Community Profile

Population
Hood River County: 21,155
Wasco County: 23,669

Location
Hood River and The Dalles

Position Description

Sponsor
Hood River County
and Wasco County

Supervisor(s)
Mike Benedict, Planning Director,
and Todd Cornett, Planning Director

Assignment
This project focuses on the creation and adoption of Hazards Mitigation Plans for both Hood River and Wasco Counties. The participant will conduct many projects including: meeting with various jurisdictions to gather information; identification of county natural hazards; development of plan goals and solutions; creation of a plan document; and presentation of the final plan for adoption. Through this project, the participant will gain significant exposure to the field of natural hazard planning and long-range planning, and experience in public sector involvement processes, meeting facilitation, and conflict resolution.

Required Skills
For this position, the RARE participant should have strong written and verbal communication skills and should be comfortable working with the public. The ideal participant will have experience in planning, meeting facilitation, and project management.

RARE Member

Michael Pasternak graduated from the University of Connecticut with a degree in Geography. Michael spent the past several years working as a Quality Assurance Analyst and Project Manager for a large corporation in Norwalk, Connecticut and developed skills in management, GIS and GPS and software engineering. After RARE, Michael will continue to develop his career in land use planning and community development.