

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #046

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

February 25, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: Forestry positions take the lead 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: When life gives you lemons, or apple cider vinegar, consider these humble tales: [Sojourner Truth's](#) pursuit for real, vs. incremental, change; [Fannie Lou Hamer's](#) grassroots efforts towards cooperative farming and affordable housing; and [Ellen Baker's](#) "fundi" leadership.

»»» NM Engagement Specialist, [Asekia](#) (term: 3/1/26-5/31/27; up to \$4K monthly contract work)

Asekia focuses on outreach and education to Hispanic farm and forest-landowners across the US and its territories. This fully remote position is focused on San Miguel/Mora/Rio Arriba counties and will increase the visibility, trust and access to conservation resources from USDA and NRCS, and provide technical assistance that promote long-term stewardship, sustainable land management, wildfire mitigation, forest health and watershed resilience. Resume, statement of interest, questions: adrian.parrott@asekia.org.

Forest Stewards Guild

Two positions just announced:

- [Southwest Forestry and Fuels Coordinator](#) (salary: \$27.50-\$30.75 p/hr, deadline: 3/13) is a hybrid full-time position based in Santa Fe, northern NM or southern CO, which supports the 2-3-2 Cohesive Strategy Partnership and the Rio Chama Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP)
- [Southwest Prescribed Fire Project Coordinator](#) (salary: \$57K-\$70,720 annually, deadline: 5/30) is based in Santa Fe and grows fire-adapted communities and landscapes through prescribed burns, training and education, collaboration and active fire management



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 >>>

Ecological Restoration Institute @ NAU, Flagstaff, AZ (salary: \$58,882 annually, deadline 3/16)

Accepting applications for two positions:

- [Tribal Forest Stewardship and Restoration Program Research Coordinator](#) will advance science-based forest restoration, establish and grow productive partnerships and develop publications
- [Research Associate](#), Wildfire Insurance and Resilient Economies, focuses on the growing insurance crisis and reframes wildfire economics to prioritize prevention vs. reactive suppression

American Forests is filling two positions:

- [Reforestation Field Manager](#), AZ & NM (salary: \$25.64-\$33.33 p/hr), based in the vicinity of ABQ, will lead and coordinate a 4-person forestry crew and spearhead site design and preparation; complete inspections, surveys and assessments; and coordinate monitoring
- [Reforestation Field Technician](#), AZ & NM (salary: \$24-\$28 p/hr), based in the vicinity of ABQ, is a 6–7-month seasonal field-based position implementing reforestation priorities on public lands

Other positions:

USDA Temporary Positions (deadline 3/3) - multiple locations, including NM, AZ, CO, TX. Start date between 4/19 to 6/14; 6–12-month term:

- [Forestry Technician GS-4](#) - Recreation, Timber, Range (salary: \$17.64 p/hr)
- [Forestry Technician GS-5](#) - Recreation, Timber, Range (salary: \$19.52 p/hr)
- [Forestry Technician GS6](#) - Recreation, Timber, Range (salary: \$21.76 p/hr)
- [Forestry Technician GS7](#) - Recreation, Timber, Range (salary: \$24.18 p/hr)

SPACE LIMITED: S-290 INTERMEDIATE WILDLAND FIRE BEHAVIOR

A couple of spots available open on this 5-day weekend course (March 7-8, 14-15, 21). Fire behavior is increasingly complex, and this course takes a deep dive into fuels, weather, and topography. Contact Hank (hblackwell@luna.edu; 505.454.5364) or Wes (wschuchman@luna.edu; 505.454.5323) for details.

- [Summer Camp Educator](#), Audubon, full-time temp summer position, Santa Fe (salary: \$21/hr)
- [Aquatic Invasive Species Watercraft Inspector](#) (DGF #10107362+), Department of Game & Fish, part-time temp/seasonal position, Santa Fe (salary: \$21.96-\$32.94/hr)
- [Fish Culturist](#) (DGF #5110), Department of Game & Fish, full-time term position, Los Ojos (salary: \$37,752-\$56,628 annually, deadline: 3/6)

Logo Contest

NM Reforestation Center competition for best logo design with \$1,000 prize (deadline 4/1). Logo kit submission to dylinmontoya@nmhu.edu.

CALL TO ACTION

- The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is seeking **public feedback** on the future of state parks, trails and outdoor recreation.

➤➤➤ SCHOLARSHIPS, STIPENDS & FELLOWSHIPS

REMINDERS:

- 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. The applications should include a personal statement, recommendation from a STEM teacher, a peer nomination letter, transcripts, and extra-curricular activities.
- National Security Workforce Graduate Scholarship is a new scholarship pathway for graduate students to Los Alamos National Labs (LANL). Provides 8 scholarships annually, \$10K over 2 years, to graduate students from NM colleges and universities. Applicants must be residents of LANL Foundation's priority counties: Mora, San Miguel, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Taos, and Los Alamos (deadline: 3/1)

THE FIRE CIRCLE: A COMMUNITY FAIR ON WILDFIRE MITIGATION, RESPONSE & RESTORATION

March 21, 2026, 10 AM - 2 PM, Media Education Center, Luna Community College, Las Vegas
Features updates on:

- Groundwater contaminants in drinking water
- Hazard tree removal on Mora/San Miguel Coop electric lines
- New Mexico's new Wildfire Prepared Homes initiative and how it might impact your homeowner's insurance
- What is growing back in our forests after the HPCC fire
- Why volunteer firefighters are your first line of defense in a wildfire

➤➤➤ AROUND TOWN: LAS VEGAS

- THIS FRIDAY Feb. 27, 4-7 PM, Let's Take About Recreation: Community Input Night, Cafe Colibri (1814 Plaza St., Las Vegas) - update on campgrounds and trail redesign in El Porvenir and Gallinas Canyon; RSVP/ questions to: aszrom@nationalforests.org
- Feb. 27-28, NE NM Reg. Science & Engineering Fair; volunteers/judges needed; Nicole Kirby, nicole@nmhu.edu
- Feb. 28 @ 1230 PM, Wendy Johnson in conversation with Myriam Salazar about Wendy's book Kinship Medicine, Kickstart Kafe (148 Bridge St)

➤➤➤ HERMIT'S PEAK / CALF CANYON UPDATE

As we approach the 4th anniversary of NM's largest wildfire, a hard-fought compensation fund continues to flounder. The claims office recently admitted "*in the spirit of getting claimants paid as quickly as possible, we provided compensation for smoke and ash damage ...and those were simple – that is, they required less documentation than other, more complex items like total losses.*" Also:

- New interim director of wildfire claims office arrives in NM as FMEMA funding lapse
- Las Vegas officials meet interim HPCC claims office leaders

➤➤➤ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS:

- TODAY, 11 AM-12 PM, webinar [Exploring Fire Impacts and Land Management Tradeoffs](#)
- TODAY, 12 PM, webinar [From Data to Decisions](#), Pinyon-Juniper Ecosystem Management
- Feb. 26, 2-4- PM, virtual [Seed and Soil Workshop](#) (2 CEUs) with iExplora
- March 3-5, [Stewards of the Southwest Summit](#) (formerly NM Tribal Forest & Fire Summit), Santa Ana Pueblo
- March 4, 11 AM-12 PM, [Emerging Insights in Fire Ecology](#), part-4 of Fire Science You Can Use
- March 5, 6-7 PM, virtual [Helping Butterfly Conservation Take Flight](#) with PEEC
- March 4-6, [The 2026 Land and Water Summit](#), In person and remote conference plus in person [Pre- Summit Field trip](#), virtual conference is free to students! At the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, ABQ
- March 6, 7:30-8:45 AM, [Forestry at the Dinner Table](#), part 1 of 4-part Dovetail Partners' webinar series about forests and forest products
- March 6, 7-8 PM, [Night Sky in March](#), Los Alamos Center Planetarium, \$6 child/\$8 adult/\$20 family
- March 7, 11-11:30 AM, [Cosmic Mashups](#) film, gravity, galaxies, and supermassive blackholes, Los Alamos Nature Center Planetarium, \$6 child/\$8 adult/\$20 family
- March 7, 2:30-4:30 PM, [Wildflower Sowing Workshop](#), Los Alamos White Rock Branch Library
- March 10, 11 AM-12:30 PM, [Fuels Treatments in Non-Forested Systems: Considerations for rangelands, grasslands, and shrublands](#), final webinar in Fire & Fuels Deep-Dive Science Sessions
- March 11, 11 AM-12 PM, [Community Response to Wildfire](#), final session in Fire Science You Can Use
- March 11, 12-1:30 PM, webinar [Colorado Reforestation Tools and strategies](#)
- March 12, 6:30-8:30 PM, [Climate Café](#), Los Alamos Nature Center, ages 16+
- March 13, 7-8 PM, [Astronomy in New Mexico](#), Los Alamos Nature Center Planetarium, \$6 child/\$8 adult/\$20 family
- March 13-14, [Banff Mountain Film Festival](#), KiMo Theatre, ABQ
- March 14, 1-3:30 PM, [How to Make a Good iNaturalist Observation](#), Los Alamos Nature Center
- March 17, 10 AM, [Esri Series-State Wildlife Action Plans & GIS - part 1](#), webinar
- March 19, 11 AM-12 PM, Fire Lab Seminar Series: [Treatment Effectiveness: Lessons from ReSHAPE](#)

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- Lawmakers eyeing [changes to federal benefits, hiring, pay](#)
- OPM tighten reins on [federal employees' performance review](#)
- OPM tweaks, clarifies federal [hiring rules for college students](#)
- More lost 'Horizons': [how NM's climate plan flamed out](#) again
- Record [snow drought persists in NM](#) and across the West
- Data shows [water systems with high PFAS count](#) as NM writes new rules for 'forever chemicals'
- New [habitat suitability model to inform decision making](#) and recover rare species in NM
- [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