

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #063

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

July 8, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: NM State positions take on center stage 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: it is an opportune time to reflect on history, tradition and norms and the immense influence of cross-cultural experiences within the US, especially in the content of [el fútbol](#).

>>> **District Forester, NM Forestry Division (salary: \$83,790-\$134,063 annually)**

Full-time positions direct forest management, watershed protection, and wildfire response across non-federal lands in multiple NM counties. These foresters oversee the budget, staff, and regulatory compliance to ensure healthy and resilient forests. The roles also deliver technical assistance and fuel reduction projects to local landowners and communities.

- Cimarron-based position (EMNRD #5328; deadline 7/10)
- Socorro-based position (EMNRD #5336; deadline 7/15)

Engine Boss (EMNRD #10115197), NM Forestry Division (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 7/16)



This full-time Tierra Amarilla position oversees the wildland fire emergency staff and equipment within the Chama district to ensure constant emergency response readiness. The role manages wildland fire training, gear maintenance, and community outreach while coordinating with landowners and agency partners during fire suppression and prevention activities.



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 >>>

Policy Director, Western Landowners Alliance (salary: \$80K-\$120K annually; open until filled)

This remote role leads the organization's state and federal policy strategy by identifying priorities, managing staff, and executing advocacy campaigns. The position represents the organization to external stakeholders, ensures legal compliance, and supports initiatives.

Crew Members and Crew Leads for Forest Stewards Youth Corps' 2026 Fall Program

The Forest Stewards Youth Corps positions are open for applicants ages 18-25 for three (3) Fall Fire and Fuels Crews, based in Mountainair, Española/Santa Fe, and Jemez Pueblo. Gain hands-on natural resources experience and earn wildland firefighting and chainsaw certifications.

- Crew Leads (\$20p/hr), Aug. 13-Nov. 12
- Crew members (\$18/hr), Aug. 19-Nov. 12

Other Positions:

- Water Resource Specialist, Village of Ruidoso, full-time (salary: \$41,923.80-\$48,214.40 annually)
- Forestry Tech WC, Santa Fe County, full-time (salary: \$37,835.20-\$41,579.20 annually; deadline: 7/10)
- Rangeland Ecology Research Technician (Manager, Laboratory Research), NMSU, Jornada Experimental Range – Las Cruces, full-time (salary: \$53,165 annually; deadline: 7/11)
- GIS Coordinator at Eddy County, Carlsbad, full-time (salary: \$33.54-\$37.02 p/hr)
- Planner & GIS Coordinator, Village of Ruidoso, full-time (salary: \$49,795.20-\$59,758.40 annually)
- Grassroots Outreach Associate, NM Wild, various locations in NM, part-time and seasonal (June-October) (salary: \$20 p/hr)

Conservation Seedlings Sale

Accepting orders till supplies last. Spring 2027 seedling sale is unlikely. Year-in-advance orders are now being accepted. Small containerized seedlings (lot of 49) @ \$95 + \$50 shipping + \$5 handling fee.

>>> FEATURED EVENTS

Northern New Mexico Garlic Festival

July 11, 10 AM-2 PM, 1028 N Railroad Ave, Española
This event brings together local farmers, gardeners, artists, and community members to celebrate the deep ties between food, culture, and Northern NM's agricultural heritage (and garlic!) Food, music, and educational demonstrations. FREE event.

HANDS ON RESTORATION PROJECTS

Erosion Control and Mitigation Workshop

July 10, 8 AM-4 PM, Arroyo Runs Through It micro-farm, Stanley

Hands-on Quivira Coalition workshop to learn how to identify soil erosion issues, read the landscape to locate erosion origins, and construct affordable structures that control water flow and increase infiltration. Registration is required, and lunch is provided.

Polvadera Creek, Jemez Mountains

July 10-12, Abiquiu

Build community and beaver dam analogs with volunteers from ABQ Wildlife Federation and Rio Grande Return. Details/sign up with: Cameron @ cameron@riograndereturn.org.

>>> FEATURED EVENTS (CONT.)

Watershed Morning with the Ampersand Sustainable Learning Center

July 11, 10 AM, Cerrillos

This community event features a guided tour of a restoration project in the Ampersand's watershed followed by a hands-on workshop to help stabilize the waterway through seeding, mulching, and placing rocks. Participants will learn about erosion control structures and habitat restoration. RSVP @ amanda@ampersandproject.org.

The Bosque Education Guide Workshop

July 17, 9 AM-4:30 PM, Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center (\$25 p/p)

Hands-on professional development workshop that trains educators to use the Bosque Education Guide, an interdisciplinary science curriculum that engages students in the local bosque ecosystem. Workshop participants will practice teaching key concepts while preparing to guide students through physical river models and field research. Registration required.

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. Information: Melissa Gore @ melissa.gore@dhsem.nm.gov

2025 Synergia Ranch Conference: "Water. Wind. Wisdom. Inspiring Regenerative Solutions to Desertification"

July 17-19, Synergia Ranch, Santa Fe

This three-day conference brings together speakers and practitioners to address desertification through knowledge-sharing and hands-on workshops. Participants will explore practical techniques for regenerative lands and water stewardship. Registration required: conference tickets @ \$285 p/p; full day passes @ \$100 p/p; ½-day passes @ \$50 p/p). Some need-based scholarships available.

>>> 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:

Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) supports STEM teaching and learning; applications that transform institutions to adopt successful practices in STEM education (deadline: 7/15).

EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: EPSCoR Collaborations for Optimizing Research Ecosystems (E-CORE) promotes partnerships among academic institutions, government agencies, industries and NGOs to drive long-term investment in research infrastructure and boost R&D capacity (\$37.5M available for up to 15 new E-CORE awards; deadline 7/21).

2026 Farmer Innovation Program Micro Grand Application – Summer Rural/Tribal: Farm to Table (FTT) New Mexico Farmer Innovation Program (MNFIP) is accepting applications for micro-grants. The program provides one-year awards for short-term projects that promote regenerative agriculture, climate resilience, and healthy food access in rural and tribal communities (\$20K max; deadline: 7/27).

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

>>> FUNDING & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

CLOSING SOON:

2026-2027 Outdoor Initiative Start-Up and Continuation Grants – up to \$240K available to PreK-12 public/charter school districts, regional educational coops, consortiums, or individual schools in partnership with environmental education orgs. Grants should support equitable access to outdoor learning, integrate interdisciplinary learning aligned with state content standards, build environmental literacy and systems thinking, and cultivate regional macro-networks. One year start up grants @ \$20K; continuation grants @ \$30K (deadline: 7/10).

NFF Collaborative Capacity Program for Forests and Communities supports collaborative activities that enhance wildfire resilience, recreation opportunities, land & watershed restoration, and rural economies that benefit National Forest System lands (Tribal applicant deadline 7/13).

>>> LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

- July 9, 12 noon, webinar Accelerating Losses: Multi-Scale Simulations Primarily Project Bird Population Losses with Climate Change w/ the Southwest Fire Science Consortium
- July 14, 1130 AM, webinar Organic Research Updates Part 1: Pest Management, Nutrient Management, and Soil Organic Carbon with the Organic Farming Research Foundation
- 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, 11 AM-12 noon, webinar Adaptation in Action: Sustaining Fundamental Ecological Function with Wisconsin Forestry Center
- July 15, 2-4 PM, webinar (or in-person in ABQ) F2F Hub Webinar – Hedgerows with the Institute for Applied Ecology
- July 18, Pecos Rare Plant Survey with the NPSNM Santa Fe Chapter. Inquiries: santafe@npsnm.org.
- July 21, 2 PM, webinar Ask a Woodland Expert w/ the Pinyon-Juniper Management Network
- July 21, 530-730 PM, Backyard Refuge Habitat Chat at the Ciudad SWCD's office in ABQ
- July 23, 930-1130 AM, webinar Color-Licious w/ Explora
- July 24, 1-230 PM, webinar Leading Toward Liberation: Indigenous Lessons on Accountability, Power, and Collective Care with Santa Fe Community Foundation

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- USDA expects 'significant number' of staff facing relocation to leave their jobs
- Chief Schultz defends largest Forest Service reorganization in a century
- OPM finalizes performance review overhaul for federal employees
- Federal employees face reality of Schedule Policy/Career
- As CO river states struggle to reach agreement, NM brings on a fresh voice
- Treasure hunting: rare plants program tracks NM's endangered species
- 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](https://www.guidanceresources.com) provides 24/7 support, resources and information for all NM state employees
Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (Call or Text 988): [988lifeline.org](https://www.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