

Chris Jackson, M.S. Thesis Candidate



My name is Chris Jackson and I am from Waco, Texas. I came to Sul Ross in 2009 and graduated with a B.S. in Conservation Biology in 2011. Currently, I am pursuing my Master's of Science in Range and Wildlife Management under Dr. Bonnie J. Warnock. Since attending Sul Ross, I have worked on a number of research projects, including: a Seeps and Springs Monitoring Protocol for the National Park Service; geomorphological surveys of sandbars along the Rio Grande; editor of the Upper Rio Grande Basin and Bay Expert Science Team's final report to TCEQ; and vegetation monitoring on the O2 Ranch

Thesis Project: Population Biology, Habitat Description and Delineation of Palmer's False Hymenoxys (*Plateilema palmeri*) in the Trans-Pecos, Texas

In August 2014, I relocated a population of Palmer's False Hymenoxys (*Plateilema palmeri*) while conducting vegetation surveys in the desert grasslands on the O2 Ranch. This species has not been observed in Brewster County since 1929 and is currently the only known population in the United States. Very little is known about the biology of this plant and gaining a greater understanding of the biodiversity of these desert grasslands is important for future management considerations. Currently, I am working to describe the species overall habitat, determine a population estimate, investigate methods of recruitment and dispersal, document pollinators, and conduct biogeographical surveys for presence using a Species Distribution Model.

