

EDUCATION

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

MS Community and Regional Planning | 2018 - 2023

MS Water Resources | 2019 - 2023

New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM

BS Environmental Geology; concentration Watershed Management | 2013

VOLUNTEER

USDA Forest Service Southwestern Regional Office Communications | 400 hours | Dec 2018 – May 2019

Sandoval County Citizen's Fracking Ordinance writing team editor | 100 hours | 2018

Taos County CWPP writing team editor | 600 hours | 2015-2016

AmeriCorps National Community Service | Three full terms | 2004, 2014, 2019

Watershed Restoration in the Carson National Forest - Valle Vidal unit | 2-days | Quivira Coalition | 2013

Youth Conservation Corps | Eco-servants | Lincoln County public lands trails crew | 500+ hours | 2006

AWARDS

2016 Western Planner Sheldon D. Gerber Merit Award for Excellence in Environmental Planning

Named as part of a team in which I played a leadership role to facilitate the publication of a key county wildfire and watershed planning document for the Taos County Planning Department.

CERTIFICATIONS

World TESOL Language Academy

State of New Mexico

State of New Mexico

TESOL/TEFL 120-hour English Language Teaching Certification | 2026

Introduction to Wildland Firefighting and Fire Behavior Certification | 2023

Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program) | 2022

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Program Coordinator | New Mexico State University: Viticulture | Las Cruces, NM | September 2025 – April 2026

In this role I provided program coordination to the NMSU Agriculture Extension programs: Viticulture and Enology (vine and wine). Viva Vino!

Administrative Assistant | Private - Norm Fristoe | Las Cruces, NM | June 2025 – September 2025

I assisted Norm with a few administrative projects at his accounting firm and at his home property in Mesilla. Office project was an extensive sensitive tax file purge. Home projects included landscaping across a large property.

Scale-house Operator | Tanner Irons | Ruidoso Downs, NM | March 2025 – May 2025

Ruidoso is in Lincoln County, NM. The village has been experiencing rolling wildfires and flooding events in and around the municipality. Ruidoso is my hometown and I arrived to serve for the pre-flood season, where teams were executing large scale

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excavation projects removing soil and organic materials from project sites. I provided leadership to a team responsible for receiving the excavated materials. At the peak of the project there was 7,000 tons of material per day! I finished the project and headed to Las Cruces for my next steps.

Administrative Assistant | Private – Jodi Tucker | Columbus, NM | November 2024 – March 2025

I aided my friend Jodi at the City of the Sun, an off-grid community adjacent to the village of Columbus, NM. This landscape is very arid and just miles from the border to Mexico. I helped Jodi with home tasks and gardening/landscaping over the winter.

Care Provider | Private – LeeEtte Quintana | Las Vegas, NM | June 2024 – November 2024

I continued to apply for jobs (like 50+) in my field or even remotely close to my field - after exiting the New Mexico State Forestry position, to no avail. Las Vegas was in the wake of the mega-wildfire Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire, at that time (and will continue to stay in a recovery phase for years to come). The municipal water supply was experiencing toxic levels during my stay there, and we sustained boil-water orders for many of these months. After an exhausting and unproductive job search – and starting to develop a health response to the municipal water supply – I resolved to exit the municipality and northern New Mexico.

Project Forester | State of New Mexico; Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department; Forestry Division; Las Vegas District | Las Vegas, NM | Project Forester | July 2023 – January 2024

As the only full-time project forester on the district during my term – I provided critical post-mega wildfire forest management support and technical guidance to all private landowners seeking assistance with forest management or post-fire lands management - across San Miguel and Mora counties. The Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire devastated 365,000 acres of forested land here in 2022. I completed two land management plans for two small sections of private land in San Miguel County. I also learned about the Forest Health Initiative grant program for private landowners to thin their forested lands. I submitted and was awarded two FHI proposals during my term. I completed the *Introduction to Wildland Firefighting and Fire Behavior* certification training here in 2023.

I collaborated closely with thinning contractors and inspected complete forest thinning treatments on various projects across the district. I was also cultivating a relationship with the new Luna Community College, Wildfire Resilience Training Program, program director at that time. After being dismissed in December 2024 under unclear circumstances – I collected unemployment for several months until my landlord offered me a job to provide elder care for her mother until an opportunity in my field came up. That opportunity never came up, and the city continued to struggle with environmental toxicity problems with the municipal water supply, and I was starting to experience health symptoms from bathing in the water. I moved away from Las Vegas permanently, in November 2024.

SWPPP Environmental Stormwater Compliance Monitor | 814 Solutions | October 2022 – June 2023

Conducted regular monitoring inspections at various construction sites around the state to assess client's compliance with federal EPA SWPPP standards. SWPPP stands for Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. Various erosion control mechanisms and standard measures need to be in place on these sites to prevent contamination of municipal water supply. Appropriate signs need to be in place across construction sites to identify and dispose of toxic waste in a contained area. Sites we monitored included the Facebook Meta data center in Los Lunas and various new solar installations across the state. There were rural bridges, urban construction, utility line development and maintenance, and a variety of other site types. I enjoyed seeing what kind of development is taking place across the state and the commute to different sites was not bad either! This was a solid team and a good learning experience.

Delivery Driver | Diligent Delivery Systems | April 2022 – September 2022

While transitioning my daughter into a new high school in Santa Fe – we moved there for the year, and I worked part time delivering auto parts while enrolled full time in graduate school at UNM.

Farm Manager | R&H Organic Farm | full time – seasonal (covid era) | Questa | April 2021 – August 2021

I spent a season with a community member who needed admin support on a rural organic farm in Questa. I supported day-to-day activities on the farm and market event coordination. Questa is very rural and beautiful. There are many legacy processes going on with the retired molybdenum mine and current contentions with the proposed hydrogen plants are rising.

Land Management Planner | Santa Fe National Forest | Forest Plan Revision| 320 hours | Remote, during covid |June 2020 – August 2020

This was a tight squeeze. I completed this ‘crosswalk’ document showing the transition of changes in the Santa Fe National Forest, Forest Plan update. The update was transitioning from the 1987 document, so there was ground to cover. This document was included in the final EIS (environmental impact statement) of the updated plan, which became official in 2022. This project required that I personally digest both guidance documents from scratch, then build my own code around the plan codes, then sort, and then finally describe the process to the audience about where various types of guidance first existed, and then where it migrated to in the update.

AmeriCorps Volunteer, Intergovernmental Affairs Resource Assistant | USDA Forest Service, Southwestern Region (R3), Regional Office | May 2019 – November 2019

This Resource Assistant internship was housed in the Office of Communication and Engagement (OCE) and supervised by the regional Legislative Affairs Specialist (covering congressional communications across the SW Region of the Forest Service, including all National Forests in Arizona, New Mexico, and National Grasslands in OK, TX, and NM). This position was also supervised by the SW Region’s State Liaison (covering all state level communications across the region). My hire date coincided with the Regional Office’s timeline for a plethora of high-level administrative meetings across the region.

These meetings were administrative, annual, congressional briefing sessions with both congressional staffers and Forest Service supervisors. The intent was to cover any new information that our Regional Forester, Cal Joyner, had gathered after his visit to Washington D.C. The first month of this internship was primarily spent attending administrative meetings and doing the tedious work of onboarding as an employee to a federal agency (same process as a regular new hire).

Intergovernmental Affairs - Meetings Attended:

Southwestern Region OneUSDA NM Congressional Briefing (All USDA agency regional representatives and congressional staffers that oversee natural resource management topics: USDA Service Center in Albuquerque). Duties: record minutes, coordinate lunch for all attending

OneUSDA NM Governor’s Office Briefing (Santa Fe National Forest Headquarters): Briefing and working lunch with USDA agencies afterward. Connected with Farm Agency lead.

USDA FS AZ Congressional Briefing (All FS Supervisors, congressional staff, and RO staff): Phoenix, AZ: record minutes.

Regional Leadership Training (Forest Service: Southwestern Region) **Topic:** Farm Bill (Albuquerque: Marriott: note taking, meeting support, small groups support

New Mexico Association of Counties Annual Conference (Curry County, Clovis NM): learning, observing county government and considering how federal policy meets county policy in context of the Forest Service

Senator Martin Heinrich and Regional Forester, Cal Joyner – Field trip to the Jemez Mountains, Santa Fe National Forest, Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP).

CFLRP - Project Area Tour (3 site visits):

- Site 1: Results of Pino Fire (viewed a site where fuels treatment worked to slow/control fire!)
- Site 2: BDA installation: Rio Cebolla (above Jemez Pueblo): 35 Beaver Dam Analogs have been installed since 2017 (POC Santa Fe NF: Cecil Rich)
- Site 3: Ponderosa Pine ideal type (managing for these conditions)

Annual Tribal / Forest Service Relations: This is the first time in 15 years that this meeting has been held in New Mexico! Meeting was held at Santa Clara Pueblo, at the Governor’s office and in the field of the Santa Clara Watershed. The watershed is currently at 8 years post-Las Conchas fire (2011). The same landscape burned prior, from the Cerro Grande Fire (two thousand). Landscape condition/impacts observations:

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- Industrious erosion control management projects throughout the devastated watershed.
- Four large ponds were blown out by post fire flooding and will be very expensive to reestablish.
- This meeting is leading to future work for me– working on internship contract development for spring 2020.

Regional Foresters Intertribal Consultation Roundtable Session: Forest Plan Updates (Carson, Santa Fe, Cibola), NEPA rule change meaning, mining exploration in the Pecos watershed, and other issues

- Supported this meeting and observed Lucy Moore (Facilitator)
- August 12, 2019 (8:30 am till 3:00 pm); Department of Interior Training Center; 1011 Indian School Rd NW Albuquerque, NM

Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI): Phase II Request for Proposals: Attended Weekly Congressional Briefing Calls

Youth Engagement Strategy/Forest Leadership Training: Cibola National Forest Supervisor's Office

Youth Engagement Strategy: focus group: Rocky Mountain Youth Corps: "youth" 18–25-year-olds

Industry: Descartes Labs (early fire/smoke detection technology: satellite and tech/synthesis tools), RO, Representative Deb Haaland's Chief of staff (Deb Haaland's office in Albuquerque). I attended this small consultation meeting. Learning, observing.

Other Activities at the Forest Service, Digital Content Creation and Data Management:

Southwestern Region internal website content development: "Spotlight on Water Quality Month"

Script development for Regional Forester, Cal Joyner's short video. Developed the "Spotlights" – 4 sites across the Region that reflect our water values/focus.

Congressional Inquiries Internal FS Region 3 Database Development (Software: Pinyon Box and SharePoint Connect):

"Mercury link" inventory: Identify the broken links after the most recent software migration: ended up being pretty much all of them. Establish new and consistent file-naming convention for all Inquiry and Response documents (i.e.: "Inquiry/Response and WO tracking #"). Tagging: individual tagging for all 160 Inquiry/Response documents. Identify the missing "Final Response documents" to obtain from WO. Missing WO final response digital file migration (found and recovered over twenty-five signed responses now included in the R3 internal data management system "Pinyon Box")

Regionwide Congressional Contact List Database Updates for AZ and NM congressional staff (Software: SharePoint and DigiTop Leadership Connect – compare sources/data). Confirm left over list of congressional members.

Other Regional Office Activities: Editing and Group Facilitation

Riparian and Aquatic Ecosystem Strategy (RAES): Conducted project research, document edits, group facilitation, timeline setting, and organized meetings with the existing RAES team to complete edits and finalize this document for publication. This was prepared as internal and external guidance for region-wide use. My role was to facilitate the finalizing of the RAES guidance document with the administrative team currently responsible for this project. I developed and edited internal and external website content (content and structure). To complete the project and offer a tool to teach staff about the document I produced a PowerPoint that is useful for standard purposes, the public and their partners.

End section on Forest Service Regional Office.

Resident Advocate | Barrett House Shelter for Women & Children | September 2018 – February 2019

As a Resident Advocate at the Barrett House Shelter for Women and Children, I was the primary staff on duty during my shifts on the weekends. This position worked directly with the entire shelter (35 occupant capacity), serving all day-to-day needs of the shelter residents. In this role my activities ranged from rules enforcement, medication management, information logging, communications, conflict resolution, paperwork processing, volunteer coordination, and donations management.

Independent Contractor – Resource Assistant | Taos County | 2015-2017

The Nature Conservancy – Rio Grande Water Fund – Taos Valley Watershed Coalition – Taos County Planning Department and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Core Team – Questa Land and Water Clinic

This role began with the synchronous timing that put me in the living room of long-standing NM water resources giant, Ron Gardiner, in Questa, NM circa late 2015. The journey began with my interest in developing a public advocacy group for the recently designated Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. Ron had an earful for me on the topic – as he attempted the same effort in the 1980's, to no avail. When I thought I was going there for his help and advice, I ended up leaving with an enormous legal planning document draft, his draft – which evolved into the contracted work below as laid out by the NGO, The Nature Conservancy and their local “special forces team,” The Rio Grande Water Fund. 2016 would prove to be Ron's final year of life. Ron and I worked together every single day of 2016 until his passing in late September. He imparted an extreme wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and political savvy. He also imparted his deep inner recognition for the value of the vital landscapes of northern New Mexico (of which he was intimately familiar). He also opened a high-level professional path for me that has proved to be both challenging and a source of tremendous strength and pride.

- **Document Lead Editor/Document Control:** Ron Gardiner handed over the task of completing a key Taos County wildfire and watershed planning document to me; the **2016 Taos County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) update**. The document is required to be updated every few years to maintain eligibility for certain critical funding opportunities. The most current updated CWPP should be on the main page of Taos County government website.
- This role required extreme patience, hundreds of volunteer hours at the onset, and incredibly careful and politically-savvy actions. This document was in serious disorder when it landed in my lap (no judgement on those involved). I was asked to do an enormous rewrite and high-level editing work, skills that I had minimal background in. I gathered a team of editors and we went to work. My skillset grew one exponentially here. I am now an excellent fact-checker and editor.
- **Mediation:** Provided key mediating support and power brokering to core leadership members within the administratively steeped, overlapping planning groups – during a momentous time of growth for the groups.
- **Decision Making Model:** Advocated for and **facilitated implementation** of a stable and productive **organizational decision-making protocol** that would lend itself to attaining priority benchmarks.
- **Funds Utilization:** Ensured the **utilization of \$150,000** of available grant funds toward priority forest thinning restoration on the Acequia del Agua Land Grant in Arroyo Seco. This was achieved through strategic communication, collaborative planning between public, private, land grant, county and state stakeholders, application drafting, surveying, and again – political grace.
- **Partnership Development:** Developed partnership between 20+ stakeholders (mostly northern NM pueblos) with diverse interests. Partnership was needed to secure a **\$400,000 federal grant** (Collaborative Forest Restoration Program), supporting the first Taos County landscape-level restoration project on a 30,000-acre Carson National Forest project area, McGaffey Ridge. This grant was **funded!**
- **Public Outreach:** Organized and facilitated a rural public meeting in La Lama/San Cristobal on behalf of the Rio Grande Water Fund to listen to local leadership on key issues around wilderness adjacency, wildfire, water source protection, and forest access for high demand fuel wood. Leadership from Rio Grande Water Fund and from Carson National Forest were present to help guide the conversation and answer questions.
- **Administrative Support:** Played a significant role in the day-to-day operations of the collaborative organization that included the Taos Valley Watershed Coalition, Taos County CWPP Core Team, The Rio Grande Water

Fund, and the Nature Conservancy. I prepared documents for administrative meetings, scheduled meeting rooms, attended all CWPP Core Team and Watershed Coalition meetings, provided diverse high level communications to all members of the collaborative, edited legal documents, provided facilitation support in administrative meetings, conducted site surveys, edited forest thinning restoration contracts, took meeting minutes, distributed meeting minutes, extensive and dynamic contact database controls, ran small group meetings and was available for all other minutiae of organizational operations.

Office Manager | Taos Land Trust 501c3 | 2016-2017

While under the contract described above, I also worked part time with this nonprofit providing key administrative support during a period of organizational and physical transition (moving the office to a permanent location). I provided organization support, communications, payroll processing, networking, public meeting small group facilitation, outreach/education, and general operations support.

AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer | Friends of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument (ad-hoc) | Rivers & Birds (501c3) | Bureau of Land Management: Taos Field Office (national monument management agency) | Conservation Lands Foundation (national foundation) | 2015

My first independent contract in Taos spawned from my AmeriCorps service work with local nonprofit Rivers & Birds. A funding opportunity was pursuing local nonprofit, R&B, to develop a 'Friends' group for the large, local, recently designated Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. R&B was a huge advocate for this designation, and they were the natural leadership for this national foundation to approach. The director initially offered the opportunity to initiate this contract with the Foundation - to lead this new 'Friends' organization, with a contingency to support R&B operations as well.

It was not clear until the final hour that R&B wanted to control my contract with the foundation and there were key contingencies that proved to not be a good fit for R&B and myself, moving forward. I completed my AmeriCorps VISTA term working on other Bureau of Land Management priorities out of the Taos BLM Field Office, going on to support the BLM recreation area briefly after my VISTA term of service ended.

I was still awarded a short contract by the Conservation Lands Foundation to assist them in obtaining a clear commitment or refusal of funds from R&B. The foundation had been courting R&B for several years now, since the monument's designation, without really moving forward. I did assist in facilitating a clear NO from R&B. R&B would not be leading the development of a new nonprofit or fostering this effort under its own fiscal umbrella. Unfortunately, the significant foundation funds have not been invested in any group in Taos for this cause. This was a good introductory dynamic scenario to get my feet wet in the highly politicized platforms surrounding land and water conservation in New Mexico.

Here is a breakdown regarding that period of service:

Park Ranger | Bureau of Land Management Taos Field Office | 2015

Temporary Appointment (3-month term). My role as a park Ranger in the Lower Rio Grande Gorge Recreation Area (also called Orilla Verde Recreation Area), was to provide visitors with information and resources to better enjoy the recreation area. I also enforced rules and regulations, coordinated summer volunteer activities, did landscape maintenance, and provided safety and security to the whole lower gorge recreation area.

Development Director and Volunteer Coordinator | AmeriCorps DOI-VISTA (Department of the Interior - Volunteers in Service to America) Taos, NM | 2014-2015

This was a 1-year term of service with AmeriCorps VISTA – a national and community service organization. This was a Department of the Interior appointment, which placed me as an individual with the Taos BLM Field Office and a local nonprofit,

Rivers & Birds. As a first-year VISTA volunteer, it was my responsibility to make an impact and ‘leave breadcrumbs’ for the next two VISTA volunteers that would follow me in this role. Achievements from this year of service are here:

- US Fish and Wildlife: Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, grant proposal, and project design author. *Schoolyard Habitat* projects are designed to benefit 4 Taos Elementary Schools and provide hands-on education and conservation activities to benefit our invaluable pollinator species. **Rivers & Birds funded at \$30,000.**
- Delivered a 9-week intensive environmental/social awareness curriculum to fifth grade Taos Municipal Schools classrooms and trained incoming volunteer teachers.
- Coordinated eight community outreach events which mobilized over four hundred citizens toward public service and awareness of natural resources values within Taos County. A thousand trees were planted collaboratively with the Bureau of Land Management, on unstable banks along the lower Rio Grande gorge floodplains that will serve to shade and stabilize a historically vulnerable area.
- While still under my VISTA term of service, I Initiated positive communications with a foundation that was interested in heavily investing in the development of a public advocacy group for the recently established (Obama), Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. After my term of service with VISTA, I was short contracted by the Foundation to facilitate a challenging series of discussions with my recent 2014-2015 VISTA host, Rivers & Birds, which would provide the foundation with greater clarity about the intentions of Rivers & Birds, in relationship to their assumed involvement in the sponsorship of this new advocacy group.

Landscaper | Sticks & Stones Landscaping| 2014 – 2017

Quality landscape work in the Taos area, working on long standing and new properties. Work ranged from clean-up and cut back to new design installations, maintaining vegetable gardens, and large annual flower garden installations. Routine plant identification and weed/invasive removal.

Volunteer | Watershed Restoration in the Carson National Forest - Valle Vidal unit | Quivira Coalition | 2013

Volunteer participant in on-going watershed restoration along the Comanche Creek watershed, a designated trout breeding estuary located in the Carson National Forest north of Taos, in the high elevation, Valle Vidal unit. Annual Quivira Coalition conference attendee.

Field Assistant | Tierra y Montes Soil and Water Conservation District | Summer 2012

Assistant to the San Miguel County Soil and Water Conservation District long standing lead, Steve Reichert (since retired). Steve generously shared his wisdom of landscape restoration in arid landscapes, as well as instream erosion control techniques. Steve is a resolute student of Bill Zeedyke and his ‘Induced Meandering’ methods, which utilize non-invasive techniques to hydrologically reconnect arid lands to water and reestablish vegetation, which is the goal.

Research Assistant | Effects of Climate Change on New Mexico Surface Water Quality, NSF: Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCOR) Grant Recipient | Summer 2011

This undergraduate experience was an excellent introduction to surface water quality research. My research focused on the destination of naturally occurring Arsenic in the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Sampling sites were of perennial streams and springs located within the Caldera as well as just outside of the Caldera in the San Antonio watershed. We looked at hot and cold source springs and downstream concentrations/distributions of Arsenic levels in soils, suspended loads, plants, and macroinvertebrates. I conducted the field sampling and lab processing; data analysis and presented our initial findings at New Mexico Tech at the end of the summer. This program included a short course at New Mexico Tech on Climate Change in New Mexico. This experience was an invaluable part of my undergraduate career, and I still reference the knowledge gained here.

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Field Assistant | Pritzlaff Ranch (San Miguel County) | 2010, 2011

Worked alongside Yale Forestry graduate, Frances Eaton, conducting a full forest inventory of the three thousand acres preserve, located at the foot of Hermit's Peak in San Miguel County. The focus of the study was to find out what capacity the ranch has for cultivating revenue from the sustainable harvesting of timber, with the intention of restoring forest health and watershed function.

Field Assistant | Wind River Ranch (now Rio Mora National Wildlife Refuge) | 2010

Worked alongside known Ecologist and member of the Denver Zoological Society, Brian Miller, PHD. Brian educated me on the intricacies inherent to the subtle systems of these northern New Mexico grasslands. Ongoing observations are being taken here regarding the ecological relationship between the Bison and Pinon Juniper populations, prairie dog populations, and the effects of non-invasive, low technology, mini dam structure installations that have gone in over the years to ameliorate this highly erosive section of the Mora River watershed. I conducted an independent restorative riparian plantings plan for an area along a groundwater-fed, man-made pond, adjacent to the Mora River, which flows through the middle of the 3000-acre ranch.

Administrative Assistant | Miller Engineering Consultants (Civil Engineering firm in Albuquerque) | 2006-2007

AmeriCorps Volunteer | Eco Servants (YCC – Youth Conservation Corps) | 500+ hours | 2006

After completing my term of service in Oregon, I returned to New Mexico and signed up for more AmeriCorps-funded work with a public lands trail maintenance crew, serving Lincoln County. This was a seasonal commitment. We spent much of our time camping, hiking, clearing hiking trails in the mountains and cutting fresh recreational trails in the historic village of Lincoln. We also did a bit of exploring in a cool small primitive cave in the Fort Stanton area (connected to the Lechuguilla cave systems).

AmeriCorps Volunteer | AmeriCorps State/National: Partnerships for Student Achievement | 2004-2005

National Community Service meets underserved rural public schools in rural Portland, Oregon. I went straight from high school graduation to this program! My role began at the start of the school year, and I completed the term with the students in May 2005.

The role involved diverse and changing tasks to support the many unmet needs of rural public schools. I supported a geography-learning program (passport club), literacy group, math groups, after-school program, volunteer coordination, and recruitment, and participated in a service-learning college level course along with my AmeriCorps cohort (who were mostly all recent college graduates).