



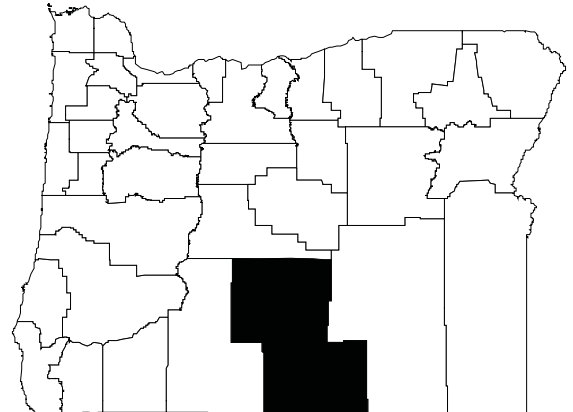
Lake County Resources Initiative

Community Profile

County Lake
 City Lakeview
 Population 7,820

Assignment

Organization Lake County Resources Initiative
 Supervisor Jim Walls
 RARE Member Sara Mercier



About Lake County Resources Initiative

The mission of Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI) is to demonstrate a sustainable approach to natural resource management to ensure quality of life for present and future generations. LCRI designs and manages resource-based projects and services in the communities of Lake County. LCRI educates the local work force about economic opportunities that result from managing forests for ecological health and seeks to assist local workers access federal contracts. Further, LCRI has close ties to the Lake County Sustainability Working Group and strong board of directors, all of whom are taking action to promote a strong economy based on a healthy, thriving natural environment.

The RARE participant placed with Lake County Resources Initiative will guide the efforts of making the Innovation and Learning Center, a project that brings post-secondary educational opportunities to Lake County, its own non-profit. The RARE participant will also work with LCRI's Renewable Energy Engineer to present, organize, and schedule renewable energy workshops and presentations throughout the state. In addition, the RARE participant will work with partners to educate, organize, and promote efforts to reduce Lake County's impacts on climate change. Finally, the RARE participant will assist with community development projects, with keeping LCRI's website maintained with accurate information and new posts, and with maintaining LCRI's various social media profiles.

Meet Sara Mercier



Sara received her bachelor's degree in Engineering Science with a minor in Landscape Studies from Smith College. While in college, Sara worked with the Northampton Office of Planning and Sustainability and the Northampton Department of Public Works to develop and present multiple conceptual designs for a multi-use trail spur. Sara hopes that the RARE Program will help her develop both personally and professionally by allowing her to be out in nature, getting her hands dirty and exploring a new part of the country. After the RARE program, Sara wants to be a planner, aiding in the development of a self-sustaining city with an integrated approach to energy and food systems.