

APPLICATION FOR STATE SENATE DISTRICT 39 VACANCY

Brent Racher, being first duly sworn, states as follows:  
(Print or Type Name)

1. I wish to be nominated by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County and appointed by the Governor to the position of State Senator for State Senate District 39.

2. I am a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of New Mexico, and a resident of New Mexico State Senate District 39. (Attach proof of U.S. Citizenship.)

3. The physical address of my residence, determined in accordance with NMSA 1978, § 1-1-7, is 201 County Line Road, Corona, NM. (Attach proof of physical residency.)

4. I am 25 years of age or older. (Attach copy of driver's license or other proof of age.)

5. I am a qualified elector, meaning that I am a resident of the State and qualified to vote under the provisions of the constitution of New Mexico and the constitution of the United States.

6. Check and, if applicable, complete only one of the following alternative statements. Please note that notaries public and officers of the militia who receive no salary are not considered offices of trust or profit within the meaning of N.M. Const. art. IV, § 3.

☒ I do not hold any office of trust or profit with the state, county, or national governments.

OR

☐ I hold the following office(s) of trust or profit with the state, county, or national governments: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and agree that, if appointed by the Governor to the position of State Senator for Senate District 39, I must resign from each of these positions before qualifying for office.

7. The information and statements in my letter of interest and resume accompanying my application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Brent Racher  
Signature of Applicant

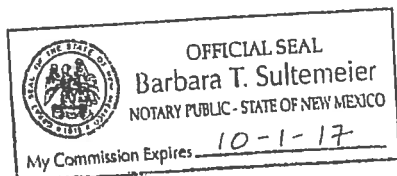
NOTARIZATION

State of New Mexico  
(County) of Lincoln

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015, by Brent Racher.

My commission expires: 10-1-17

Barbara T. Sultemeier  
Signature of Notarial Officer



March 17, 2015

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Brent Racher, PhD

201 County Line Road  
Corona, NM 88318

Santa Fe County Commission  
Attn: Tony Flores, Deputy County Manager  
102 Grant Ave.  
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Dear Commissioners;

Please accept this statement of interest to serve for New Mexico Senate District 39 which was recently vacated due to resignation.

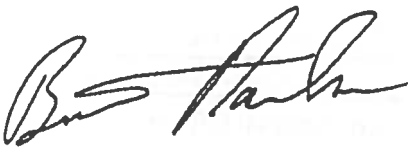
As an entrepreneur and small businessman, I have learned that it is not enough to simply advance my own interests. Rather, in advancing the interests of the citizens of our communities and state, we all benefit as citizens.

Senate District 39 is a large and diverse district, with many problems and opportunities available. This District is primarily rural, and to represent this District, it would require improving issues of local interest while also bringing solutions to larger, statewide and national concerns. As a representative of the District, I would do this to provide favorable results for the constituents of the entire District. In addition, I commit to serve the citizens of this District to my utmost ability in a reliable, conscientious, and ethical manner.

Attached is a Curriculum Vitae outlining my experience and qualifications. It demonstrates my abilities and qualifications, which give me the confidence to commit to this service for the constituents of District 39. Therefore, I respectfully request the Commission advance my name to Governor Susana Martinez as a nominee from Santa Fe County.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or clarifications at

Sincerely,



Brent Racher, PhD  
Corona, NM  
(R), Precinct 12, Torrance County

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**Brent J. Racher, Ph. D.**

**Personal Data:**

**Business Address:**

Corona, NM 88318

Telephone:

E-mail:

**Home Address:**

201 County Line Road

Corona, NM 88318

Telephone:

E-mail:

**Specialty:**

Entrepreneurial spirit and Small business development/management; Forest, woodland, rangeland, and riparian restoration; Biomass utilization and development for energy production; Fire Ecology; Range Ecology; Range Improvement; Prescribed Burning; Wildland fire behavior

**Education:**

1999-2003: Texas Tech University  
Ph.D.-Range Science; May, 2003  
Grade Point Average: 3.9

1996-1998: Texas Tech University  
M.S.-Range Science; December, 1998  
Grade Point Average: 3.9

1992-1996: New Mexico State University  
B.S.-Range Science; May, 1996  
Grade Point Average: 3.7

**Narrative:**

Brent Racher, Ph.D. is the manager/owner for Restoration Solutions, LLC; Racher Resource Management, LLC; and is a partner/Vice President for Southwestern Biomass, LLC. This experience includes the hands on experience with a broad range of mechanical, chemical, biological, and cultural methods for restoring healthy, resilient ecosystems. He has also been involved in applications and research in the ecosystems and fuel types in the Southwestern U.S. for the

past sixteen years. Dr. Rancher's knowledge of the ecology/physiology of biomes, the effects of fire on vegetation, the ability of mechanized equipment, and the mode of herbicidal actions has allowed him to provide the cutting-edge technical abilities with on-the-ground implementation for effectively meeting project objectives. Dr. Rancher has also served on the U.S. Forest Service Collaborative Forest Restoration Program's Technical Advisory Panel (three terms), U.S. Forest Service Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program's Federal Advisory Committee, the Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District Board as an Associate Supervisor, the Central New Mexico Cooperative Weed Management Area, the Estancia Basin Watershed Health Steering Committee, the Board of the Lintero Coop, and as President and Vice President of the New Mexico Forest Industry Association.

For over ten years, Dr. Rancher has worked to manage his family businesses for profitability and viability in the short- and long-term. As a businessman, he has faced the ups and downs in the economy, surviving and thriving, as appropriate for the economic times. During these years, as an entrepreneur, Dr. Rancher has recognized the need to organize the voices of similar small businesses and citizens in New Mexico to work on the larger institutions of federal and state entities that have significant control over our industry and our way of life in rural New Mexico. As such, he has been a primary organizer of the New Mexico Forest Industry Association. This effort has brought improvements to how the government agencies work with small businesses and citizens throughout New Mexico. Dr. Rancher has improved the bureaucracies, from the outside in, through innovations and dedication for the citizens and businesses in rural and urban areas by working to provide clean, reliable water supplies from our watersheds and reduce the threat to citizens and watersheds from the environmental disasters that catastrophic wildfires represent.

Since 2004, Restoration Solutions, LLC and Dr. Rancher have worked to develop the biomass industry in New Mexico and the interior western United States. During the promotion and marketing of biomass, and specifically woody biomass, as a fuel resource, we have performed and overseen third-party fuel assessments; performed practical fuel harvesting demonstrations; and analyzed fuel resources in the Southwest US for their suitability for biomass energy. Projects Dr. Rancher has worked on include electrical generation, heating, co-generation, bio-fuels, and supplying small diameter timber to pellet and flooring manufacturers. As part of a strategy to provide a reliable, long-term biomass fuel supply, he played a lead industry role in the development of the New Mexico Forest Restoration Principles which have been praised as guidelines for working with federal land management agencies and other stakeholders in landscape-scale forest restoration projects. The analysis and development for projects with biomass facilities throughout the United States has provided Dr. Rancher with the knowledge of differences and similarities of other regional project to the Southwestern US and its biomass resources. The lessons learned in other areas have been analyzed and adapted to provide for the most economical, reliable project planning and development for the fuel resources available in the Southwest and Interior West. Brent Rancher will continue to be a leader in

biomass development and biomass energy projects utilizing feedstock from forest restoration activities into the future.

Fire ecology and prescribed burning became a primary focus of Dr. Racher's interests and research during graduate school. The prescribed burning program at Texas Tech University allowed planning, implementation, and evaluation of prescribed burns on private, state, and federal lands in 23 counties of 3 states. Dr. Racher has been on 175 burns, of which he was the fire boss for 112, that totaled 44,240 acres. With these fires, Dr. Racher has taught undergraduate, graduate, and professionals the hands-on knowledge to further natural resource management. This field experience has allowed me to excel in accomplishing quality research, teaching students, and working with natural resource managers. In addition, the teaching and training of natural resource professionals that began with prescribed fire training continued within private industry as Dr. Racher constantly trained his employees and the professionals he dealt with various skills and science. This teaching ranged from basic forest restoration and range management techniques to scientific understanding about the natural resource. The teaching skills developed from this experience helped to gain a perspective on individual personalities and various mechanisms for delivery. Following graduate school, Dr. Racher continued to provide services for implementation and planning for prescribed fire and wildland fire. However, the market demand for these services was limited in New Mexico.

#### **Professional Experience:**

Manager & Owner; Restoration Solutions, LLC; Corona, NM; 2003-present.

Vice President – Operations; Southwestern Biomass, LLC; Corona, NM 2007-present.

Natural Resource Consultant & Business Development Specialist, Manager, & Owner; Racher Resource Management, LLC; Corona, NM; 2002-present.

Research Assistant; Department of Range, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management; Texas Tech University; Lubbock, TX; 1996-2002.

#### **Professional Service:**

New Mexico EMNRD Forestry Watershed Coordinating Group, 2010 - present

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Federal Advisory Committee – Washington, DC, 2010 – 2012

Collaborative Forest Restoration Program Federal Advisory Committee – Albuquerque, NM, 2005 – 2012

Lintero Coop, LLC, Board of Directors, Lincoln & Otero County, NM Forest Product Cooperative, 2012 - present

Southwest Sustainable Forest Partnership Advisory Board – Holbrook, AZ, 2009 - 2010

Southwest Fire Science Consortium Technical Advisory Committee – 2011

New Mexico Biomass Taskforce – 2004 - 2006

**Societies and Professional Organizations:**

New Mexico Forest Industry Association – President 2011 – present, VP 2009 - 2011

Society for Range Management

New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council

**Community Service:**

Legislative Liaison, New Mexico Forest Industry Association 2012-2014

Board of Supervisors, Claunch-Pinto Soil & Water Conservation District 2005-2007

Volunteer – Green Waste Program, Village of Corona, NM

Volunteer Firefighter, New Deal Fire Department, 1997-1998.

Volunteer Firefighter, South Valley Fire Department, 1995-1996.

**Honors, Awards, and Special Recognition:**

Outstanding Contribution to Forestry from Outside the Profession, Society of American Foresters, 2013

New Mexico Biomass Taskforce, 2005.

Outstanding Graduate Student, Department of Range, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management, Texas Tech University; 2002.

President's Associates Honors Scholarship, New Mexico State University, 1992-1996.

Crimson Scholar, New Mexico State University, 1992-1996.

Dean's Honor Roll, New Mexico State University, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1996.

Dean's Award of Excellence, New Mexico State University, 1996.

**Teaching Experience:**

Instructor of Record - Ecology and Conservation of Natural Resources (RWF 2302), Texas Tech University; 1 Semester.

Teaching Assistant - Watershed Management Lab (RGSC 318L), New Mexico State University; 1 Semester.

Instructor - NRCS Prescribed Burning Shortcourse (1-week), Texas Tech University, 1997-2001.

Instructor - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Prescribed Burning Training, 1997, 1998.

Lead Instructor - NRCS Prescribed Burning Shortcourse (1-day), Clayton, 2000.

**Professional Publications (non-technical):**

New Mexico Forest Restoration Principles. 2006. A guiding set of principles for collaborative development of long-term, landscape-scale forest restoration projects on federal and other landownerships developed by a broad group of stakeholders.  
[http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5207898.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5207898.pdf)

Integration of the Wood Products Industry. 2010. Opinion and synthesis paper requested/contracted for by the Southwest Sustainable Forest Partnership for presentation to the State Foresters of New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado  
<http://www.swsfp.org/documents/presentation2a.pdf>

