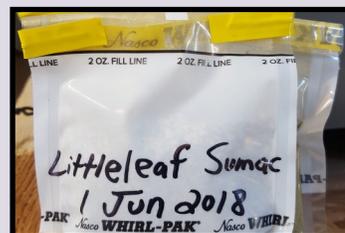


## Daniel E. Botello — BRI Undergraduate Researcher

My name is Daniel and I am a Natural Resource Management student at Sul Ross State University. I'm originally from Illinois, but have been in Texas now for over a decade. The Piney Woods region of east Texas has been my home, but I am excited to continue my education in west Texas. I am a sophomore and am currently involved with the Borderlands Research Institute (BRI) through the Undergraduate Research and Mentorship Program. My chosen major and involvement with the BRI will allow me to continue doing what I enjoy: spending time outdoors, learning about lesser-known plants, and observing the wildlife that inhabit this region.



### Comparing Nutrient Values of Browse Plants From Various Trans-Pecos Mountain Ranges

*1 June — 31 August 2018*

I am involved with BRI's browse study project. It is a multi-year research effort to document seasonal and regional nutritional content of plants used as food by wildlife in the Trans-Pecos region. After browse plant samples are collected in the field, they are ground, labeled, and prepared for nutritional analyses. My individual research project will concentrate on nutrient content levels in the hot/dry season (March – June). I will use the results of this season's collection to look at various nutrient levels of browse plants found throughout different mountain ranges. If nutrient level differences are present, I will look at the major geographical and environmental differences of the mountain ranges to understand the variation.

The findings of the completed, multi-seasonal browse study project will benefit the Borderlands Research Institute, landowners, managers, students, and those who strive for the optimal condition of wildlife species. It will help us better understand how seasons and differences in the environment affect the nutritional content of plants and the animals that consume them.



CONSERVING THE LAST FRONTIER



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