

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.

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.

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

Southeastern Idaho – Bear Lake, Caribou, Oneida, Franklin, Bannock & Power
 Counties

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

Center of Service Area or
 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).

The counties listed in Southeastern Idaho are home to large numbers of cattle, small ruminants, pigs and horses. In 2008 this area included over 166,308 head of food animals. There are currently 14 veterinarians providing Type II veterinary care within this 6 county region. Bear Lake, Oneida and Power Counties have one veterinarian in each county providing Type II veterinary care despite having a combined total of 80,946 head of food animals present. The objective of filling this shortage area is to provide timely veterinary care and preventative medicine to maintain healthy populations of livestock, profitability for the producer and to assure continued marketability of the resource. While a minimum of 30% of practice time in this area would be directed to food animal medicine, the actual time spent would likely be higher.

Rural Idaho practices with this type of diversity are finding it harder to attract new veterinarians with salaries that can meet the financial needs faced by recent graduates. The ability to attract and retain a "new generation" of veterinarians in this area is reflected by the shortage currently faced. Although an award was accepted in this shortage area last year, because of the large number of food animals present, this area is still experiencing a shortage of food animal veterinarians.

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).

Activities will include food animal preventative and emergency veterinary medicine and surgery. This area of the state is part of the Greater Yellowstone Area and brucellosis prevention and risk mitigation is critical to the marketability of Idaho's cattle. Idaho is a mandatory brucellosis vaccination state and with the large numbers of cattle in this area, brucellosis prevention will be a significant practice activity. Reproductive services would be a large portion as well. Education of producers regarding appropriate biosecurity practices would also be desirable. While an important aspect of the veterinarian's life is built around one's day-to-day practice, it is equally important to be involved in one's community. During the "business" part of the day, a rural mixed animal practitioner can be found providing a variety of veterinary services expected with a rural lifestyle. One may be pregnancy checking a cow one minute, providing birthing assistance to a ewe the next, and examining a sick alpaca the next, all the while diligently keeping watch for epidemiological veterinary health concerns. The variety of the rural veterinary lifestyle does not end with the "work day". Many veterinarians serve on local community boards, are involved with civic groups, and are leaders in their communities. Activity and event opportunities, both veterinary and non-veterinary, surround the rural veterinary lifestyle. While the veterinarian is expected to provide traditional services, often the veterinarian is involved in a variety of community endeavors

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).

Animal industry personnel and veterinary clinics have used the following measures in an attempt to attract and retain large animal veterinarians:

- Advertisements in professional magazines such as JAVMA and Bovine Practitioner
- Advertisements in State VMA newsletter and website
- Postings on job boards at veterinary meetings
- AVMA matching program
- Networking within veterinary community, allied (pharmaceutical) and animal industry personnel
- Contacting veterinary schools
- Offering externships to veterinary students
- Mentoring veterinary students

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).

In 2008, Idaho cattle and calf receipts totaled \$1.18 billion representing 18% of all farm level cash receipts. A lack of continued availability of veterinary care would have a significant negative impact on livestock production and our ability to contribute a safe and nutritious product to the national/international food supply. The following are areas of potential concern / risks given the agricultural base of the community.

- Control of regulated diseases such as Brucellosis and Trichomonas.

The necessity of vigilant surveillance and active prevention of such diseases is inherently obvious. Given the recent reappearance of these diseases in Idaho; the need to protect from zoonotic disease and avert the economically devastating consequences of such diseases must be of priority.

Public Safety

Rural communities often “grow their own food source” Many residents of southern Idaho are hobby farmers which raise small numbers of cattle, sheep and goats for home consumption. Providing adequate veterinary care for these animals is fundamental to the health of the rural Idaho family.

- Minimizing Disease Transmission

Beef management practices in Idaho necessitate release of cattle on public range lands. Although this practice is fundamental to the producer’s viability it allows for commingling of cattle and potential for disease transmission. Although smaller by comparison livestock commission / auction yards are numerous in the area. Numerous equine events are also held throughout the area. Providing access to qualified veterinary care and diligent surveillance programs will minimize this risk

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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: Bill Barton, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Idaho State Department of 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 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.