

# Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be submitted under the authority of the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

## Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

This form must be used for Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations to 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 shortage situation. See the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) section of the VMLRP web site ([www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp)) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

### Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Northern Idaho-Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce Counties  
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area; must be a logistically feasible veterinary practice service area)

Approximate Center of Shortage Area (or Location of Position if Type III): Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814  
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: Moderate Priority

### Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (select one) :

Type II: Private Practice - Rural Area, Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30% FTE or 12hr/week)

#### For Type I or II Private Practice:

**Must cover**(check at least one)

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

**May cover**

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

#### For Type III Public Practice:

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

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

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

(Optional) If the nominator wishes to specify a service time for this shortage situation that is higher than the minimum required for the shortage type checked above, please specify the percent time in the box below (based on a 40-hour work week). Leave the box blank if the service time for this shortage situation is for the minimum percent time of the shortage type indicated.

%

Please describe the **importance and objectives** of a veterinarian filling this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 1500 characters).

There are a total of 3 large animal veterinarians in Nez Perce County, located at the Lewiston Veterinary Clinic in Lewiston, Idaho. There are two large animal veterinarians in Asotin County, Washington, at Rustebakke Veterinary Service in Clarkston, WA who provide veterinary services in both Idaho and Washington. The other counties in northern Idaho have very limited if any large animal veterinary practitioners available to meet industry needs. North Idaho is home to over 69,000 head of cattle and over 9,000 head of sheep. The objective would be to make large animal veterinary services more readily available to producers in the above mentioned under served areas. 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 in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 1500 characters or less).

The activities of a veterinarian in this area would include but not be limited to consultation with producers on better management techniques, including better use of existing technologies. It would include herd health work including pregnancy testing, bull soundness examinations, brucellosis vaccination, setting up vaccination protocols, and emergency treatment of individual animals (sickness, dystocia, etc.) This person would preferably be an associate of an existing practice, to better enable the existing practices to serve their existing clientele, as well as expand to the outlying areas.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 750 characters or less).

- 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 2000 characters or less).

The following are areas of potential concern / risks given the agricultural base of the community.

- Control of regulated diseases such as Brucellosis, Tuberculosis 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 Northern 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

SAHO nominator must check both boxes below in order for NIFA to consider this nomination for official designation

- By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.
- By checking this box, I affirm that it is my professional opinion that this is a bona fide food supply or public health-related veterinary shortage situation. I affirm due diligence has been invested to identify this area as a shortage situation of at least moderate priority (severity).

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Bill Barton, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Idaho State Department of Agriculture

Email: bill.barton@isda.idaho.gov

Telephone Number: 208-332-8540  
(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, OGF, 800 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.