

Mid-Columbia Council of Governments

Community Profile

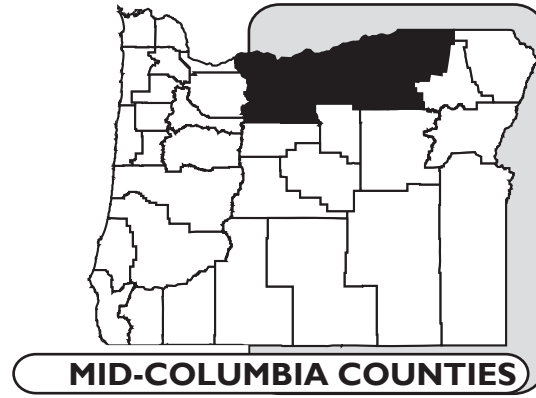
Population 135,000 (8 county region)

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. Instead of many small local agencies creating burdens of administrative costs and duplicate efforts, 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



Garrett Jensen

Garrett Jensen grew up in La Crosse, Wisconsin. He received his Bachelor of Science in Geography with a concentration in Geographic Information Science from the University of Wisconsin – LaCrosse. As a student, he interned with the City of La Crosse Planning Department and the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission. In his spare time, Garrett coached a high school tennis team for six seasons. Following RARE, Garrett plans on attending the University of Oregon to pursue a Master of Community & Regional Planning.