

Katherine E. Haile — BRI Undergraduate Researcher

My name is Katherine Haile, and I am from Sisterdale, Texas. Born and raised on my family's farm/ranch, I developed a great interest in managing natural resources, including range, livestock, and wildlife. I was home-schooled and an active member of 4-H. With 4-H, I was involved in the Plant ID and Range Evaluation projects for two years in high school. I carried that interest with me to Sul Ross where I am now a junior majoring in Sustainable Ranch Management and a member of the Plant ID Team. I am also an officer in the Cattleman's, Range and Wildlife, and Honors clubs at Sul Ross. Through these organizations, I have been able to greatly expand my understanding of many different areas of interest, gain leadership skills, and complete community service projects. This is my second technician position, and I am really looking forward to furthering my natural resource management knowledge in the future through Sul Ross State University and the Borderlands Research Institute.



Nutritional Differences of Dominant Forbs Between the Marathon and Marfa Grasslands

16 September 2018 — 15 May 2019

My project will be determining if there is a nutritional difference between forbs in the Marfa northwest and Marathon Basin grasslands. Samples will be collected as part of a larger graduate study, calculating pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) carrying capacities in these areas. Forbs used in this study will include those found in both areas, and they will be compared by species. The results from this project will be useful in determining if one grassland provides different forage quality, not just quantity, compared to the other in relation to pronghorn, other types of wildlife, and livestock that utilize forbs as a portion of their diet.



CONSERVING THE LAST FRONTIER



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