

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: NC115

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.

Wayne, Jones, Greene, Lenoir, Craven, and Duplin Counties, NC

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

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

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position:

Pink Hill, NC

(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).

This nomination would provide expanded food animal veterinary support to an intensely concentrated area of food animal production in North Carolina. The nomination comprises a six county area encompassing, in addition to the heavy corporate swine production served by company veterinarians, independent pork producers, and an expanding beef cattle industry (grazed on the spray fields of hog farms) and meat goat population (numbers not documented by 2010 NASS survey but ascertained by livestock market volume and ethnic population increase). Pink Hill is identified as the geographic center of the region. Duplin and Wayne counties now rank 5th and 25th, respectively, in cattle numbers in the state. The area includes the #1, 7, 18, 19, and 26th ranked counties in livestock and poultry cash receipts. The region is considered by this office as a high risk area due to the large volume of animals moving daily (10,000 swine per day out of state), the heavy feral swine concentration with documented Brucellosis and Pseudorabies in that population (9 SBR and 2 PRV confirmed in CY2011 to date), the presence of a military base with others nearby, swine garbage feeders, a heavy turkey presence with the associated influenzas shared between species, as well as suspected undocumented goat movement from out of state.

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 nomination is directed toward an individual willing to locate to the area and dedicate 80% or more time toward food animal activities, thus the Type 1 nomination rather than the other NC Type 2's. It is this State Veterinarian's opinion that the concentration of food animals and the demographics of the area would support Type 1 activities. Research into current professional presence in the area reveals 1 full time food animal practice (2 veterinarians) in Lenoir county, and 1 part time mixed animal practice in Duplin county.

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).

Direct information on specific recruiting efforts in this area is not extensive. I have had personal communication through my service on the Veterinary Medical Board with the Goldsboro, NC (Wayne county) companion animal veterinary association on their frustration with attracting young veterinarians, primarily due to the distaste in after hours and weekend work. This obstacle carries over to all aspects of the profession. This nomination is focused on the true intent of the VMLRP, that of assisting a young, eager, food animal loving veterinarian into this underserved area.

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).

As with many of these underserved areas, the risk of lack of food animal veterinarians will have negative impact on our state and nation's animal disease, food supply, and public health preparedness. I have expounded a bit in the opening section as to this area's increased risk status compared to other nominations (my staff and I are currently dealing with PRRS, swine Brucellosis and PRV in ferals, scrapie program flock enrollment, and avian influenza all within this area, not to mention equine piroplasmiasis in adjoining counties). In addition, we had to close our NCDA Rose Hill diagnostic laboratory (Duplin county) because of legislative budget cuts and RIF trained 2 lab diagnostic veterinarians in July, increasing the regional FAD and zoonotic disease surveillance resources in the area (unfortunately, the diagnostic lab veterinarians were frequently used for support and consultation by farmers in lieu of a private practitioner). The recent FDA activities toward the restricting the use of antimicrobials through veterinary oversight will have a huge future impact on veterinarian need in this heavy swine area.

Dedicated food animal veterinarian availability is critical to foreign and endemic animal disease surveillance. It is well documented that food supply veterinarians serve a key role in public health preparedness, as 75% of emerging human diseases are of animal origin. Veterinarians in our state often serve on small community local public health boards and commissions. The lack of food supply veterinarian availability directly impacts animal welfare, as many producers are reduced to practicing on their own animals beyond the scope of their ability, often with inhumane results and subsequent environmental impact through improper disposal of deceased livestock. The use of antimicrobials without veterinary oversight increases the rate of residue violations in the food supply. The failure of this position not being secured, as with many of North Carolina's nominations, will continue the erosion of critical food supply veterinary infrastructure within our state.

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.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dr. David T. Marshall

Title: State Veterinarian

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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 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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