

# Malheur County

(ONHW)

## Community Profile

**Population** 32,000 (Malheur County)

**Location** Vale

## Position Description

**Sponsor** Malheur County and the University of Oregon's Oregon Natural Hazards Workgroup

**Supervisor** Jon Beal, Planning Director

**Assignment** This is one of three positions focused on natural hazard mitigation. The participant in Malheur County will be responsible for spearheading the creation and adoption of a county-wide natural hazard mitigation plan. Towards this end, the participant will focus on several projects, including: convening a local steering committee, conducting community outreach through meetings, stakeholder interviews, and focus groups; identifying and documenting relevant natural hazards; developing plan goals and action steps; and presenting the final plan for adoption.

**Required Skills** The RARE participant should have strong communication and organizational skills. S/he should be comfortable working as part of a team, should have strong customer service skills, but should also be able to work well independently and with little direction. The participant will need basic computer skills and the ability to think and write clearly. Experience in database management, research and data analysis skills, and experience in meeting facilitation would be helpful.

## RARE Participant



Sarah Hackney

Sarah Hackney, a native of rural Arcadia, FL, graduated in 2006 from Dartmouth College with an undergraduate degree in environmental studies and a minor concentration in english. She has strong interests in agriculture, conservation, and the intersection of the two. Sarah's professional experience is predominantly in the communications and environmental fields from working as a field assistant on southwest Florida wetlands mitigation projects to advocating for a sustainable, locally-focused food system through the Dartmouth Local Foods Project and the Valley Food & Farm program in Vermont and New Hampshire. In early 2005, she returned home to Florida to assist the DeSoto County Disaster Recovery Coordinator in coordinating local hurricane recovery efforts after the community was devastated by Hurricane Charley in August 2004. Her long-term goals center on working with rural communities to increase their economic, environmental, and cultural sustainability, especially with regard to increasing economic resilience and community food security in rural agricultural communities.

