City of Veneta

Community Profile

Population 3,955

Location Veneta

Position Description

Sponsor City of Veneta

Supervisor Margaret Boutell, Community Services Director

Assignment As the Program Coordinator for the City of Veneta Parks Department, the RARE participant will work on three main projects. The first project involves planning for a bike and pedestrian trail plan to link the community of Veneta with outlying areas to support both the economic and environmental sustainability of Veneta and surrounding communities, while providing local residents with recreational opportunities. The second project is a plastics recycling initiative, which aims to significantly increase the volume of plastics recycled by Veneta residents. The third project will establish a Citizen Volunteer Program to assist the city in its efforts at recycling, park development and maintenance, ecotourism development, and public relations.

Required Skills The ideal RARE participant will have strong communication skills and be comfortable working with diverse stakeholders. The participant should have interest in, and some experience with, community development, regional planning, public administration, and environmental studies or recreation.

RARE Participant

Taunya Jones, a native of Pocatello, ID, completed her undergraduate degree at Boise State University and a graduate degree in sociology. She also holds a certificate in environmental and natural resource policy at Utah State University. In addition, she is currently working on a second master’s degree in public administration at Boise State University, with an emphasis on environmental natural resource policy. She has extensive experience working as a research assistant on a variety of projects and has interned at the Idaho Conservation League, where she researched Bureau of Land Management and forest service project proposals and drafted policy and science-based comments responding to environmental assessments (EAs) and environmental impact statements (EISs) related to public land management. Taunya has a strong desire to participate in collaborative natural resource management efforts and to explore opportunities for grassroots ecosystem management.