Shortage ID WY202
VMLRP USE ONLY

NIFA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0050
Expiration Date: 9/30/2019

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
(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): Saratoga, WY 82331
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: High 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)	**May cover**
☒ Beef Cattle	☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle	☒ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine	☒ Swine
☐ Poultry	☒ Poultry
☒ Small Ruminant	☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____	☐ 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.

50 %

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).

Carbon County, WY has approximately 65,000 food animals and 2 practicing food animal veterinarians. There are two veterinarians who offer food animal services on a full-time basis in Carbon County. These veterinarians will spend one to two days a week in southern Carbon County (depending on the year and season). This area often experiences severe winter weather, so it is often inaccessible from outside. Much of the time the area has no veterinary services whatsoever.

We expect 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 a 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 1500 characteers 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.

A veterinarian should offer pregnancy diagnoses and other reproductive services, treatment and consultation. Additionally, there is a need for diagnostic services and infectious disease and nutrition/toxicology management and consultation in addition to regulatory services. 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.

According to data from the National Agriculture Services Statistics, Carbon County has 319 farms/ranches. 177 of them are beef operations with a total of 53,000 head of cattle, and 20 sheep operations with a total of 10,300 sheep. There are also 2 cattle feedlots. The total value of these Carbon County livestock operations commodities is $67,358,000 with the majority being from the cattle industry.

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).

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, much of Carbon County, particularly the south and east, remains underserved. The Wyoming Veterinary Loan Repayment program has been discontinued due to state budget deficits. We are confident that, using the NIFA 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 2000 characters or less).

The current food animal veterinary work force is unable to meet the demand in Carbon County Wyoming, and the problem is significant in the southern part of the county. The producers in the area have difficulty dealing with livestock disease issues; this may be a factor in the viability of these operations. 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. It would be valuable to have a veterinary presence at such events to explain biosecurity and deal with any veterinary issues that might arise, including accreditation work. The state veterinarian is concerned about risks from introduction of an infectious disease to these livestock. With no full-time veterinarians in the area, it would be difficult to manage such an outbreak. Additionally, such an outbreak could have human health implications if the agent were zoonotic.

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

Email: jim.logan@wyo.gov

Telephone Number: 307-857-4140
(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, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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