

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality - Eastern Region

Community Profile:

Population 36,200 (Harney and Malheur Counties)

Location Eastern Oregon

Position Description:

Sponsor Department of Environmental Quality - Eastern Region

Supervisor Bruce Hammon, Senior Biologist

Assignment

The RARE participant gains a understanding of water quality management, water quality studies, complex attributes of the Clean Water Act, and functions of aquatic ecosystems. Duties include processing, formatting and displaying temperature data in report form for natural resource agencies in the Great Basin ecoregion. The participant develops GIS overlays of biotic communities, water quality monitoring surveys (including field audits), and physical characteristics of the selected streams. This requires literature review and public involvement, including coordination with watershed councils and presentations to the legislature. The participant serves as the principle contact with rural watershed councils in eastern Oregon.

Required Skills

Natural resource management experience and the ability to research and analyze a variety of spatial and regulatory data and information (GIS).

RARE Member: *Nancy Breuner - 1998-1999, Year 5 Participant*

Nancy received her Masters in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon in 1998. She received her undergraduate degree in Zoology from UC Davis in 1985. Since that time she has worked as a field biologist studying several endangered species. Nancy's interests have broadened to include landscape ecology and biology community-planning efforts in general and in watershed planning specifically. Nancy served as a RARE participant in 1997-98 for the Tualatin River Watershed Council and Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District. She conducted an assessment of the Gales Creek Watershed, worked on the Tualatin Basin GIS project and a streamside landowner database. She is currently working with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality on water quality monitoring projects and studying Lahontan cutthroat trout ecology in southeast Oregon.