



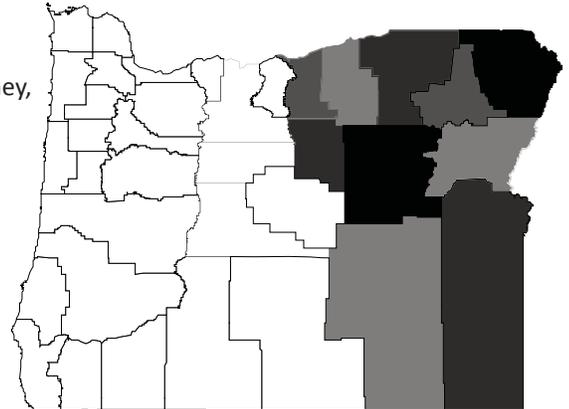
Northeast Regional Solutions

Community Profile

County Union, Baker, Wallowa, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Wheeler
 City La Grande
 Population 184,000 (all counties combined)

Assignment

Organization Northeast Regional Solutions
 Supervisor Scott Fairley
 RARE Member Yelena Varley



About Northeast 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 NE Regional Solutions will help to create and implement Regional Community and Economic Development Plans. The RARE participant will also work with the Regional Coordinator, Advisory Committees, and specific teams to analyze prioritized projects for both the Greater Eastern and Northeast Oregon Regions. In addition, the RARE participant will increase community understanding and appreciation for the Regional Solutions Program by working with community staff and volunteers on developing project resources and learning administrative requirement for funds management. Finally, the RARE participant will play a key role in preparing and distributing the information included in newsletters for the Greater Eastern and Northeast Oregon Regions based upon the work of the Advisory Committees.

Meet Yelena Varley

Lena received her bachelor’s degree in Chinese with a minor in Environmental Studies from Grinnell College. After attaining her bachelor’s degree, Lena worked as an Environmental Science Educator at Paraclete Academy in Boston, MA, where she created curriculum focused on sustainability, resource management, and global ecology, and worked with at-risk middle school students in reading, writing, math, and science. During her year with RARE AmeriCorps – Resource Assistance for Rural Environments, Lena hopes to use her environmental science knowledge to help people achieve greater environmental sustainability. Following her year with the RARE program, Lena hopes to have a solid practical knowledge base before going to graduate school for environmental policy.