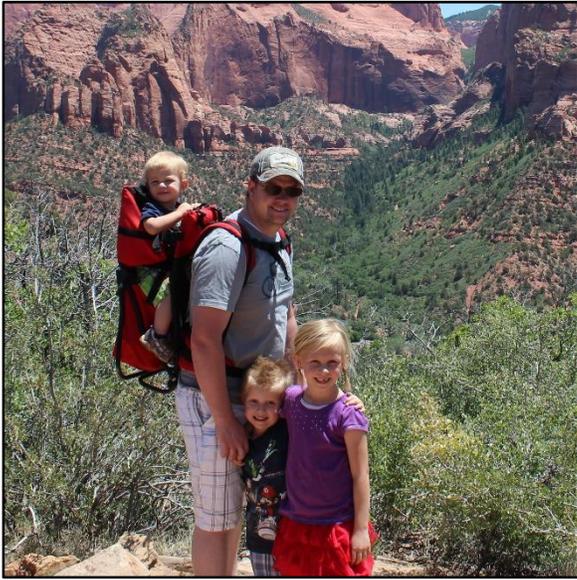


# James Eddy, M.S. Thesis Candidate



My name is James Eddy, though my friends call me J.D. I grew up on the northwest side of the Salt Lake Valley in Utah where I was provided many opportunities to explore the outdoors. A combination of working for BSA camps, performing trail maintenance for the USFS, volunteer work at Tracy Aviary, Nature High summer camps, and the unforgettable Wheeler Historic Farm in Murray, Utah, instilled in me a love for the world around us and a desire to teach and share that world with others. This led to Dixie State University where I received my Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. During this time I also received GIS training as an intern at Pipe Springs National Monument/ NPS and conducted lichen research for Snow Canyon State Park. At the completion of my Bachelors I was offered a position as an adjunct instructor at DSU where I taught an Ecology lab and introductory Biology labs. This great opportunity further solidified my desire to obtain a graduate education and greater field experiences to share with future students

and employers. Enter Sul Ross State University and the Borderlands Research Institute's M.S. program. Here my thesis will be based on a study of SENDERO, an herbicide treatment for Torrey Mesquites, and its effectiveness as a restoration tool for Scaled Quail habitat in the Trans-Pecos. The information garnered from this research will be of interest to many parties including ranchers, land managers, state and federal agencies, and wildlife management institutions. I am excited and humbled by the opportunity to work beside the great people here at SRSU and look forward to the great opportunities this program affords.

## Thesis Project: Effects of SENDERO® on Mesquite and Scaled Quail Habitat Use

Woody shrubs and plants outcompeting the native grass populations is a problem in many parts of the Western United States and the Trans Pecos is no exception. This is in large part due to our involvement in these environments. Fire suppression, overgrazing and livestock seed distribution are some of the major factors contributing to this problem. Unfortunately, once this has taken place it is quite difficult to reverse. In fact, left alone the process will continue to degrade these grasslands resulting in a change of habitat. For my masters thesis I will be studying the effectiveness of SENDERO®, an herbicide found effective at controlling Torrey Mesquite populations, and its effects on restoring quail habitat on Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area. I will be monitoring SENDERO's effectiveness through belt transects and aerial photography on multiple study sites using two treatments and control plots. A comparison of hand treatment versus aerial broadcast will also be measured. Camera traps randomly placed throughout the varied sights will measure quail and other wildlife movement patterns and estimate densities both before and two years after treatment.

