

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #061

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

June 17, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: ecological management positions are featured 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: Juneteenth might be a recently recognized federal holiday although the history is deep, complex and difficult. For 2.5 years, life was fundamentally different for some but not others. This Juneteenth, I will be reflecting on what I know today that I missed in the last 2.5 years, through ignorance, neglect and inattention, and pondering if careful observance, nurturing and knowledge seeking can improve daily realities for the next 2.5 years.

»»» **Forester (EMNRD #5334), NM Forestry Division (salary: \$55,273-\$82,909 annually; deadline: 6/30)**

Serving as the Project Forester for the Chama District, this Tierra Amarilla-based position provides advanced technical assistance to landowners and partner agencies to improve forest health, reduce wildfire risks, and adapt to climate change across multiple counties. Plus, this role manages timber sale contracts, secures project funding, coordinates restoration contractors, and leads collaborative training and fire management initiatives.

SW Forest & Fire Science Manager, Forest Stewards Guild (salary: \$34.35 p/hr; deadline: 6/29) «««

This position translates fire and forest science, and monitoring data into practical strategies and communications that inform adaptive land management, support collaborative planning, and engage forest dependent communities. The Manager will lead multiparty monitoring related to the Rio Chama Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project (CFLRP), including guiding the monitoring program, facilitating collaborative input, and coordinating with Guild staff, US Forest Service leadership, and the Mountain Studies Institute.

Middle Rio Grande Restoration Ecologist (DGF #5078), NM Department of Wildlife (salary: \$60,800-\$91,200 annually; deadline: 6/23)

Based in ABQ, this position leads large-scale wetland and riparian habitat restoration in the Middle Rio Grande Valley, focusing on transitioning former agricultural lands into functional wildlife habitat for migratory waterfowl and other native species. The position applies science-based restoration strategies in hydrology, soils, and ecology while managing monitoring, compliance, and cross-agency collaboration that ensures long-term conservation outcomes.

Land Conservation Manager, NM Land Conservancy (salary: \$75K-\$85K annually; deadline: 6/30)

Based in Santa Fe, this position leads efforts to protect land and water across NM by developing and implementing projects with landowners statewide. The role combines individual land transactions with broader watershed- and landscape-scale conservation initiatives. The position involves frequent travel across NM and includes managing conservation easements, land acquisitions, outreach, and fundraising in close collaboration with NM Land Conservancy staff and the Board.

Other Positions:

- Park Technician - Brantley Lake State Park, EMNRD – Carlsbad, full-time (salary: \$34,320 - \$51,480 annually; deadline: 6/24)
- Park Administrator - Cimarron Canyon State Park, EMNRD – Cimarron, full-time (salary: \$45,680 - \$68,520; deadline: 6/24)
- Wildlife Management Area Habitat/Agriculture Specialist, Dept. of Wildlife – Roswell, full-time (salary: \$41,527 - \$62,291; open till filled)
- Rangeland Ecology Research Technician (Manager, Laboratory Research), NMSU, Jornada Experimental Range – Las Cruces, full-time (salary: \$53,165 annually; deadline: 7/11)
- Lead Water Resources Professional, Ofc of the State Engineer – ABQ, full-time (salary: \$93,552 - \$149,683 annually; open till filled)
- Associate Water Resources Professional - District I, Ofc of the State Engineer – ABQ, full-time (salary: \$60,800 - \$91,200 annually; open till filled)

HANDS ON RESTORATION PROJECTS

Rito Cafe, Jemez Mountains

June 19-21, ABQ Wildlife Federation + Rio Grande Return project

Beaver dam analogs and restoration structures on the western Jemez range. Join for a day or the weekend. Sign up with Abe at abe@riograndereturn.org.

JOIN US: Querencia in Action Landowner Workshop

Plants as Restoration Tools

June 27, 10 AM-230 PM

Mineral Hill (south of Las Vegas), NM

Learn how to use wildflowers and grasses to rehabilitate your land impacted by hazard tree removal, dozer lines and other disturbances

FREE seed for participants; lunch included

RSVP for details: shantinir@nmhu.edu; 505-426-2226

FEATURED EVENTS

Fashion & Pastimes

June 19-21, 10 AM & 1 PM, Fort Union National Monument, Watrous

Featuring 1800s clothing styles, leisure activities, and how both related to economics and social structures.

FREE Community Concert

June 20, Collins Lake Ranch, Cleveland in Mora
11 AM Family Dance / 430 PM ukelele lessons for children and adults / 6 PM main event with Fast Pecos

Earthstar Land Practice Mentorship is a six-month (6/21-Dec. 2026) online mentorship with select in-person gatherings, including a camp out. Program includes passive solar design, rainwater harvesting, arid land restoration, permaculture, regenerative soils, etc. \$600-\$1K p/p, payment plans and partial scholarships available.

Free Community Lecture and Tour About Noxious Weeds in Taos County

June 26, 9 AM-4 PM, Juan I. Gonzalez Ag Center, Taos

7th annual noxious and invasive species lecture with a tour of infestations around Taos.

Lunch is provided; registration required.

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

Join Tree NM's Tree Stewards Program for a 12-week immersive experience into urban forestry, from August 1 through October 31, 2026. Gain insights into New Mexico's varied tree species through online classes, workshops, and field trips (deadline: 7/8; \$150 p/p - scholarships available).

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)



CALL TO ACTION

Two More Days for Public Comment: The Water Quality Control Commission will hold public hearings on the implementation of SB 21 from June 8–18, 2026. Acequia parciales, commissioners, mayordomos, farmers, ranchers, and community members are invited to provide public comment and share why protecting clean water matters to your community.

Public Comment Time: 1:00 PM daily through June 18

In Person: NM State Capitol, Room 309, 490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, NM

Virtual: [Webex Meeting Link](#)

Time Limit: Each commenter will be limited to 3 minutes

Community Engagement workshops in San Miguel and Mora Counties:

Opportunity to foster transparency, identify community and individual disaster recovery needs, identify resources to meet recovery needs, maximize funding and expertise, and meet recovery goals.

June 24, 9-11 AM

City of Las Vegas/San Miguel County

Building Resiliency Center

601 E. Lincoln St., Las Vegas, NM

June 24, 2-4 PM

Mora County

David Cargo Library

NM-518, Mora, NM

>>> 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:

NMED Water Quality Management Planning is seeking proposals for water quality management planning projects that support NM's goals for preserving and improving water quality, including work related to TMDLs, UAAs, or other planning activities not eligible under 319(h) (deadline: 7/1).

WaterSMART Watershed Management Program supports watershed groups in developing collaborative, locally driven water management solutions. Informational Webinar: July 21, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. and the recording will be posted here: [Cooperative Watershed Management Program](#) | [Bureau of Reclamation](#) (award ceiling: \$300K; deadline: 10/7).

Grant Funding Workshop

July 14, 330-530 PM, Building Resiliency Center, 601 E Lincoln St, Las Vegas, NM

USDA workshop to help property owners affected by the HPCC fire and subsequent floods access new disaster assistance funding for home repairs and water filtration systems. For more information, email Melissa Gore at melissa.gore@dhsem.nm.gov

➤➤➤ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

- June 18, 4-5 PM MST (5-6 PM CST), workshop [Equity vs. Equality – What Does it Mean to Your Team?](#) with Embracing Equity (registration is \$25)
- June 18, 630-8 PM, workshop [Middle Rio Grande Emergency, Confronting the Crisis Together](#) with NM Water Advocates
- June 22, 11 AM, webinar [Wings Unharmed: Global Approaches to Mitigating Wildlife Collisions - Part 1](#)
- June 23, 10 AM, webinar [Wings Unharmed: Global Approaches to Mitigating Wildlife Collisions - Part 2](#)
- June 23, 4-530 PM, webinar [Early Childhood and Getting Outdoors](#) (<4 year olds)
- June 24, 11 AM, webinar [Fire Regimes, BpS and Decision Support](#) with LANDFIRE
- June 23, 4-530 PM, webinar [Early Childhood and Getting Outdoors](#) (5-8 year olds)
- June 25, 130-330 PM, webinar [Engineering with Recyclables](#) w/ Explora
- June 25-26, [Reimagining Tribal Fire Credential Governance: Strengthening Sovereignty and Building Capacity](#), Museum of Indian Arts & Culture
- June 25, 6-745 PM, movie [The Little Things That Run the World](#), Los Alamos Nature Center
- June 26, 9 AM-4 PM, Free Community Lecture and Tour About Noxious Weeds in Taos County
- June 30, 12 Noon, webinar [RestoreNet: A field trial network to improve restoration outcomes across environmental gradients](#) with the Southwest Fire Science Consortium
- July 10, 8 AM-4 PM, [Erosion Control and Mitigation Workshop](#) with Quivira Coalition in Stanley, NM
- July 14, 130-330 PM, webinar [Flipbooks and Stop Motion Animation](#) w/ Explora
- July 14-16, [4th Annual Indigenous Education Symposium](#), in ABQ on CNM campuses
- July 15, 2-4 PM, webinar (or in-person in ABQ) [F2F Hub Webinar – Hedgerows](#) with the Institute for Applied Ecology
- July 21, 2 PM, webinar [Ask a Woodland Expert](#) with the Pinyon-Juniper Management Network

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- [NDA proposal draws concerns](#) of ‘chilling effect’ on federal employees
- NM [tree deaths tripled in 2025](#), due to intense drought and bark beetle proliferation
- [Forest and wildfire research adversely impacted](#) just as the West is poised to burn
- Committee’s ‘backdoor’ vote to [repeal “Roadless Rule” in national forests](#)
- Lincoln County wants to turn [flood-prone properties into public land](#)
- [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