

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: Mariposa, Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties, CA
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
 Location of Position: Sonora, Ca
(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 : goats, llamas, ostriches, emus, etc.

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 Sierra foothill counties of Tuolumne, Calaveras and Mariposa combined represent an area of 4,706 square miles. Based on 2009 data, the total head of cattle is estimated at 70,510 for the three counties. There are approximately 3,595 head of sheep and lambs in the area. The estimates of population for poultry and miscellaneous species including goats, emus, ostriches and llamas are not available. Animal agriculture is very significant income source to the three counties (\$38,309,600 total for all three counties, all animal categories). The objective for using the VMLRP is to attract veterinarians willing to provide large animal service to this area. This is critical because veterinarians in the adjacent valley counties tend to find the valley counties more attractive because the animal population is more concentrated. There is need for at least one veterinarian working at 30% or more time in this remote area.

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).

The veterinarian will provide on-call services to livestock operations in the area; significant travel is expected to cover the needs. The range of services will be as varied as the species produced in the area. The veterinarian will need to have some knowledge of cattle, sheep, goats, llamas and even commercial birds. Producers also require consultation regarding appropriate preventive programs, consultation on vaccination programs, parasite control measures and even pregnancy confirmation. Most importantly an accredited veterinarian is needed to perform brucellosis vaccinations as this is still required in California. Other accredited duties include conducting health inspections as a part of issuing Certificates of Veterinary Inspection for interstate movement of cattle and sheep.

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).

Local Farm Bureaus were contacted and it was determined the available service is very limited and unreliable. In one area a small animal practitioner will do some large animal work, and in another area there is a small practice that primarily services equine clients but can provide some limited food animal service. Otherwise, a veterinarian from the valley must be called, who naturally prioritizes local clients. The foothill region has become popular for horse enthusiasts. Therefore, a large animal veterinarian considering a practice in the foothills will be more apt to choose an equine practice rather than commercial livestock.

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).

This region of the state is in the Sierra foothills and is a prime area for interaction between commercial livestock and wild species, especially deer and feral swine. The wildlife species in the area are ideal reservoirs for a number of diseases potentially including a number of foreign animal diseases if ever introduced in there. Without adequate veterinary care and oversight, delay in detection of significant pathogens, especially those classified as foreign animal diseases, would likely mean both commercial and wild species in the area could become infected before regulatory authorities are aware, therefore making response more difficult. Further, undetected entry of a foreign animal disease within this area puts the adjacent valley counties at risk as well (San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced counties combined had 542,993 milk cows in 2009). In addition, risk for antibiotic residues and increased resistance in pathogen populations is increased without veterinary involvement in decisions, putting consumers at risk.

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.

N/A

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

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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.

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