

# Oregon Rural Action

## Community Profile

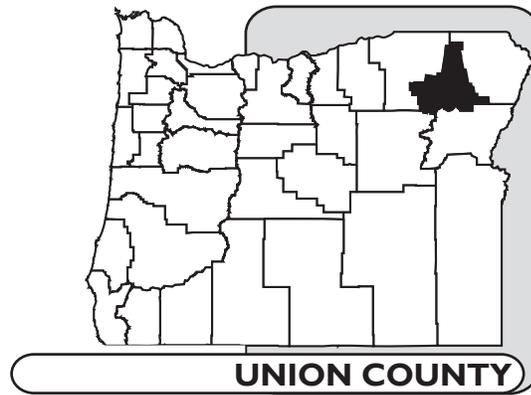
**Population** 13,095

**Location** La Grande

## Position Description

**Sponsor** Oregon Rural Action

**Supervisor** Nella Parks  
Staff Director



**Assignment** Oregon Rural Action is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership-based community organization working to promote social justice, agricultural and economic sustainability, and stewardship of the region's land, air and water. We're bringing people together to build strong communities by providing information and tools for local people to use in addressing the issues affecting our communities.

The RARE participant placed with Oregon Rural Action (ORA) will work on a variety of projects aimed at furthering ORA's endeavors to support small-scale community-based renewable energy development in Eastern Oregon. Specifically, the participant will create and coordinate a School Energy Working Committee to help schools implement energy efficiency, conservation, and production programs. Also, the participant will help build support for a "solarize" program aimed at lowering the cost of local solar thermal installation. To do so, the participant will develop and host a series of solar home tours, workshops, and a general energy fair for high school and university students. Lastly, the participant will help build organization capacity, working to broaden fundraising and membership development, and working to develop and implement leadership and development plans.

## RARE Participant



Bridget Callahan

**Bridget Callahan** received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Oregon. After attaining her Bachelors Degree, Bridget worked as a Field Organizer for Senator Jeff Merkley's Campaign where she helped develop one of the largest grassroots movements in Oregon history. As a Field Organizer, Bridget was responsible for recruiting, training, managing and retaining hundreds of volunteers on a day-to-day basis. Following her work as Field Organizer, Bridget facilitated the creation and administration for the non-profit For Our Rural Oregon, a body designed to promote community and renewable energy in rural Oregon. As the Executive Director of For Our Rural Oregon, she oversaw daily operations, managed the board of directors and focused on coalition building. Following her year with the RARE Program, Bridget plans on seeking a successful career with non-governmental organization abroad.