

CAREERS CONNECT

Edition #040

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

January 14, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: welcome to our first issue of 2026. Buckle up... it's an eventful start. 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: New Mexico = carbon neutral? Check out NMED's [Climate Action Plan](#) to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Ambitious? Outrageous? Impossible? Perhaps...but maybe a bit of vision, aspiration and action is a step forward.



Southern High Plains Initiative Director, The Nature Conservancy (salary: \$98K-\$138K annually)

This remote full-time position leads grassland conservation priorities in NM, CO, TX, OK and KS. Multi-cultural and cross-cultural experience is highly desirable, along with 10+ years' in conservation.

Stewardship & Engagement Associate, NM Land Conservancy (salary: \$60K-\$70K annually, deadline: 1/31)



Santa Fe based position supports landowner engagement, relationship-building, outreach and conservation easement monitoring.



NM Habitat Stewardship Coordinator, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (salary: \$50K annually)

Taos-based hunter/angler candidates prioritized for this full-time position who will work closely with BLM and engage volunteers to progress wildlife conservation priorities, habitat restoration, and increase habitat permeability through fencing removal/modification.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

NMFWRI is hiring:

- [Spatial Analyst Postdoc Scholar](#) is a 2-year grant funded position for candidates with expertise in fire modeling and remote sensing (salary: \$65K-\$75K annually)
- Do you value land stewardship and community advocacy and engagement? Consider applying for the for the [Conservation Specialist](#) position. Must be comfortable working with northern NM rural communities (salary starts at \$58,656 annually)

Conservation Advocate, Environment New Mexico (salary: \$39,750-\$46K annually)

This full-time position will be based in ABQ or Santa Fe, and lead advocacy efforts through policy development, coalition-building, fundraising, etc.



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)

FEATURED EVENT

Rx Inspector

Jan. 14 (TODAY!), 2-3 PM

Learn about and access this nifty tool to track safety information on generic medication

Other positions:

The [Carson National Forest](#) has multiple temporary positions/details (deadline 2/2):

- West Zone Lead Archeologist, El Rito (GS-0193-11)
- Timber Management Asst., Peñasco (GS-0461-11)
- Wildlife Program Manager, Taos (GS-0482/0486-12)

USFS has multiple positions across NM (deadline 1/22 for all positions):

- [Zoned Fire Management Officer](#), Cibola National Forest, based in Tijeras or Mountainair; or Carson National Forest based in Bloomfield; or Santa Fe National Forest based in Española or Coyote (salary: \$72,832-\$101,609 annually)
- [Supervisory Regional Fuels Management Specialist](#) (salary: \$112,824-\$146,671 annually) and [Regional Fire Management Planner](#) (salary: \$97,564-\$146,671 annually) both based in ABQ
- Fire Management Specialist - Fuels Planner (salary: \$72,832-\$108,738 annually) at the Lincoln National Forest based in [Alamogordo](#) or Gila National Forest based in [Silver City](#)
- Other USFS fire positions can be [found here](#)

[Lake Manager](#), Conchas Dam and Cochiti Pueblo, US Army Corps of Engineers, full-time permanent supervisory positions (Grade 12; \$116,463 annually; deadline 1/20)

➤➤➤ SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS

The [American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy \(ACEEE\)](#) is seeking applicants for an 8-week internship based in person in Washington, DC, or remotely in the U.S. Positions start in late May/early June 2026. Interns are paired with mentors who support their exploration into energy policy. Interns will gain experience in research, data collection, analysis, communications and networking. This paid opportunity is open to current students or recent graduates (salary: \$18 p/hr for undergraduates, \$21 p/hr for recent college graduates with a BS/BS, \$24 p/hr for recent graduates with MA/MS or similar; deadline: ASAP).

The [Center for Materials Innovation](#) at the Univ. of MI is actively recruiting for its 10-week (May 27-July 31, 2026) paid research for undergraduates seeking experience in materials science, engineering and related STEM fields through faculty-mentored experiences. On-campus housing provided; \$6K stipend (deadline: 2/12).

The [Planet Forward Storyfest](#) highlights stories that inspire, motivate and drive change from students seeking to understand and illuminate how to best for the Earth. Categories include Best Short Video, Best Social Video, Best Written Story, Best Multimedia Story, Framing the Future, and Fan Favorite. Six winners win a trip to Greenland with Lindblad Expeditions (deadline: 2/23/26).

[Career Pathways Scholarships](#) by LANL Foundation are now open for students and adult learners with a GED/High School Equivalency, who have a clear focus on earning their associate's, certification or professional trade credentialing. Scholarships are \$750 per semester, for up to \$3K. Must be resident of San Miguel, Mora, Taos, Santa Fe, Sandoval, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos (deadline: April 3, 2026).

Reminders:

Current graduate students should consider [Conservation Connect Fellowships](#) with the National Forest Foundation. This year-long fellowship runs from May 2026-April 2027, featuring a 300-hour practicum that includes applied experience with a national leader; mentorship from conservation professionals; training in collaborative leadership; and practical ways to expand your professional network. Fellows are compensated at \$22.90 p/hr for up to 300 hours, with reimbursable expenses for approved travel (deadline: 1/25/26).

➤➤➤ 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:

NM EPSCOR's [Research Infrastructure for NM \(RIO-NM\) Seed Awards](#) funds research and capacity building at higher education institutions. Statement of interest (one page) due 1/23/26, award ceiling \$50K (inclusive of indirect costs).

NMDA's Healthy Soils Program opens this Friday, Jan. 16. Sign up for an informational webinar hosted on Jan. 27. Registration for eligible applications from [government entities](#) (1030-1130 AM) and [NON-governmental entities](#) (330-5 PM).

➤➤➤ FUNDING & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.):

New Mexico Outdoor Equity Fund – Since 2020, the Outdoor Recreation Division has awarded over \$8.6 million, enabling more than 106,000 youth across 23 counties to participate in educational outdoor experiences that nurture health and well-being and build a lifelong connection to the outdoors (deadline: 1/31/26).

➤➤➤ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS:

- TODAY Jan. 14, 6 PM, Journey Down the Gila, South Broadway Cultural Center in ABQ (1025 Broadway Blvd SE) by NM filmmaker David Garcia (\$10 tickets)
- Jan. 17, 9 AM - 430 PM, Bosque Education Guide Workshop, at Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, \$25 includes curriculum binder, laminated kit, expert facilitator guides and refreshments; registration
- Jan. 20, 10 AM, The Science of Saving Plants: Advancing Conservation Through Research and Collaboration with the Center for Plant Conservation
- Jan. 24, 2-330 PM, Sowing Wildflower Seeds workshop with Los Alamos' Bee City and Seed Library, Los Alamos Nature Center
- Jan. 28, 6 PM, Journey Down the Gila, Harwood Museum of Art in Taos (238 Ledoux St) by NM filmmaker David Garcia (\$12 tickets)
- Jan. 31, 9 AM-3 PM, Water & AI in New Mexico, Bosque School in ABQ
- Feb. 6, 2-4 PM, Public Lands Rally at the Roundhouse with NM Wild
- Feb. 13-15, registration open for the Agriculture, Community, Economics Symposium in Loveland, CO; focusing on Reimagining the Future of Farming
- Feb 26, 2-4- PM, virtual Seed and Soil Workshop (2 CEUs) with iExplora

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- USDA begins 2026 down 20% in staff with plans to cut more
- Shrinking federal office space, more agencies spared from major cuts: highlights from latest spending bills
- NM to receive \$211.5M in federal rural health care funds
- 55,000 NM SNAP recipients face work requirements starting Jan. 1
- NM lawmakers' proposed \$11.1B budget doesn't fully fund universal child care plan
- NM's ambitious climate goal deadlines are looming. Is the state going to make it?
- Bark beetle tree mortality more than doubled for second consecutive year
- Eastern NM to see above normal wildfire risk in winter
- 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