Baker County is steeped in the traditions of the west. The history of this area is intricately woven with the footsteps of explorers and trappers, stitched by the ruts from pioneer wagon trains that trekked along the Oregon Trail, and etched by miners who left their mark throughout the mountains of Eastern Oregon. By the end of the 19th century, cattle, sheep, and farming operations were prominent modes of business throughout the county, followed by impressive logging and timber industries.

Baker County’s landscape attracts visitors and residents alike, who come to view wildlife, fish, hunt, ski, snowmobile, hike, camp, and generally enjoy the opportunities that this amazing area provides. Nestled in the heart of eastern Oregon, Baker County is home to the Elkhorn and Eagle Cap mountain ranges, the Hells Canyon corridor, and a plethora of activities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational opportunities.

Baker County encompasses 3,088 square miles and is home to more than 16,000 residents. Baker City is the county’s largest incorporated city with a population of approximately 9,757 people. Baker City is also home to Powder River Correctional Facility (PRCF). Established in 1989, PRCF is a 316-bed minimum-security prison facility and an intricate part of this dynamic community. Serving as a transition and re-entry facility, PRCF contracts with New Directions Northwest, Inc., to provide a 128-bed drug and alcohol treatment program inside the facility for qualifying adults in custody. PRCF is an active participant in the AMEND project and the Oregon Way.