



CAREERS CONNECT

Edition #037

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

December 3, 2025

Students, Colleagues and Peers: Non-profits take the lead once again this week. 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: *"It's possible to understand the world from studying a leaf. You can comprehend the laws of aerodynamics, mathematics, poetry and biology through the complex beauty of such a perfect structure. It's also possible to travel the whole globe and learn nothing."*

~ Joy Harjo, The Woman Who Fell from the Sky: Poems

>>> Executive Director, STEM Santa Fe (salary: \$75-85K annually; deadline: ASAP)

This full-time exempt position will start early January 2026, and will lead daily operations, program and event implementation, and foster strong community connections.

Conservation Delivery Manager, Playa Lakes Joint Venture (salary: \$75-80K annually, deadline: 12/31)



This is a fully remote position that can be based anywhere within the Playa Lakes region of eastern NM, TX panhandle, or western/central OK. Responsibilities include engaging with key partners, project management and support, supervise and mentor staff, and support NAWCA grant development.

>>> Seasonal Physical Science Technicians, El Malpais National Monument (1 position) and Valles Caldera Nature Preserve (2 positions); deadline 12/8

These are full-time temporary positions (GS-05 level, April-May 2026 start date) for US citizen applicants. El Malpais technician based in Grants will focus on environmental monitoring of lava tubes and bat surveys through acoustic recorders.

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)



CONT >>>

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

CLOSING SOON...

- **Community Wildfire Defense Program Manager (EMNRD #10115196) (salary: \$66,800-\$100,320 annually; deadline: 12/5)** This position manages \$62.4M of sub-recipient grant awards and contracts, and provides coordination, logistical and administrative support to 33 counties, tribes, partners, agencies, municipalities and non-profits across the state. Competitive candidates should demonstrate experience in wildfire mitigation, grant administration and management, and ability to coordinate and facilitate diverse stakeholders and organizations.
- **Watershed & Forest Coordinator, River Source (salary: \$30-\$40 p/hr; deadline 12/5)** Work is based primarily in Las Vegas, Mora and Pecos, and leads education, outreach, ecological restoration projects and supports the training and organizing of youth crews.

Featured Events

- **TOMORROW**: Healthy Climate NM is hosting free hybrid town hall to hear 2026 gubernatorial candidates respond to NM's Changing Climate and Our Health., Dec. 4 @ 6 PM at CNM and on Zoom. Registration required.
- **FRIDAY/SATURDAY: Sign up for NM Acequia Association's Annual Congresso de las Acequias "Agua y Justica"** from Dec. 5-6 at NMHU. The full schedule promises an exciting two-day event.

>>> SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

2026 Truchas Scholarship for Regional STEM Students

The Truchas Chapter of Trout Unlimited is offering a scholarship to 2025–26 seniors in public high schools in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and Española. Applications are open now through March 15, 2026. The applications are straightforward with a personal statement, recommendation from a STEM teacher, a peer nomination letter plus transcripts and extra-curricular activities.

CLOSING SOON...

Success Through Academic Research Scholarships (STARS) is a two-year program with the US Dept. of Energy's Office of Environmental Management with up to \$36K in tuition assistance, \$32K annual stipend including a housing stipend; \$5K for required education expenses including conferences and workshops; and two (2) paid 10-week summer internships (inclusive of weekly stipend with housing, transportsations and travel). Must be a US citizen, with minimum 3.0 GPA, enrolled as an undergraduate in a STEM degree at a Minority Serving Institution, and graduating in Spring 2027 or later. (Deadline: 12/12; last informational session on 12/5 – register here)

>>> FUNDING & GRANT 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:

- **LAST CALL: NM Environment Department – Section 319 Implementation and Planning** supports watershed planning and on-the-ground implementation projects (deadline 12/18)

>>> LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS:

- Dec. 3, 4-530 PM virtual book study [Growing Language Through Science: Strategies that Work Across the Curriculum](#) with NM STEM Innovation Network; registration needed
- Dec. 3, 6-730 PM, in person talk on [2025/2026 Winter Outlook and Chasing Powder in the Land of Enchantment](#) at 5430 S. Richards Avenue, Santa Fe 87508
- Dec. 4, 6-7 PM, in-person or live-streamed [Snow Forecasting & Finding Powder Days](#)
- Dec. 9, 10 AM webinar on [Plants out of Place: Communicating Effectively About Invasive Species](#)
- Dec. 9-10, 11AM-3 PM, free and virtual conference [International Invasive Species & Climate Change Conference](#)
- Dec. 12, 1-3 PM, FREE [Renewable Energy](#) teacher workshop @ NMHU SUB 321/322 w/ Explora
- Dec. 13, 9 AM-2 PM, [Winter Solstice Celebration](#) at ABQ Open Space (6500 Coors Blvd NW)
- Dec. 14- Jan 5; 126th Christmas Bird Count is open for [registration](#)
- Dec. 15, abstract deadline for Joint Annual Meeting 2026 for the [AZ/NM Chapter of the Wildlife Society](#) and the [AZ/NM Chapter of the American Fisheries Society](#)
- Dec. 19, 7-8 PM, planetarium dome event on the [Winter Solstice](#) at the Los Alamos Nature Center (\$6-\$8 p/p; or \$20 for a family)

CALL TO ACTION:

- NM Environment Department (NMED) is trying to facilitate water sampling efforts in the Hermit's Park/Calf Canyon burn scar. The 5-10 minute [survey](#) closes 5 PM, this Friday, Dec. 5. Questions? Contact Andy Jochems, NMED, (505) 205-6964 or andy.jochems@env.nm.gov.

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- 3 federal [workforce bills to watch](#) in House Oversight Committee markup
- OPM says [cuts to federal workforce surpassed](#) 2025 goals
- How many [people can the federal government lose?](#)
- Common [misconceptions about federal retirement](#) benefits
- Hermits Peak-Calf Canyon Fire victims [grapple with latest crisis](#)
- Fear rachets up over [heavy metal contamination in Mora County wells](#)
- NM has a [plan to fix its failure to educate disadvantaged kids](#). Not everyone thinks it's enough.
- [NM Unemployment](#)

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

NM COMMUNITY

NM Crisis & Access Line: 1-855-662-7474 (855-NMCRISIS);

Peer-to-Peer Warmline: 7-1130 AM & 6-11 PM daily (1-855-466-7100)

[Guidanceresources.com](#) provides 24/7 support, resources and information for all NM state employees

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (Call or Text 988): [988lifeline.org](#)

NMHU COMMUNITY

CARES Counseling: cares@nmhu.edu | 505-454-3006

After-Hours Crisis Line (Available 24/7): 505-795-3665
Sunrise Clinic): 505-454-3218, 901 Baca Ave, Las Vegas