

Umatilla Basin Watershed Council

Community Profile:

Population 65,500 (Umatilla County)

Location Pendleton

Position Description:

Sponsor Umatilla Basin Watershed Council

Supervisor Tracy Bosen, Watershed Council Coordinator

Assignment

The RARE participant focuses on water quality, education, and public involvement in the Umatilla Basin. Duties include developing water quality management plans and grant writing. The Council provides coordination to the Natural Resources Consortium. This consortium is made up of approximately 25-30 local schoolteachers and administrators. The goals of this project is to provide learning activities to school children which will enhance understanding and appreciation of natural resources. The RARE participant maintains close contact with administrators in coordinating meetings and activities. This includes providing information to the public regarding watershed issues. The participant provides a monthly presentation on accomplishments and goals.

Required Skills

Ability to use all forms of communication effectively, appreciation for the importance of honoring human diversity and the ability to see across complex issues.

RARE Member: *Aletha Eastwood - 1998-1999, Year 5 Participant* Aletha received a BA in History from Grinnell College in 1991. After graduating, she taught English in Japan for two years and lived in New Zealand for one year working on organic farms and participating in native revegetation projects. She then studied Biology at the University of Kentucky for two years as a post-baccalaureate student. She researched the effects of light and nutrients on the morphology of liverwort spores. She also worked for the University of Georgia Marine Institute on Sapelo Island researching physiological responses in marsh grass to environmental toxins. The research was part of a national project working to develop and determine the use of sublethal indicators to assess the health of saltwater marshes and their response to environmental pollutants. In addition, Aletha worked for the Hood River Ranger District of the Mt. Hood National Forest as an environmental interpreter and visitor information assistant.