

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #067

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

August 5, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: Several positions have extended deadlines and are still looking for applicants. 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: From from [Antidotes to Fear of Death](#), Rebecca Elson

*And sometime it's enough
To lie down here on earth
Beside our long ancestral bones;
To walk across the cobble fields
Of our discarded skulls,
Each like a treasure, like a chrysalis,
Thinking: whatever left these husks
Flew off on bring wings.*

»»» **Conservation Specialist, NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Inst. (salary: \$58,656-\$65K annually)**

This position combines land stewardship, training and education, and community engagement. Must be comfortable working with northern NM rural communities. This position has been open for months after several failed searches. We are looking for someone with relevant qualifications and willingness and enthusiasm to learn on the job. Start date negotiable; questions: shantinir@nmhu.edu.

Senior Wildland Firefighter (EMNRD #5541), EMNRD (salary: \$47,050-\$70,575 annually; deadline: 8/12)

This full-time Santa Fe-based position leads a 5-person veteran crew in wildland fire, prescribed fire and forestry projects. Provides professions training and develops red card validation for agency personnel.

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STILL HIRING: Regional Part-Time Coordinator, Tree New Mexico, (salary: \$20-\$30 p/hr)

Based in Las Vegas, NM, Tree New Mexico is seeking three part-time Regional Program Coordinators (1099 contractor position) to launch and manage the new Las Vegas NeighborWoods Program. Coordinators will organize large-scale community planting events and lead community outreach and engagement. Responsibilities include managing event logistics and serving as primary point-of-contact during planting events, mapping and tracking adopted trees, and developing/delivering community tree education programs.

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

- TODAY! Wildlife Habitat Biologist (DOW #5069), Dept. of Wildlife, Roswell, full-time (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually, deadline: 8/5)
- TODAY! Bear and Cougar Biologist (DOW #27531), Dept. of Wildlife, Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 8/5)
- Aquatic Education Coordinator (DOW #34562), Dept. of Wildlife, ABQ, full-time (salary: \$56,931-\$85,396 annually; deadline: 8/6)

OTHER POSITIONS:

- Wetlands Program Project Officer (NMED #30371), NM Env Dept, Santa Fe, full-time (salary: \$83,790-\$134,063 annually; deadline: 8/11)
- Assessment Specialist (NMED #30326), NM Env Dept, Las Cruces, full-time (salary: \$83,790-\$134,063 annually; deadline: 8/11)

CALL TO ACTION

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.

Wetland Meadow Restoration in Limestone Canyon

Sept. 4-6, San Mateo Mountains - Register by 8/28

Labor Day volunteer weekend building one-rock dams and log structures to slow and spread water with ABQ Wildlife Federation and NM Volunteers for the Outdoors. Dispersed camping is available, but camping is not required. Contact: Jim (Sagebrush) Sells, 505-898-6245; j.sells@nmvfo.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

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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.

Summer Pollinator Fiesta at Bosque del Apache

Aug. 15: 8 AM-2 PM, Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

Includes opportunities to learn about pollinators, crafts, and a shuttle to the refuge pollinator project. Free with a few events requiring registration.

First Fort & Arsenal Tours

Aug. 15, Fort Union National Monument

Free 2-hour tours via caravan. Two tours available: 930 AM and 1 PM. Tours begin at the visitor center and include living history and historical weapons.

New Mexico Wildland Urban Fire Summit

Proposal application deadline: Aug. 20; Summit: Oct. 14-16, Silver City

“Adapting Together in a Changing Fire Ecosystem,” brings together community members, fire services professionals, conservation groups, and government representatives to collaborate on resilient landscape and fire adaptation initiatives. Open call for presentations on projects in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI): 100-word description, 20-word title and subtitle, short speaker bio, and A/V needs. Information: Hanah Kase Woods, hwoods@nmcountries.org.

EENM Outdoor Leaning 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.

Women in the Field: Chainsaw Safety and Skills Workshop

Sept. 19, 8 AM-5 PM, Wildfire Resiliency Training Center, Luna Community College

Free women’s chainsaw course for beginners, focusing on chainsaw safety, fundamental skills, and basic maintenance. PPE, saws, and lunch are provided. Contact: Megan Rangel-Lynch, 818-731-5944 or mrangel-lynch@forestguild.org

Slow the Flow: Hands-On Post-Fire Watershed Restoration Workshop

Sept. 19, 830 AM-4 PM, Sapello

Hands-on field workshop along the Sapello River focused on post-wildfire erosion control and watershed restoration techniques. Hosted by the Hermits Peak Watershed Alliance and Quivira Coalition. Registration is required.

>>> 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:

The Foresters Fund offers small grants to local Soc. of American Foresters units that support education and outreach, and/or professional growth (awards: \$2K; deadline 9/15).

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>>> SCHOLARSHIPS, STIPENDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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R4Creating Internship Program (deadline 8/7)

12-week paid internship open to NM high school, college, and graduate students. The program includes hands-on experience in STEM education, 3D printing, marketing, grant writing, and business development. Commitment ~ 100 hours and offers tiered pay ranging from \$15-\$25 p/hr depending on education and age. Prior STEM experience is not required. Parental consent is required for minors.

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, community capstone project; \$1,500 stipend plus travel expenses for in-person programming.

>>> LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

- 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
- Aug. 29, 10 AM-2 PM, Bear Fest at the Los Alamos Nature Center
- Sept. 3, 1 PM, webinar Food Security; part of the 2026 Tribal Community Resilience Webinar Series

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- OPM drops “disparate impact” guidelines from federal hiring
- Key parts of federal employee performance overhaul ‘non-negotiable,’ OPM says
- OPM cements major shift in federal employee appeals, RIF processes
- From ‘encouraged’ to ‘draconian,’ reactions flow in on new fed plan for future of CO river
- 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