

# 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.

Lander and Eureka Co North of I80, Elko Co

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

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

Center of Service Area or  
 Location of Position:

Elko (89801-3, 15, 24), Carlin (89801-2), Battle Mountain (89802), Beowawe (89821),  
 Mountain City (89831), Owyhee (89832), Jackpot (89825), Deeth (89823), Halleck (89824),  
 Lamoille (89828)

(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 objective of attracting a veterinarian to Lander and Eureka Co north of the I80 corridor and Elko Co is to fill gaps in all three counties (mostly beef cattle, 18,000 head in Eureka Co; 32,000 in Lander Co and 133,000 in Elko Co). The Duck Valley and Elko Reservations are part of this underserved area. There are currently 3 veterinary offices in Elko and one part time private practitioner in Deeth. All practice owners in the area have practiced for more than 20 years.

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).

2008 Census indicates that there are 116 farms and ranches in Lander Co and 73 farms and ranches in Eureka Co, approximately 15% are north of the I80 corridor for most of the year. The two counties had 1,458 and 5,747 inhabitants, respectively at the time of the 2008 census, 15% of which live in this underserved area. Elko Co includes 397 farms and ranches and a total of 50,435 residents. All communities in this area have 4H programs; agriculture and mining are the primary source of income like in most rural areas in NV. Scope of work would include primarily beef cattle herd health programs, but also a significant sheep component as well as an increasing meat goat health program demand.

Elko Co is one of the cattle richest counties in the country. Stock and companion horses and small animals would also constitute a part of the veterinary practice in this area. There are no animal control agencies in the area other than in the town of Elko and assistance to the communities and rural areas under the rabies control program would very likely be part of the practice as well. A lot of the small farms and ranchettes have a selection of animals including back yard poultry, pigs, dairy cows, exotics and new world camelids. The large ranches mostly run beef cattle and own stock horses. There are several working horse breeders and trainers in the area as well.

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).

The State Veterinarian's office has not been involved in recruitment efforts in the past.

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).

Veterinary Services in the area are not expected to change without an incentive to move to the area. Many family ranches have sufficient to well maintained cattle handling facilities. Many of the operations moving in on pasture to pasture permit have minimal or no stock handling facilities.

A significant number of cats and dogs in the area remain unvaccinated or are late on re-vaccinations despite mandatory rabies vaccination in NV because owners are often not willing or able to travel the long distances to currently existing veterinary offices in Elko. There is a risk of loss of industry as the currently practicing veterinarians plan for retirement. During a disease outbreak in the area private practitioners will be essential in assisting in containing spread of contagious diseases.

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.

Not considered at this time.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dr. Phil LaRussa

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Nevada Department of Agriculture

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2/14/2012

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  
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