

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) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Southern Carbon County, Wyoming
Approximate Center of Shortage Area (or Location of Position if Type III): Saratoga, WY 82331

Overall Priority of Shortage: Moderate Priority High Priority Critical Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (Choose only one Type)

Type I Shortage: Private Practice Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 80 percent time or 32 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one) May cover
Beef Cattle Dairy Cattle Swine Poultry Small Ruminant Other

Type II Shortage: Private Practice - Rural Area Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30 percent time or 12 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one) May cover
Beef Cattle Dairy Cattle Swine Poultry Small Ruminant Other

Type III Shortage: Public Practice (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)
Employer: Position Title:
Please select one or more specialty/disciplinary areas: Food Safety Public Health Epidemiology Other

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 200 words or less).

Carbon County, WY contains 96,238 food animals and 2 practicing food animal veterinarians (48,119 food animals/veterinarian; AVMA website Dec. 2008). The situation is even worse for southern Carbon County; there are no full time veterinarians that offer any food animal services in any Carbon County cities or towns other than Rawlins, WY (western Carbon County). None, one or two veterinarians (depending on the year and season) will spend one to two days a week in southern Carbon County. This area often experiences severe winter weather, thus it is often inaccessible from outside. Much of the time the area has no veterinary services whatsoever. We will use this program to attract a new veterinarian who would conduct a high workload directed at food animal production medicine into the area.

We hope that a new veterinarian will assist producers in the area meet their regulatory requirements, preventative medicine needs and assist them when disease outbreaks occur. Many producers complain that they cannot find a veterinarian to carry out regulatory veterinary requirements or other routine veterinary needs.

We expect this new veterinarian to commit at least 50% of full-time-equivalent hours (i.e. 20 hours/week) to food animal medicine. They may not be able to maintain an exclusive food animal practice due to the expectation that a large animal veterinarian provides services to horses.

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 200 words or less).

Saratoga WY and the surrounding area of southern and eastern Carbon County is located in some of the prettiest country in North America. There are great outdoor opportunities, including world class hunting, fishing, golfing, and bathing in natural mineral hot springs. This is attractive to many veterinarians, but also makes it a very expensive area to live.

Dr. John Collamer, a retired food animal veterinarian, who still lives in Saratoga, states that there is a great need for food animal services. He confirmed that no one offers food animal services in the area for most of the year (there is a single small animal exclusive clinic in Saratoga). Based on that discussion and the discussion with producers in the area we believe a veterinarian should offer pregnancy diagnoses and other reproductive services and consultation. Additionally, there is a need for diagnostic services and infectious disease and nutrition/toxicology management and consultation in addition to regulatory services. Dr. Collamer assures us that a food animal practitioner will stay very busy indeed.

Any veterinarian practicing in southern Carbon County will need to be well versed in large scale cow-calf operations, but also must be able to help residents with back yard food animals. They would need to be able to offer biosecurity advice to rodeo and other livestock event staff.

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 of Wyoming instituted a student loan repayment program to recruit new food animal veterinarians moving into underserved areas in 2008. Carbon County was identified as such an area. We were successful in recruiting a veterinarian into Rawlins (western Carbon County) in 2008. However, the bulk of Carbon County, particularly the south and east, remains greatly underserved. We are confident that using this program we will be able to attract a veterinarian into this 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).

The current food animal veterinary work force is unable to meet the demand in Carbon County Wyoming, and the problem is particularly bad in the southern part of the county. The producers in the area are unable to deal with livestock disease issues; ultimately this may force them out of business. This would not only reduce the nation's supply of beef and lamb, but many of these existing ranches would subsequently be sold and subdivided. This would impact the region, state, and nation as the area is considered a national treasure for its abundance of wildlife and natural beauty. Such development would have a great and irreversible impact on the wildlife and other natural resources of the area.

Although it is a small community, the area does hold a fairly large rodeo, a large bull sale, and other livestock events. The state veterinarian is concerned about animal rights or other groups undermining these events by introducing an infectious disease to these

livestock. A natural accidental introduction of disease is also possible. With no full-time veterinarians in the area, it would be impossible to manage such an outbreak. Additionally, such an outbreak could have human health implications if the agent were zoonotic.

(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 on Page 1, 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.

%

Minimum Service time required for each shortage type

Type I: 80 percent time or 32 hours/week

Type II: 30 percent time or 12 hours/week

Type III: 49 percent time or 19.6 hours/week

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: Dr. Jim Logan

Title: Wyoming State Veterinarian

Organization: Wyoming Livestock Board
Jim.logan@wyo.gov

Email: (307) 777-7515

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

Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Information Collection Approval No. 0524-0046
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