

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #056

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

May 6, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: deadlines approaching for UNM post-doc and PLJV fulltime position. Weekly 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: Not seeing the forest for the trees takes on a new meaning in this story about forest “[recovery](#)” following a wildfire.

»»» **Development Operations Manager, The Nature Conservancy (\$75,650-\$80,100 annually)**

This full time Santa Fe-based position manages fundraising, reporting, donor engagement, special events and database management.

Deputy Director, Community Recreation Operations, Strategy & Program Innovation (salary: \$89,128-\$111,946 annually; deadline: 5/31) «««

Leadership position in parks and open spaces, program delivery and services. Ensure operational support at community centers, senior centers, aquatics and sports. Maintains safety standards and quality programming, evaluates efficacy, grows partnerships and opportunities for growth, etc.

»»» **Recreation Specialist, Bernalillo County (salary: \$18.60-\$26.50 p/hr; deadline: 5/29)**

Develops, schedules, and implements recreational sports and activities for participants of various ages, interests, and physical capabilities.

CALL TO ACTION

Gallinas Canyon Road Restoration Stakeholder Meeting

May 7, 6 PM

NM Highlands Univ., Student Union Building #320

Info/RSVP: Claudia Brookshire,
claudia.brookshire@usda.gov

Expanding Plutonium Pit Production at LANL

Public Hearing (in-person or [virtual](#))

May 14, 5-8 PM

Santa Fe Farmer's Market

CLOSING SOON:

Ecosystem Modeling Postdoc, UNM's Earth Systems Ecology Lab (salary: \$60K-63K annually, application review begins 5/8)

Two-year position for a researcher with robust ecosystem modeling or spatial data analysis skills to contribute towards a project that explores the interaction of climate change and disturbance impacts on forests. This position collaborates with computer scientists, hydrologists, and social scientists. A summer 2026 start is preferred.

Conservation Delivery Manager, Playa Lakes Joint Venture (salary: \$75K-\$80K annually; deadline 5/15)

As one of two managers in this role, primary duties include partnership engagement, project management, site visits to restoration sites, and grant writing. This is a remote position that can be based anywhere within the PLJV region of eastern NM, TX panhandle or western OK. ↓

FEATURED EVENTS

Continental Divide Trail Dark Sky Gathering

May 15-16 in Pie Town

2nd annual event with speakers, workshops, and hands-on stargazing experiences for long-time observers and new enthusiasts, with astronomy experts. Contact Marisela La Grave, darkskylandnewmexico@gmail.com.

Después del Fuego

May 16, 1- 5 PM

Amplifying youth voices, developing restoration skills, connecting with career pathways
@ WRTC, Luna Community College, Las Vegas, NM

Fire in the Plains, Prescribed Fire Planning & Wildland Fire Fighting

May 16, 8 AM – 3 PM

Western Heritage Museum (1 Thunderbird Circle), Hobbs

Learning about fire laws, burn plans, fire weather and smoke management, etc.

FREE workshop with breakfast and lunch included.

SAVE THE DATES!

Plants as Restoration Tools

June 13, south of Las Vegas, NM

A FREE Querencia in Action Landowner Workshop
Learn how to use wildflowers and grasses to rehabilitate your land

HANDS ON RESTORATION PROJECTS

Stream Restoration Day

**Rio de Las Vacas, Santa Fe Nat. Forest
(30 min. from Cuba)**

May 13, 930 AM-3 PM

**RSVP by 5/11 w/ Karen Menetrey,
karen@riograndereturn.org; 505-603-1328**

**Quivira Coalition's legacy project in the
San Mateo Mountains**

**Spring 2026 Red Canyon Gathering
May 15-17**

Riparian Bird Surveys, Isleta Ranch

**Seeking volunteers for 3 mornings in
May/June/July**

Healing Our Forest, Healing Ourselves

Coakee William Wildcat & Tofia Safford

June 25-28

Story Ranch, Mineral Hill

Multi-day retreat for those wanting to learn about forests and ancestral practices, current and aspiring forest restoration practitioners, people doing decolonizing and re-indigenizing work, lovers of trees and water, and climate and ecology activists. Accommodations, facilities, meals available (\$400 donation suggested); sliding scale available. Register: John McLeod resistclimatechange@gmail.com, 505-231-1914.

➤➤➤ SCHOLARSHIPS, STIPENDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- NM Public Education Department Math and Science, Focus on Algebra Professional Learning Series (Cohort 4 is a 2-year professional learning series). NM school teams must include 1 school administrator/instructional coach + 1 school instructional leader, and 80% of school staff responsible for math instruction Grades 6-9. Educators will receive up to \$1,300/year (deadline: 5/11)
- New Mexico Engineering Foundation Scholarship Program offers endowed and pass-through scholarships for college students and graduating high school students at any ABET-accredited program (deadline: 5/16; scholarships range from \$1K -\$4K)
- FOR-NM Academy is a one-week intensive field course (July 21-25) for 10 current undergraduate students attending NM universities. Focused on NM watershed structure and function, the course is hosted at Synergia Ranch, with field trips in the Santa Fe Watershed. This course blends classroom-based lectures with hands on field sampling methods from experts in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem ecology, remote sensing, land surface modelling and community engagement (deadline 5/31)

➤➤➤ 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 Acequia Association (NMAA) is supporting submissions for **Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plans (ICIPs)**, which is a critical planning tool for identifying infrastructure priorities and potential sources of funding. There are recent changes to this grant opportunity:

- Informational workshop, May 12 @ 12 Noon
- ICIP is a PLAN, not an application for funding. ICIP is NECESSARY for Capital Outlay funding (typically completed in Nov./Dec.)
- Deadline 7/1

NFWF Five Star Grant Program from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation supports community-based partnerships working to improve water quality, watersheds, and wildlife habitat. Projects should deliver on-the-ground ecological benefits, integrate outreach/education, and involve at least five partner organizations. Funding limited to projects in the Albuquerque area. Contact Zoe Apelt, questions, (202) 915-0971, zoey.Apelt@nfwf.org (deadline 5/14).

CLOSING SOON:

NM Acequia Association (NMAA) is supporting **Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund (ACDIF)** applications; submissions will require a completed engineering design. Contact NMAA at infrastructure@lasacequias.org (grant deadline: 5/9)

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)



➤➤➤ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

- TODAY May 6, 7 PM, [NM Butterflies, their Host Plants, and the Threat of Unintended Chemical Contamination](#), UNM Continuing Education Building, 1634 Univ. Blvd, NE, in ABQ
- May 6-8, [Connecting the Dots: Water Quality and Quantity](#), NM Watershed and Dam Owners Coalition, annual conference, workshop, and membership meeting, ABQ
- May 7, 6 PM, virtual [Acequias, Climate Disruption & Disasters: Testimonials on Impacts and Survival Strategies](#)
- May 7, 4-5 PM, virtual [NUMeROS Learning, Applying, Reflecting](#), teachers welcome
- May 7, 4 PM, [ISQR in NM – Informational Webinar](#), NM Public Education Department Math and Science
- May 7, 4:30-6 PM, [New Mexico Instructional Scope \(NMIS 3.0\)](#) for high school math teachers, NM Public Education Department and TNTP, webinar
- May 8, 7-8 PM, [Artemis and the Moon](#) with PEEC (\$6 child, \$8 adult, \$20 family)
- May 9, 11 AM-12 PM, [Distant Worlds – Alien Life?](#) With PEEC (\$6 child, \$8 adult, \$20 family)
- May 13, 1-2 PM, webinar [Ecological Drought: Collaborative Planning, Response, and Decision-Making](#)
- May 16, 9 AM-3 PM, [Maximizing Water Efficiency and Resilience: Adapting Agriculture to Drought and Climate Change](#), Synergia Ranch in Santa Fe
- May 16, 930-1130 AM, [Bosque Cleanup for National River Cleanup Day](#) at Avenida Dolores Huerta Bridge
- May 17-20, [2026 Rocky Mountain section meeting and field trip](#)
- May 19, 12 Noon, webinar [The SW Fire Season: 2025 Overview and 2026 Outlook](#)
- May 19, 5 PM, [Protecting NM Rivers](#) Dr. Armin Rembe lecture series at La Quinta (\$20 p/p)
- May 21, 630-8 PM, webinar [Water Bankruptcy: We Know Enough to Act!](#)
- May 21, 4 PM, webinar [Growing Pains: Moving Campus Gardens Beyond Administrative Barriers](#)
- May 27, 10 AM, webinar [Lead-Free Ammunition Programs as Compensatory Mitigation Tools: Hunter incentives and education](#)
- May 28, 1 PM, webinar [Wildlife Connectivity in Solar Sites: Movement, Access, and Fencing Considerations](#)
- May 28, 1-215 PM, webinar [Climate Conversations: Brain Health](#)

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- USDA [employees in food assistance programs folded into relocation](#) plans
- OPM launches [workforce skills survey](#) as it moves to trim federal job titles
- Historic agreement between [NM land grant and Forest Service to revitalize](#) 200-year-old acequia
- Amid extreme drought, [NM launches new water dashboard](#)
- [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