



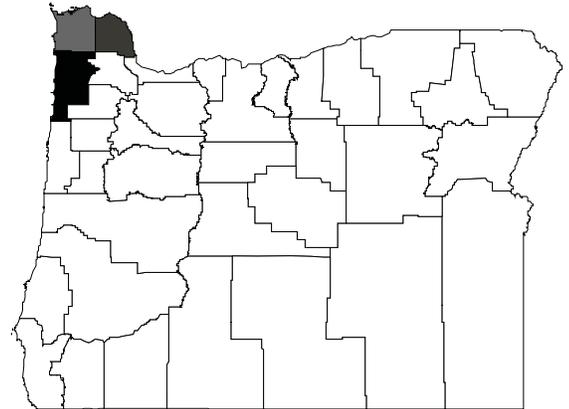
Northwest Regional Solutions

Community Profile

County Tillamook, Clatsop, Columbia
 City Tillamook
 Population 200,000 (all three counties)

Assignment

Organization Northwest Regional Solutions
 Supervisor Melanie Olson
 RARE Member Kyle Kearns



About Northwest Regional Solutions

Regional Solutions offers an innovative, collaborative approach to community and economic development in Oregon. The State, in partnership with Oregon colleges and universities, established Regional Solutions Centers throughout Oregon. Each Center takes a bottom-up approach to development projects -- working at the local level to identify priorities, solve problems, and seize opportunities to complete projects. These centers integrate State Agency work and funding to ensure that projects are completed in the most economical and streamlined process possible.

The RARE participant placed with Northwest Regional Solutions Team will be assisting Clatsop County with mapping the on-site septic program for the North Clatsop Plains Sub-Area Plan, and with implementing the policy actions and approaches of the plan. The RARE participant will also assist communities with funding applications to recertify their dikes and/or levees to keep them FEMA-accredited. In addition, the RARE participant will work with and teach local volunteers to develop project resources and to learn administrative requirements for funds management. Finally, the RARE participant will assist with implementing economic development plans in the region.

Meet Kyle Kearns



Kyle received his bachelor's degree in Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati. While working on his degree, Kyle worked as a Community Development Assistant in Salida, Colorado, where he worked as the main point of contact for residential and commercial permits, and produced maps and conceptual designs for several projects. He also worked as a Planning Department Intern in Troy, Ohio, where he updated GIS data, created a digital database of historic properties, and performed zoning reviews for various permits throughout the city. Through the RARE Program, Kyle hopes to gain a variety of experience and to help better define his area of focus in planning. After his year with RARE, Kyle would like to obtain a master's degree, and then later he'd like to be a lead planner on projects that are progressive, environmentally sound, and community-driven.