

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #066

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

July 29, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: Several positions close in the next few days. 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: Summer is bursting with screeches, hoots, caws and chirps as our feather friends migrate in and out of our lives seasonally. Researchers recently uncovered a mechanism that aids these migration patterns in homing pigeons. Superparamagnetic macrophages, located near liver neurons, enable the birds to utilize magnetic fields for navigation. When researchers experimentally reduced these macrophages, the homing pigeons could not properly navigate in overcast conditions. Check out this fascinating paper about [cellular compasses](#).

»»» **Middle Rio Grande Restoration Ecologist (DOW #5078), Dept. of Wildlife (salary: \$62,624-\$93,936 annually; deadline: 7/31)**

Full-time, ABQ-based position leads large-scale wetland and habitat restoration within the Middle Rio Grande Valley. This position supports the management of thousands of acres of wetlands, riparian corridors, and managed moist soil units for migratory waterfowl and native wildlife species.

Wildlife Habitat Biologist (DOW #5069), Dept. of Wildlife (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 8/5)



This full-time Roswell-based position leads collaborative habitat restoration projects in eastern New Mexico across jurisdictional boundaries (e.g., Wildlife Management Areas, National Forests, and State Trust Lands). As the primary contact for management and operations of 35K acres across DOW-owned Wildlife Management Areas, key duties include conducting inventories, maintaining property infrastructure, and restoring water and habitat resources.

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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Wildfire Resilience System Specialist, National Forest Foundation (salary: \$95,000-\$106,875 annually; deadline: 8/1)

This full-time, remote, 5-year term position develops and implements cross-boundary wildfire resilience activities. Alongside NFF Enterprise Programs and NFF conservation staff, the Specialist creates analytical systems, tools, and resources that streamline project delivery, align program goals, and support new initiatives.

Aquatic Education Coordinator (DOW #34562), ABQ, full-time (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 8/6)

Full-time ABQ-based position to develop public education programs and K-12 curricula that promote and support awareness and understanding of aquatic ecosystem conservation. The position coordinates with DOW staff, contractors, and volunteer instructors to deliver skills-based training and educational resources while managing sport fishing-related federal grants.

STILL HIRING: The Forest Stewards Youth Corps' Fall Program is seeking Crew Members (\$18 p/hr) and Crew Leaders (\$22 p/hr; work starts on 8/13) ages 18-25 with Mountainair and Espanola/Santa Fe US Forest Service Districts, and Jemez Pueblo Natural Resource Department. Crews gain natural resource management experience, CPR and First Aid certifications, wildland firefighting and chainsaw certifications, and participate in prescribed burns. This 13-week program runs from 8/19-11/13. Questions: apearson@forestguild.org; (505) 795-2551.

>>> CLOSING SOON

- Youth & Partnership Coordinator, Forest Stewards Guild, ABQ or Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$27.50-\$29 p/hr; deadline: 7/31)
- Wildlife Area Manager (DOW #10114668), Dept of Wildlife, ABQ, full-time (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 7/31)
- Wildlife Educator Coordinator (DOW #5011), Dept. of Wildlife (salary: \$56,931 \$85,396 annually; deadline: 7/31)

OTHER POSITIONS:

- Communications Coordinator, Quivira Coalition, Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$46,332-\$53,000 annually)
- Water Resources Supervisor (NMED #12223), EMNRD, Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$96,358-\$154,173 annually; deadline: 8/4)
- Bear and Cougar Biologist (DOW #27531), Dept of Wildlife, Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 8/5)
- Park Tech - Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park (EMNRD #5563), Carlsbad, full-time (\$35,350-\$53,024 annually; deadline: 8/7)
- Wetlands Program Project Office (NMED #30371), Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$83,790-\$134,063 annually; deadline: 8/11)

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CALL TO ACTION

CLOSING TODAY: Public comments are open regarding proposals to revoke Public Land Order 7923, which would reduce/strip protective buffer zones surrounding the **Chaco Culture National Historical Park** and open the Greater Chaco Region to oil and gas drilling. NM indigenous and federal officials urge outcry on proposed rollback of Chaco Protections.

Draft Water Security Planning Act Guidelines Open for Public Input: The NM Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC) invites input on the draft guidelines under the Water Security Planning Act (WSPA) through 8/31. Virtual meetings:

- Aug. 6, 12-130 PM
- Aug. 13, 12-130 PM
- Aug. 11, 6-8 PM
- Aug. 17, 6-8 PM

HANDS ON RESTORATION PROJECTS

Volunteer Stream Restoration Day on the Upper Rio Ceballo

Aug. 12, 9 AM-3 PM, Jemez Mountains
Join Rio Grande Return to build beaver dam analogues. No prior experience is needed, just your enthusiasm and willingness to make a difference.
Location: Upstream of Seven Springs Hatchery.
Directions provided with RSVPs with Karen (karen@riograndeeturn.org) by 8/10.

AWF Manuelitas Creek

Aug. 14-16, north of Las Vegas
Join a habitat restoration project within a green island of the HPCC burn scar; spend a day or the weekend with volunteers and stewards building low-tech structures to stabilize downcutting in an arroyo, capture soil and slow down surface water.
Details and directions: Finn at abqwildlifefederation@gmail.com.

NM Wild Black Canyon Invasive Bull Thistle Removal Project

Aug. 21-23, Black Canyon, Gila NF
Volunteer project removing invasive bull thistle with hand tools; volunteers encouraged to camp starting Friday evening at Lower Black Canyon Campground before meeting at 9 AM on Saturday. Registration is required; keila@nmwild.org.

Midnight Meadows Restoration Event

Aug. 21-23, Lagunita saddle, ~17 miles east of Questa on FR 134
Annual volunteer weekend building low-tech watershed restoration structures in the Midnight Meadows complex with Amigos Bravos and partners. Registration required; Elliot Hendry, ehendry@amigosbravos.org.



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 EVENTS

IndigenousWays Festival

Aug. 14, Santa Fe Railyard Water Tower

An open-air celebration of music, art, culture, and storytelling. CommUNITY honors shared traditions, uplifted voices, and the power of coming together. This is a free, all-ages festival.

EENM Outdoor Learning Summit

Register by 8/15 for \$25 early bird discount (\$50 p/p); scholarships available.

Sept. 12: 9 AM-4 PM, Berna Facio Professional Development Center, 3315 Louisiana Blvd NE in ABQ; summit agenda and workshop sessions to follow.

Sept 13: 9 AM-1230 PM, tour and field trip of Agri-Nature Center, 4920 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque (lunch included); attendees are responsible for their own transportation.

SCHOLARSHIPS, STIPENDS & FELLOWSHIPS

CLOSING SOON:

EENM Fellowship Program (deadline 8/7)

Accepting applications for their 4th cohort of fellows; programming from September 2026-

August 2027 and will include participation in the NM Outdoor Learning Summit on 9/12. The fellowship is a unique opportunity to deepen your knowledge of outdoor, environmental, place-based, and land-based education while building a supportive professional community.

Monthly virtual presentations, and completion of a community capstone project; \$1,500 stipend plus travel expenses for in-person programming.

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:

Professional Services Fund is a one-year pilot program that connects NGOs with consultants to build capacity in strategic planning, financial modeling, fundraising, communications, governance, legal guidance and organizational restructuring. Eligible NGOs include orgs who provide direct service to NM communities, with annual budgets of between \$500K-\$3M and have experienced a 30% or greater public funding disruption. No cash award; this is an opportunity for complimentary access to professional consulting and technical assistance (deadline: 8/25; recipients selected 9/5).

➤➤➤ FUNDING & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

CLOSING SOON:

NM Outdoor Equity Fund reduces barriers and promotes equitable access for transformative experiences in the outdoors for NM youth (Tier 1 capped \$40K; Tier 2 b/w \$41,001-\$100K; deadline: 7/31).

Truist Foundation Grant supports communities via innovative nonprofits that work with adults and align with these priorities: building career pathways to economic mobility and strengthening small businesses. Examples of funding support include a new program launch, curriculum to expand/strengthen a program, equipment to deliver a program, and capital needs (minimum grant size: \$15K; deadline: 7/31).

➤➤➤ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

- TODAY! July 29, 12 Noon, webinar The Fight to Keep Bison on Public Lands w/ Western Environmental Law Center
- July 30, 6-730 PM, DIY Rain Barrel Workshop, Los Alamos Nature Center (admission \$40 p/p)
- July 30, 9-11 AM, Dr. Clifford Crawford Bosque Trail and Sign Dedication, Rio Grande Nature Center State Park (2901 Candelaria Blvd., ABQ)
- Aug. 5, 1-2 PM, webinar Better Together: The Power of Relationships in Fire Management; part of the Prescribed Fire for Forest Management Series
- Aug. 6, 12-1 PM, webinar 2025 NM Forest Health Conditions: A View from Above
- Aug. 6, 1 PM, webinar Emergency Preparedness; part of the 2026 Tribal Community Resilience Webinar Series
- Aug. 11, 1 PM, webinar, Insects in Solar Landscapes: Ecological Processes, Activity & Habitat Value
- Aug. 19, 12-1 PM, Indigenous Agroforestry Network Quarterly Webinar
- Aug. 22, 10 AM-12 Noon, The Common Edge Habitat Field Presents: A Butterfly Celebration! Open Space Visitor Center (6500 Coors Blvd., ABQ)
- Aug. 23, 9 AM-12 Noon, Botanica del Rio Grande, bilingual plant workshop
- Aug. 27, 2 PM, webinar State of the Science: Pinyon Jays w/ Pinyon-Juniper Management Network
- Aug. 28, 9 AM-1 PM, Los Cuentos Del Paisaje, bilingual writing workshop w/ Song Dog Relations

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- The clock is ticking for New Mexico to cut Rio Grande water use
- The US is now at its worst level of wildfire preparedness. What does it mean?
- By the #s: more mining claims filed in NM in last 4 years than previous century
- The agency that fights workplace discrimination just voted to stop measuring it
- NM Unemployment

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.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

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