

# Port of The Dalles

## Community Profile

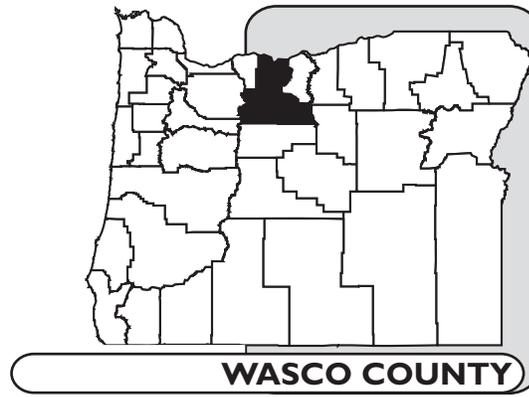
**Population** 13,620

**Location** The Dalles

## Position Description

**Sponsor** Port of The Dalles

**Supervisor** Andrea Klass  
Executive Director



**Assignment** The Port of The Dalles is an Oregon special district that works to create jobs and recruit businesses by developing industrial lands. The Dalles has a long history as a regional trade center and as a hub for river, rail, and road transportation. Located in the scenic Columbia River Gorge, The Dalles is an ideal location that offers both a rural setting and the convenience of modern infrastructure. Since 1933, the Port of The Dalles has been dedicated to the growth of industry and jobs in this unique region.

The RARE participant placed with the Port of The Dalles will work to implement portions of the Port's 2009 Strategic Plan. Specifically, the participant will assist with project management, where he or she will seek funding sources needed to acquire, master plan, and redevelop 77 acres of industrial property. In order to do so, the participant will coordinate with agencies at the local, state, and federal levels to find creative solutions to the regions' unique wetlands challenges. Also, the participant will work with Home At Last, the region's humane society to expand an existing one year work plan into a five year strategic plan.

## RARE Participant



Michael Held

**Michael Held** grew up in rural West Virginia. He received a Bachelor of Social Work from West Virginia University. Continuing his education, Michael recently received a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Oregon. As a student, he developed a passion for economic revitalization and community development, specifically within rural communities. Michael's passion to better the lives of those living in rural communities led him to a recent internship with the City of Oakridge, where he worked on an array of economic development projects. While working with the City of Oakridge, he gained further insight into the issues that many of Oregon's rural communities currently face. Following his year with the RARE Program, Michael plans to help build the capacity of rural communities via a career in the public services arena in his home state of West Virginia.