CONSERVING THE LAST FRONTIER



STUDENT PROFILE

Originally from a town north of Dallas, Audrey grew up constantly finding chances to be outside. Camping, hunting, and fishing became childhood staples, further developing her love for exploring the natural world. Earning a Bachelor's of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences at Texas A&M also introduced her to the realm of Ornithology after interning off the coast of Maine with National Audubon Society. After graduating, Audrey spent about 4 and a half years working for the Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute as a Research Associate, where her crew worked on military installations completing ecological surveys to assist in annual environmental compliance standards for the installations. She also has a huge love for Scientific Illustration and nature based art. The drawing below, of a loggerhead shrike, is one of her scientific illustrations.

PROJECT PROFILE

Grassland habitat in the United States are some of the fastest declining environments within the United States. Their avian counterparts are under the same level of decline, often due to the encroachment of woody invasive plant species that can move in due to land use for practices like cattle grazing. The treatment and physical removal of these plant species could help to restore historic grasslands and also provide the opportunity for grassland obligate bird species to return to the area and potentially grow in population. Audrey will be continuing BRI's ongoing Grassland Birds Restoration project and continue to monitor the avian communities' responses to the treatment and physical removal of woody invasive species in an attempt to establish a detectable difference in community compositions of grassland obligate species.

