CONSERVATION SCIENCE CENTER

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute
New Mexico Highlands University

CAREER CONNECTS

Edition #075

A Weekly on Jobs and Resources

October 28, 2026

Students, Colleagues and Peers: I'm happy to share my first issue of Career Connects! I'll be coordinating future issues and welcome opportunities you would like to share at camedina@nmhu.edu. 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: camedina@nmhu.edu.

LIFE TIP: Working and studying in STEM related fields can lead us to think about environmental challenges that can often feel overwhelming. It is important to make space and check in with yourself about what you are feeling. The Weather Within is a free resource that allows us to explore climate emotions and discover tools and other ways to take action.

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Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) Program Coordinator, Forest Stewards Guild (salary: $29-$34.35/hr)

Full-time, Santa Fe based position coordinating statewide Fire Adapted Communities New Mexico (FACNM) network. Responsibilities include partnership building, facilitating meetings and workshops, community outreach, education, and supporting wildfire mitigation efforts. Requires a relevant bachelor's degree or five years of equivalent experience.

Regional Outreach & Education Manager, Intertribal Agricultural Council (salary: $75K-$81K annually)

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Full-time, exempt position for remote candidates based in the SW. Position oversees regional services and staff for an organization that serves to advance agricultural priorities of 56+ million acres of land under Tribal jurisdiction nationwide. Manager will supervise and train Program Specialists and other assigned staff; manage regional plans, reporting and funding deliverables.

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 Crystal Medina (camedina@nmhu.edu).

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Maintenance Supervisor, Vermejo, Ted Turner Reserve
Full-time, non-exempt position based in Raton will play a key leadership role in maintaining the overall condition, functionality, safety, and presentation of guest-facing facilities at Vermejo Headquarters and oversee daily maintenance operations, supervise and support the maintenance team, perform skilled maintenance and repair work, and proactively identify and address facility needs.

CLOSING SOON:
Restoration Site Operations Manager, GeoSystems Analysis (salary: $66K-$80K annually deadline: 10/30) - Field position based in San Acacia (Socorro county) provides day-to-day management of agricultural land conversation and ecological restoration projects of sites >1,000 acres.

Land Conservation Manager, NM Land Conservancy (salary: $75K-$85K annually; deadline 10/31) - Full-time Santa Fe based position with regular travel across NM to plan, manage and support funding for conservation easements, and fee title acquisition and transfers. Requires excellent diplomacy and negotiation skills, grant writing experience, familiarity with funding programs, and strong GIS/geospatial skills.

Other Positions:

- Associate Director of Brand & Digital Strategy, Western Resource Advocates (salary: $97K - $115K annually; deadline 12/1) - Full time, Santa Fe based position leading digital communications, outreach campaigns, and public engagement on environmental conservation issues.
- Digital Engagement Specialist, Western Resource Advocates (salary $62K - $73K annually; deadline 12/1) - Full time, Santa Fe based position supporting digital communications, outreach campaigns, and public engagement on environmental conservation issues.

CALL TO ACTION
Make a plan to vote! Early voting is open now through Election Day on 11/3. There are four constitutional amendments proposed with an in-depth explainer on each amendment, plus three bond measures on senior facilities, libraries and schools; details on all races can be found here.

Resources for Teachers
PBS LearningMedia Teacher Training- Indigi-Genius: Join NMPBS and educators across NM to learn about a STEAM-focused collection focusing on science, culture, history, and "Indigi-Genius" knowledge.

HANDS ON RESTORATION PROJECTS

Cedro Creek
Nov. 7, 9AM-4 PM, Sandia Mountains near Tijeras
Final AWF project for 2026 at a legacy site to build and repair rock structures to stabilize the channel and prevent downcutting. This is a day project; directions and info: Scial, rioscial@gmail.com.

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FEATURED EVENTS

Career Connections
Oct. 29, 530-630 PM, Santa Fe
Networking opportunity for beginning agrarians to connect with employers and organizations in the agriculture, conservation, and land stewardship spaces to showcase their job openings and other land-based opportunities.

Congreso de las Acequias
Nov. 13-14, El Rito & Ohkay Owingeh
The only statewide acequia gathering in New Mexico where acequia leaders come together to share knowledge and build a united voice for acequias to protect water and strengthen land-based traditions.

TECHFEST 2026 - free
October 29-30, 2026, Downtown Albuquerque
Annual conference by NM Tech Talks brings together tech organizations to host various tracks under unified conference. This two-day conference covers Software, Artificial Intelligence, Climate & Advanced Energy, Entrepreneurship, and Tech Accessibility.

S-130 Basic Wildland Firefighting Training
Nov. 21-Dec. 5, WRTC @ Luna CC, Las Vegas
Wildland firefighting training at the Wildfire Resiliency Training Center – last class for the year; register wrtc@luna.edu; 505-454-5323

SCHOLARSHIPS, STIPENDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Soil to Supper applications for technical and financial assistance directed towards livestock producers working to improve land health, livestock performance, and profitability (awards: $10K-$100K p/producer; deadline: 11/6 for interest forms; 11/20 final applications).

PNM Pueblo Education Endowment Scholarship for enrolled members or 1st / 2nd generation descendants of NM's 19 Pueblo Nations pursuing vocational trades, certificates or eligible degrees, including STEM, public policy and education (deadline 12/2).

Marketing & Sponsorship Internship, Next Generation Water Summit ($27 p/hr) - Flexible, part-time term opportunity (10-30 hrs/month) supporting outreach, communications, sponsorships, and event planning for the 2027 Water Summit in Santa Fe. Runs Nov. 2026-July 2027. To apply, email a resume and letter of interest to info@greenbuildercoalition.org with "2027 NGWS Intern" in the subject line (deadline 11/8).

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:

Dreyfus Foundation: Awards typically range from $1K to $20K. See application guidelines here (deadline 11/10).

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FUNDING & GRANT OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

CLOSING SOON:

New Mexico Library Foundation STEM Innovation Grant offers $3K-$5K for STEM and environmental education projects. NM organizations partnering with libraries, including schools, nonprofits, Tribal organizations, and academic institutions may apply. Eligible projects include hands on learning, teacher professional development, curriculum resources, and STEM career exploration (deadline: 11/1).

National Park Service (NPS) Outdoor Resources Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grant to enhance recreation opportunities in rural and urban communities. Review TPL's 2026 ORLP Grant Application Toolkit for eligibility and readiness guidance (deadline 11/1).

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grants Program provides funding to enhance recreation opportunities for communities (population: 25,000+) to create outdoor recreation spaces, reinvigorate existing parks, and form connections between people and the outdoors. Funding covers 50% of projects' costs, with no more than 7% in administrative expenses (deadline: 11/1).

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & WEBINARS

- TODAY, Oct. 28, 1-2 PM, webinar Data Trusts: Securing Data Sovereignty and Biodiversity Monitoring
- Oct. 29, 10-11 AM, webinar The Root of the Matter: A Biostimulant Approach to Yield
- Oct. 29, 11 AM-12 Noon, webinar A 20-Year Climatology of Critical Fire Weather in the Northern Rockies
- Oct. 30, 12-1 PM, virtual demo Assessing Forest Vulnerability with the Forest Innovation Platform
- Nov. 2, 530-7 PM, Climate Cafe: Forest Bathing, Los Alamos Nature Center
- Nov. 4, 6-730 PM, free film screening Rooted: A Story of Rematriation, Center of Contemporary Arts (1050 Pecos Trail), Santa Fe
- Nov. 5, 6-7 PM, Unlock Savings for a More Comfortable, Efficient Home, virtual/in-person, Los Alamos
- Nov. 7, 830 AM-430 PM, Geologic Tour to the Goblin Colony, guided field trip to the SE Jemez Mtns ($60 members/$75 non-members)
- Nov. 12, 11 AM-12 Noon, webinar Storm Prediction Center's Fire Research and Development

FAQS FOR THE NEAR-TERM

- NM approves an additional $8.25 million for flood response while seeking expanded federal assistance
- OPM releases a new federal recruitment plan emphasizing skills-based assessments, outreach and pooled hiring
- New Mexico receives more than $44 million in federal education grants, including support for student career exploration and teacher pathways in rural and tribal communities
- 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