

# Umatilla County Soil and Water Conservation District

## **Community Profile:**

**Population** 65,500 (Umatilla County)

**Location** Pendleton

## **Position Description:**

**Sponsor** Umatilla County Soil & Water Conservation District

**Supervisor** Jim Loiland, Water Quality Coordinator

## **Assignment**

The Lower Umatilla Basin (LUB) Groundwater Area is working on an Educational Plan that includes surveys of irrigated agriculture and rural residential areas. The RARE participant makes several presentations to identified groups and prepares, evaluates, and implements community surveys. This includes developing and maintaining a LUB website. The second responsibility is a survey of historic environmental projects. The participant surveys farm operators to determine what practices and systems are now in use and identifies those that have been discontinued. The third component involves water quality monitoring. The RARE participant has team leader responsibilities in the sampling plan for all parameters of water quality monitoring.

## **Required Skills**

Planning and project management, computer proficiency (newsletter and web page publishing), and group facilitation skills.

## **RARE Member: *Kristen Ann Wood - 1998-1999, Year 5 Participant***

Kristen graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a BS in Biology and Environment Studies in 1992. Upon graduation she spent one year teaching English as a Foreign Language at Shandong University, in the People's Republic of China. She returned to the University of Colorado and worked as a research assistant. Kristen served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Alta Verapaz, Guatemala as an environmental extensionist. Her work included the design, construction and implementation of a biological research station in a remote area of the Guatemalan cloud forest. She also coordinated a two-week workshop on the techniques of making candles using a sustainable, natural resource. In addition, she worked to expand both local and foreign markets for the promotion and sales of artisan products. Kristen hopes to expand her knowledge of natural resource management and community development. She plans on pursuing a Master's degree at the University of Oregon.