

# ShoreBank Enterprise Pacific

## **Community Profile:**

**Population** 15,374

**Location** Coos Bay

## **Position Description:**

**Sponsor** ShoreBank Enterprise Pacific

**Supervisor** Adam Zimmerman

## **Assignment**

Shorebank Enterprise Pacific (SEP) is a community development institution that provides capital and technical assistance to entrepreneurs and organizations to build viable business and market ventures which improve the social and environmental conditions of rural communities. The Coast Farm Project that the RARE participant will be a part of is currently focused on small family farms in the mid-South Oregon coastal region. The project goal is to support innovative business practices among those in the agricultural community. The RARE participant will help accomplish this goal by providing direct assistance at training sessions on farm business planning and management. The RARE participant will also be working with farmers who might be interested in raising organic chickens and assessing the feasibility of producing and selling organic eggs in this region. In addition, the RARE participant will work on developing a viable strategy for maximizing potential of the local fruit industry. The RARE participant will also work with staff to design reliable and transferable financial products that SEP can use to move coastal communities away from the exploitive harvest and export of raw commodities and toward sustainable, value-added production.

## **Required Skills**

The RARE participant will need good research and writing skills, including experience with scheduling and conducting interviews. Experience in designing, delivering surveys, and analyzing survey results will be helpful as will experience with event planning. The ideal participant will also have some experience with agriculture and/or sustainable agriculture and an interest in expanding knowledge of small-farm agriculture/business.

## **RARE Member: *Nathan Sandwick - 2004-2005, Year 11 Participant***

Nathan Sandwick graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a B.S. in Agricultural Education and a B.S. in Biology. While a student, he interned with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture. After graduating, he completed two intense seminars in poultry science and enterprise management. This preparation in poultry led to a summer internship with Sparboe Companies, one of the largest egg producers in the world. Nathan has also volunteered with a poultry development project in Nicaragua, with the Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners.