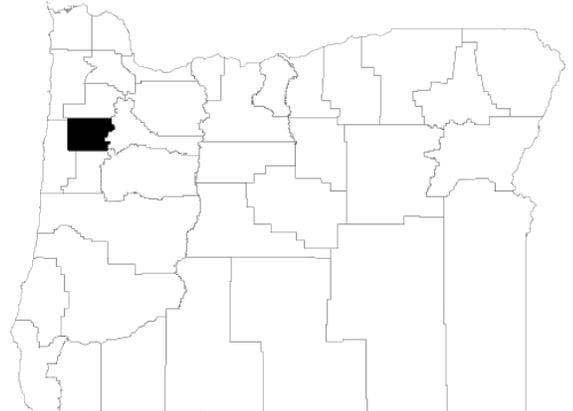




## Polk County Rural Tourism

### Community Profile

County Polk  
 City Monmouth  
 Population 60,000



### Assignment

Organization City of Monmouth  
 Supervisor Shawn Irvine  
 RARE Member Emily Gluckin

#### About Polk County

Polk County is blessed with a number of high-quality tourism destinations and a host of other visitor amenities. These tourism assets need to be more effectively linked together, both in terms of personal connections and through content development such as farm trails, travel itineraries, etc. Additionally, Polk County will be one of the few places in the world to experience a total eclipse of the sun in August 2017. Polk County contains the cities of Independence, Monmouth, Dallas and Falls City and has a population of 76,794.

Emily will be assisting Polk County in coordinating and growing the Polk County Tourism Alliance Action Teams, coordinate and promote the Polk County Eclipse 2017 Events, develop and promote new content for Polk County, and will work with Polk County Tourism Alliance committees and individual businesses to schedule and organize the tours. This will involve planning the itinerary for each tour, ensuring that local businesses participate by sending key staff, and working with local businesses to provide samples or someone to talk about what their business has to offer

#### Meet Emily Gluckin



- B.A. in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Sustainability Studies and a minor in Green Building and Community Design – University of Vermont
- People may be surprised when they learn that between ages 10 and 14 I lived in Zurich, Switzerland. I was immersed in a culture that was a big contrast to my life in a small town in suburban Connecticut. I learned German, how to navigate public transportation, how to make quick friends in an International school, and how to be a citizen of the world. It created a personal drive to continue learning about and exploring new places. I believe I would be a completely different person without that experience.
- My most significant accomplishment that I am proud of is the completion of a large-scale public art installation that I was the project manager of during my previous AmeriCorps service in Montana. The project, known as the Helena Bike Tower, had been in the works for several years before I took the position, and after 11 months of blood, sweat, and tears (literally)