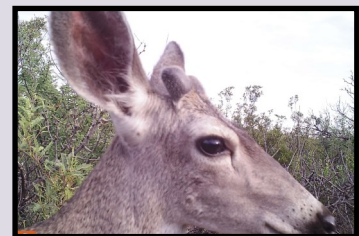
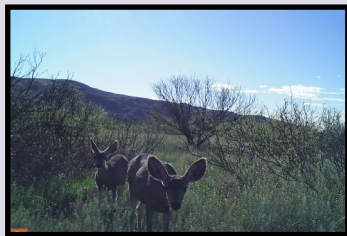


Alec D. Ritzell — BRI Undergraduate Researcher

My name is Alec Ritzell, and I am from Katy, Texas. I attended public school for most of my pre-college education, but I was home-schooled throughout my high school years. During this time, I enjoyed volunteering with multiple organizations including the Houston Bulldog Rescue and Katy Prairie Conservancy. I also spent a great deal of my time growing vegetables and researching about wildlife for leisure. After high school, I spent one year taking classes at various junior colleges in Dallas, Texas. In the fall of 2014, I transferred to Sul Ross State University to pursue a degree in wildlife management. I am currently a junior expecting to graduate in May 2017. My interest in this career path is rooted in my passion for the outdoors. I have enjoyed many hunting and fishing experiences since an early age. I look forward to developing my career that involves wildlife conservation and ecological restoration. This goal is much closer to being realized since I have been able to volunteer in wildlife related fieldwork including spotlight surveys and quail trapping. The Adams Ranch and Black Gap Wildlife Management Area mule deer work project further benefited my skills in the field. Also, I presented my research for the Borderlands Research Institute at their first research symposium in August 2015.



Distribution of Wildlife Documented Pre-Sendero Treatment

16 September 2015 — 15 May 2016

I am continuing to work for graduate student James Eddy as a technician for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department effects of Sendero® quail research project at Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area (EMWMA). My position requires me to help my mentor conduct vegetation transects, process trail camera photos, and perform maintenance on trail cameras. In addition to these obligations, I am working on a camera study that will be presented at the 2016 Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society meeting in San Antonio, Texas. My research will assess the distribution of wildlife in areas to be treated with Sendero® herbicides at EMWMA. Pre-treatment frequencies of wildlife sightings for each camera were compiled to assess wildlife abundance in the treatment area. This study will lead to a heightened understanding of wildlife movements in areas being treated by Sendero® herbicides.



The BRI Undergraduate Research Program is proudly supported by a grant from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.