

# Benjamin Q. Benavidez — BRI Undergraduate Researcher

My name is Benjamin Benavidez, I am from Presidio, Texas. I graduated from Presidio High School in 2008 then spent 5 ½ years working in Odessa, TX. In August of 2013 I moved to Alpine and began taking classes full time at Sul Ross State University as a Natural Resource Management major with an emphasis in Wildlife Management. Before becoming a part of the BRI Undergraduate Research Program, I had the opportunity to volunteer on a bighorn sheep capture in the Sierra Diablo Mountains near Van Horn. That experience is what really assured me that this is the field I want to pursue a career in. I spent a lot of time as a kid on my family's ranch in the Pinto Canyon area, and since a young age, have enjoyed being outdoors and hunting with friends and family.



## Big Game Supplemental Feeder Utilization

*16 October 2015 — 15 May 2016*

I am currently assisting Research Assistant Thomas Janke and Graduate Assistant Kiddo Campbell with a game camera study that involves collaring and ear tagging known-aged mule deer bucks in order to see how antler and body size change as they age. For my research, I am looking at the utilization of artificial protein feeders by all big game species on the study ranches. By using game cameras, we hope to find out what areas/feeders see the most use by each species on each ranch. This kind of information could possibly aid ranch owners and managers in making future management decisions. We also hope to better understand the interactions between species seen at the feeders.



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