Lake County Resource Initiative

Community Profile

Population 7,422
Location Lakeview

Position Description

Sponsor Lake County Resource Initiative
Supervisor Jim Walls, Executive Director

Assignment Renewable Energy. The mission of Lake County Resource Initiative (LCRI) is to demonstrate a sustainable approach to natural resource management to ensure quality of life for present and future generations. LCRI designs and manages resource-based projects and services in the communities of Lake County. It educates the local work force about economic opportunities that result from managing forests for ecological health and seeks to assist local workers access federal contracts. Further, it has close ties to the Lake County Sustainability Working Group and strong board of directors all of whom are taking action to promote a strong economy based on the healthy, thriving natural environment.

The RARE participant placed with the LCRI focuses on promoting local renewable energy programs. A large part of LCRI’s mission is to transform Lake County into a net exporter of renewable energy by 2012. To move towards this goal, the participant is writing and submitting grant proposals; creating a county renewable energy marketing strategy; developing and implementing a high school curriculum with a focus on renewable energy; and assisting in organizing the Corridor of Renewable Energy Conference. This is an opportunity for a RARE participant to be part of a grassroots effort to transform a rural county into a net exporter of renewable energy.

RARE Participant

David Wade grew up in Virginia and received a BA in Anthropology from the University of Virginia. Following college, David volunteered as an eco-tourism guide and computer instructor in Guatemala at an NGO that focused on educating local low-income and homeless children. Recently, he completed a Master of Public Administration from the University of Oregon where he focused on public-private sector partnerships to boost renewable energy use and encourage watershed restoration while increasing social and economic gains. David interests lie in renewable earth systems, philosophy, cycling, and rock climbing.