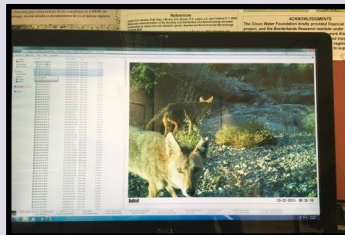


Walter G. Flocke — BRI Undergraduate Researcher

My name is Walter Flocke and I am a sophomore at Sul Ross State University. I was born and raised in Wimberley, Texas where I became interested in the natural world at a young age, climbing every tree and looking under every rock I could in the backyard. It was during this time on a family vacation that I first became enthralled by the beauty of west Texas, particularly Big Bend National Park. I am very grateful to be here studying in this extraordinary outdoor classroom with the Borderlands Research Institute. I plan on graduating Sul Ross in 2020 with a natural resource management degree, and continuing my career as a state game warden, or federal wildlife officer.



Mesocarnivore Distribution in Big Bend National Park, Texas

1 April — 31 May 2017

The project I am currently working on for my mentor, Michael Stangl, is the Big Bend National Park camera project. Due to the unique island habitat of the Chisos Mountains in Big Bend National Park, the park holds a variety of mesocarnivores, sharing the same isolated mountain range. The purpose of my study is to collect, sort, and organize trail camera photos to better understand how these mammals are distributed within the Chisos Mountains, as well as the interaction and competition of these species. We will be using noninvasive trail camera technology, placed in remote areas of the park to better limit our intrusion, and record data year-round. This project will serve as a long term monitoring of wildlife biodiversity and species distribution across the park.



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