City of Rogue River

Community Profile

- County: Jackson
- City: Rogue River
- Population: 2,155

Assignment

- Organization: City of Rogue River
- Supervisor: Mark Reagles
- RARE Member: Elisabeth Dawson

City of Rogue River

Established in 1912, the City of Rogue River is located in southwestern Oregon just off Interstate 5. Nestled along the banks of the Rogue River amidst forested mountains and tree-lined streets, this rural gem has been recognized as a Tree City USA for 30 years and counting. The City’s current population is 2,155.

The RARE participant placed with the City of Rogue River will work on updating the land use code by comparing the existing land use code with the state’s model code and ‘melding’ the two documents to create something more usable. The RARE participant will also research and evaluate all TMDL activities and create a TMDL work plan for city implementation. In addition, the RARE participant will utilize a handheld GPS unit to map key points in city wastewater infrastructure and map water outfalls, and will use the city’s GIS system to identify vacant city land areas for future development. Finally, the RARE participant will work to create an update of counter tax maps by transferring the information on existing maps to a new set of tax maps.

Meet Elisabeth Dawson

Elisa received her bachelor’s degree in both Geography and in Community, Environment and Planning with a minor in Global Health from the University of Washington. As a student, Elisa worked with the King County Department of Parks and Natural Resources in Seattle, WA, where she worked to support outreach and communication on natural resources and King County programs to diverse communities. After attaining her bachelor’s degree, Elisa served in AmeriCorps at Purgatoire Watershed Partnership in Trinidad, CO, where she designed and executed resource planning and public engagement documents such as the Purgatoire River Watershed Plan, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and the City of Trinidad Source Water Protection Plan. While serving another year in AmeriCorps through the RARE Program Elisa hopes to advance her professional aptitude, open her understanding of different geographical areas, and learn from her involvement in serving underserved areas. After her year with RARE, Elisa hopes to work in the field of resource managing or policy in a position that will allow her to integrate her interests in natural resources, community development, and serving a greater good.