently received his Masters in Public Policy from Oregon State University. As a student, he studied and analyzed various public policies and programs, which allowed him to develop a critical but more sympathetic perspective of the challenges facing public policy makers, as well as an appreciation for the complexity in every changing policy-making arena. While in school, William interned as a Community Engagement Specialist with the Corvallis Environmental Center where he developed press releases, managed volunteers, and compiled lists of potential contacts for future outreach projects. Following his year with the RARE Program, William hopes to become involved with various policy processes, using his education and experience to help bridge conflicting agendas on issues where stakeholders have trouble reaching consensus.