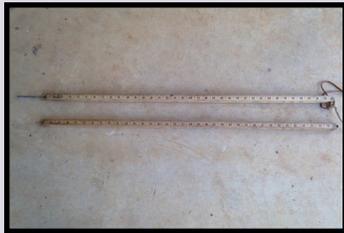


Hunter J. Dickens — BRI Undergraduate Researcher

My name is Hunter Dickens. I am 20 years old and from Emory, Texas. Emory is located in deep east Texas right between Lake Fork and Lake Tawakoni. I am currently attending Texas A&M Commerce and will be starting my junior year in the fall. Outside of school, hunting and fishing are my passion. In the fall and winter you can find me out in the woods hunting, and in the spring and summer I'm always on the lake fishing or having fun in my boat. When I am not at school or working on an internship, I help manage a dairy in Miller Grove just about 10 miles from where I live. I chose to be a part of the Borderland Research Institute's Undergraduate Research Program because of the institute's reputation and diverse research they are conducting. This program has allowed me to further pursue my love and understanding of white-tail deer and the outdoors. I hope to use this experience and knowledge to better help conserve these great outdoor resources for many others to be able to enjoy for years to come.



Habitat Evaluation of Parturition Sites of Pen-reared White-tailed Does Following Liberation

1 June — 15 August, 2015

I am currently conducting a study on birth site habitat selection of pen-reared does following their liberation on a ranch south of D'Hanis, Texas. I will be comparing my observations of the birth sites to habitat samples in 3 ecological sites across the ranch. With this information, I will be able to quantify habitat availability and see if the does are selecting for anything in particular when choosing their parturition sites. This information will better inform landowners of white-tailed deer birth site habitat selection and aid them in their decisions of when and where to apply vegetation treatment (mechanical, chemical, etc.) to their properties. My study will also help understand if liberated pen-reared does are capable of selecting habitat that is going to benefit them and their fawn(s) enough to survive.



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