

CAREERS CONNECT

Edition #009

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

April 16, 2025

Students, Colleagues and Peers: This week's issue features some funding opportunities which is a new feature for the newsletter. Weekly issues of Career Connects are archived [here](#).

Note: some of you are receiving this email for the first time as friends and coworkers have shared your contact. You may unsubscribe any time by emailing me: shantinir@nmhu.edu

LIFE TIP: In this digital age, long-format reading has taken the back seat for most of us. But few things in life replicate the extended pause of being in the present and the tickling of the imagination that a solid book can offer. Whether it's to learn new things, disconnect from current realities, or taking some time to slow down, reading has both [physical and mental benefits](#), and may even [improve longevity](#).

»»» **Assistant Director, Ecological Restoration Institute (deadline: April 28)**

Based in Flagstaff, AZ, at Northern AZ Univ., this leadership administration and management position will provide financial oversight and forecasting, personnel management and planning, event planning, staff travel and purchasing. This is a full-time position with benefits, starting at \$89,551 DOE.

NM Dept. of Agriculture (2 positions) «««

NMDA is seeking a [senior program manager](#) (deadline: May 1; salary: \$59,966 DOE) to progress a wide range of state priorities, e.g., climate policy, federal public land management, water resources, threatened and endangered species, soil and rangeland health, forestry and noxious weeds. Additionally, the [natural resources policy/planning analyst](#) (deadline: April 20; salary: \$53,166) will support the biological, economic, sociopolitical and legal aspects of NM's farming and ranching priorities. Both positions are full-time with benefits.



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

➤➤➤ **USFS Southwestern Region – Wildland Fire (deadline: April 24)**

Summer 2025 permanent positions in wildland fire, including positions with the Carson National Forest (Taos, Bloomfield, Canjilon, El Rito, Peñasco, Questa, Tres Piedres) are now open for [Fire Management Officers](#) (GS12-13), [Fire Engine Operators](#) (GS6-7), [Prevention Technicians](#) (GS12), [Dispatchers](#) (GS8-9), [Wildland firefighters](#) (GS11), [Forestry Technicians](#) (GS5-7), [Hotshot/Handcrew](#) (GS4-5). All positions are open to the public and career transition applicants.

➤➤➤ **Forest Stewards Guild** needs one more committed team member (aged 16-25 years) for their [Coyote summer crew](#), June 2-August 1 (\$17 p/hour, CPR/First Aid, and opportunity to earn 2 college credits from SFCC). Positions with the Fall Fire & Fuels program will open soon.

WEBINARS & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Western Landowners Association's Water & Working Lands webinar series:
 - Irrigating for Food and Fish: Water Infrastructure and healthy streams
 - April 16 @ 12 Noon, [register here](#)
- [Careers related to Agriculture](#), April 25th featuring Debbie Hughes from NM Assoc. of Conservation Districts
 - evadr@unm.edu for details

➤➤➤ **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:**

In an era of how to do the work with diminishing funding resources, here are recently announced opportunities to boost/bridge funding for your work:

- NM Environmental Dept. is accepting proposals for the [FY2026 River Stewardship Program](#) to enhance the natural functioning of New Mexico's streams and rivers by providing state funding to plan, design, and construct projects that improve surface water quality or river habitat.
 - Who can apply: nonprofits, businesses, tribes and pueblos, SWCDs, municipalities, counties, local and state agencies. Deadline: May 20
- Fire-adapted Communities [microgrants](#) (up to \$2,000) for modest fuels reduction projects or wildlife preparedness events (deadline: May 2)

➤➤➤ OTHER RESOURCES:

Hub of Resources for Collaborative Conservation in NM: Groups and individuals working in natural resource management, particularly collaborative conservation, can visit NMFWR's newly launched [NM Collaboration Hub](https://nmcollabhub.org) (nmcollabhub.org) to connect, share knowledge, and work together.

HANDS-ON RESTORATION PROJECTS

NM Healthy Soil Working Group: Join Spring planting at a traditional communal cornfield on Navajo Nation. This cornfield is a multi-year project that has included lasagna beds and no-till approaches. Learn how to create low-tech swales and wicker weirs for rainwater harvesting.

Saturday, May 3, 10AM - 4 PM
Ramah Navajo Community, near El Morro and El Malpais monuments;
Volunteers must sign up in advance to participate
(<https://forms.gle/C8LFhuWZ7phTRuT39>)

[Red Canyon Spring Gathering](#)
May 9/4 PM – May 11/1130 AM (free);
a weekend of camping, bird watching and conservation volunteer work

➤➤➤ MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR NMHU COMMUNITY

- CARES Counseling: cares@nmhu.edu | 505-454-3006
- After-Hours Crisis Line (Available 24/7): 505-795-3665
- Student Health Clinic (Medical & Mental Health Services - Sunrise Clinic): 505-454-3218 | 901 Baca Ave, Las Vegas, NM 87701
- BetterMynd: Free, confidential online therapy services available to NMHU students. Students can schedule virtual counseling sessions with licensed mental health professionals. Register at www.BetterMynd.com using your NMHU email

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- Legal questions linger over deferred resignation program as [feds feel pressure](#) to accept offer
- Interior Department staff, including those at national parks, [offered buyouts and early retirement](#)
- Interior secretary orders national parks to be [open and accessible](#) as workforce is cut
- Higher pay for wildland firefighters; [cuts wildfire support staff](#)
- [NM Unemployment](#)

➤➤➤ MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR ALL

- NM Crisis & Access Line (24/7 Licensed Clinicians): 1-855-662-7474 (855-NMCRISIS); <https://naminewmexico.org/crisis-info/>
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (Call or Text 988): 988lifeline.org

If you know of job opportunities or have a request for a type of resource that can be added to this newsletter, please reach out to Shantini Ramakrishnan (shantinir@nmhu.edu)