

# Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

## Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

### Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

**Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.**

**Veterinary Shortage ID Code: CA118**

#### Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Plumas and Sierra Counties, Ca

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or

Portola, Ca

Location of Position:

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

#### Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other : \_\_\_\_\_

Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time\*)

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- Food Safety
- Public Health
- Epidemiology
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

Plumas and Sierra counties occupy 3,507 square miles of Sierra Nevada Mountain and high mountain valley land. Much of the land is Federal property that is used by cattle producers in the summer for mountain range. The estimated resident cattle population is 20,507 head. The objective of using the VMLRP program is to attract a veterinarian into providing resident large animal service.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

This person will provide the typical emergency services including dystocias, bloats, displaced abomasums, sudden unexplained illnesses/deaths on-farm and other such events. An additional need for this clientele is preventive medicine services ranging from developing and performing vaccination and parasite control programs, conducting pregnancy confirmation checks and other similar services. Most importantly they need an accredited veterinarian who can participate in the State's brucellosis vaccination program and assist in interstate movement of cattle through providing herd examinations and issuing certificates of veterinary inspection.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

Currently there is one practice providing some large animal service in eastern Plumas County and another practice in the central part of the Plumas County. Sierra County has to rely on practitioners who reside in the State of Nevada to provide service. The fact that Sierra County has to rely on out-of-state veterinarians to service their needs illustrates there is need for another local practitioner.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

This region of the state is in the Sierra Nevada Mountain Rang, a prime area for interaction between commercial livestock and wild species, especially deer and even feral swine. The wildlife species in the area are ideal reservoirs for a number of diseases potentially including a number of foreign animal diseases if ever introduced in there. Lack of veterinary oversight, could mean a delay in detection of significant pathogens, especially those classified as foreign animal diseases, would likely mean both commercial and wild species in the area could become infected for those that infect multiple species before regulatory authorities are aware making response more difficult. Further, undetected entry of a foreign animal disease within this area has additional risk in that cattle from other parts of California and even bordering states are pastured in the summer here and then return to their various locations for the rest of the year. In addition, risk for antibiotic residues and increased resistance in pathogen populations is increased without veterinary involvement in decisions, putting consumers at risk.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

N/A

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dr. Annette Whiteford

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: California Department of Food and Agriculture

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(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

OMB Information Collection Approval No.: 0524-0046  
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013