

MAYA VAUGHN

Curriculum Vitae – April 2025

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EDUCATION

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| M.S. – Range and Wildlife Management, SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY, Alpine, TX | 2023 |
| Thesis: <i>Factors potentially influencing Montezuma quail populations in the Trans-Pecos region of Texas</i> | |
| B.S. – Wildlife Biology, TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, San Marcos, TX | 2020 |

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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| GIS & DATATBASE SPECIALIST, Borderlands Research Institute
<i>Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX</i> | January 2025 – current |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Design and manage complex spatial and relational databases to support ecological research and habitat management, ensuring ISO-compliant data standards and secure storage for long-term use- Provide advanced GIS and technical support for interdisciplinary projects, including spatial analysis, custom data visualization, and quality assurance/control protocols for monitoring data and research outputs- Develop custom analytical tools and automated workflows using R, PostgreSQL, and Shiny to streamline data processing and enhance reproducibility of spatial and statistical analyses- Implement and maintained secure, scalable data systems through advanced scripting and programming, integrating LaTeX, Markdown, and web-based technologies to support dynamic reporting and research dissemination | |
| THESIS GUIDELINES AND LATEX TEMPLATE DEVELOPER (Contracted Position)
<i>Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX</i> | August 2024 – current |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Collaborate with academic leadership in the Graduate College to revise and modernize institutional thesis formatting guidelines- Design and implement a standardized LaTeX template to align with updated university formatting and style policies- Write clear, student-friendly documentation and usage instructions for the template | |
| GIS SPECIALIST, Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation
<i>Rotan, TX (Remote)</i> | February 2024 – December 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Collect, organize, and manage spatial datasets related to quail habitat, population dynamics, land use, and other relevant variables- Conduct spatial analysis using GIS software to assess habitat suitability, habitat fragmentation, land cover changes, and other spatial patterns relevant to quail conservation | |

- Create high quality maps and visualization to communicate research findings and project outcomes to stakeholders
- Work closely with field researchers to integrate field-collected spatial data, ensuring data accuracy

GRANT DIRECTOR, Title III STEM LoboTrack to Success (LTS)

August 2023 – December 2024

Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX

- Coordinating the development of policies and procedures regarding the Department of Education Grant, student development, bridge programs, and grant related piloted activities
- Piloting and coordinating an internal STEM Faculty/Staff Internship Program
- Creating a new Supplemental Instructor program for “gatekeeping” courses in undergraduate STEM programs
- Implementing STEM student summer bridge programs
- Coordinating with students, faculty in the ALPS college, and campus staff members to facilitate all new programs from the grant

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Borderlands Research Institute

August 2020 – December 2023

Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX

- Thesis focus on estimating effects of winter storms on theoretical Montezuma quail population demographics and vital rates
- Surveying for Montezuma quail via dog-lead surveys and walking surveys
- Estimating overlap of feral pig disturbance and presence with Montezuma quail to determine potential presence of competition

AVIAN FIELD TECHNICIAN, Overwinter Grassland Bird Monitoring Project

November 2022 – February 2023

Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, Borderlands Research Institute, Marfa, TX

- Conducted line transect counts for all present bird species
- Estimated grass and scrub cover through vegetation sampling points

INTERN, Elephant Mountain WMA

May – August 2023

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Alpine, TX

- Assisted in executing active wildlife management goals and property upkeep
- Operated heavy field equipment such as a backhoe, skid steer, and dump truck
- Assisted in aerial Pronghorn Population Survey
- Assisted with active management goals such as dove banding, predator management, and invasive species management
- Conducted and led volunteers with various wildlife surveys, including small mammal surveys, bird surveys, and Texas Horned lizard surveys

INTERN, Davis Mountains State Park

May – August 2019

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Fort Davis, TX

- Compiled and analyzed park visitation data for Summer Project
- Created a new interpretive program and assisted in tours and guided hikes
- Conducted regular customer service, revenue collection, and accounting

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

LaTeX Programing Workshop – R Bootcamp, Alpine, TX. M.A. Vaughn. Reproducible Research – Integrating RStudio and LaTeX. (August 2024).

QuailMasters 2024 – Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation, Alpine, TX. M.A. Vaughn, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Montezuma quail Habitat Preference as an Indicator for Invasive Exotic Feral Pig Presence in the Davis Mountains of Texas. (July 2024).

The Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Meeting, Houston, TX, M.A. Vaughn, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Montezuma quail Habitat Preference as an Indicator for Invasive Exotic Feral Pig Presence in the Davis Mountains of Texas. (February 2024).

Statewide Quail Symposium – Quail Coalition & Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation, Abilene, TX. M.A. Vaughn, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Montezuma quail Habitat Preference as an Indicator for Invasive Exotic Feral Pig Presence in the Davis Mountains of Texas. (August 2023).

Christmas Mountains Symposium, Terlingua, TX. M.A. Ressler, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Montezuma quail Habitat Preference as an Indicator for Invasive Exotic Feral Pig Presence in the Davis Mountains of Texas. (May 2023).

SRSU Undergraduate and Graduate Research Symposium, Alpine, TX. M.A. Ressler, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Correlation Among Demographic Rates and The Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas. (April 2023).

The Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Meeting, Houston, TX, M.A. Ressler, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Correlation Among Demographic Rates and The Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas. (February 2023).

Purple Martin Day, Texas Tech's Llano River Field Station, Junction, TX. M.A. Ressler, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Current Research on Montezuma quail: Correlation Among Demographic Rates and The Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas // Montezuma quail Habitat Preference as an Indicator for Feral Hog Disturbance and Presence. (July 2022)

Open Day, Davis Mountains Preserve, The Nature Conservancy. M.A. Ressler. Educational Program: "What's That Sound" & Current Research on Montezuma quail. (June 2022).

SRSU Undergraduate and Graduate Research Symposium, Alpine, TX. M.A. Ressler, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Correlation Among Demographic Rates and The Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas. (April 2022).

The Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Meeting, Marble Falls, TX. M.A. Ressler, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna. Correlation Among Demographic Rates and The Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas. (February 2022).

SCIENTIFIC AND POPULAR ARTICLE PUBLICATIONS

PUBLISHED

M.A. Ressler, R. Luna, J. French. Predicting Habitat Overlap between Montezuma Quail and Feral Pigs in the Davis Mountains of West Texas. Texas Wildlife Association Magazine. July 2023.

Borderlands Buzz (podcast) - episode #9. Dr. Ryan Luna, Maya Ressler, and Jay Stine. Borderlands Research Institute. May 2023.

IN PROGRESS

M.A. Vaughn, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna (In Preparation). Correlation Among Demographic Rates and The Influence of Catastrophic Weather Events on Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos of Texas. Ecological Modeling.

M.A. Vaughn, J. French, F. Hernandez, R. Luna (In Preparation). Montezuma quail Habitat Preference as an Indicator for Feral Hog Disturbance and Presence. Journal of Wildlife Management.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER, Sul Ross State University Annual Student Research Symposium 2023 – Current
Sul Ross State University

- Manage and analyze submission data for student presentations, tracking trends across departments, presentation formats, and participation metrics
- Maintain and troubleshoot the online submission system, ensuring smooth operation and accurate data collection
- Coordinate communications between students and faculty to verify presentation details and assist with scheduling
- Support the committee chair in event planning, logistical organization, and operational problem-solving

MENTOR, Borderlands Undergraduate Mentorship Program (BUMP) 2020 – 2022
Borderlands Research Institute - Sul Ross State University

- Mentored and supervised an undergraduate mentee by assisting in subordinate project from graduate thesis
- Guided mentee through project development and presentation guidelines
- Taught field techniques, data analysis, and data entry to fulfill project goals

VICE PRESIDENT, Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society 2019 – 2020
Texas State University

- Created outreach events for public education
- Organized guest speakers for chapter meetings
- Lead society bi-weekly chapter meetings
- Organized Annual Skeet Shooting Competition Fundraiser

STUDENT RESEARCH LIAISON, Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Texas State University

2019

- Created networking possibilities between professors, graduate students, and undergraduates
- Assisted in fostering professional relationships for undergraduate members
- Regulated job board and posted internship positions for members
- Served as an advisor for student research opportunities

SECRETARY, Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Texas State University

2017 – 2018

- Documented minutes for chapter and officer meetings
- Organized Annual Skeet Shooting Competition Fundraiser
- Recorded member attendance and event statistics for over 100 members
- Organized society outreach and habitat restoration events
- Regulated school and society website for student utilization

ACHIEVEMENTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2023	PPOHA Title V Grant Summer Fellowship – Sul Ross State University PPOHA Title V Grant Spring Fellowship – Sul Ross State University
2022	Outstanding Graduate Student in Wildlife Management Award – Sul Ross State University Dan L. Duncan Houston Safari Club Foundation Scholarship West Texas Chapter of Safari Club International Endowed Scholarship PPOHA Title V Grant Fall Fellowship – Sul Ross State University PPOHA Title V Grant Summer Fellowship – Sul Ross State University
2021	Virginia Matthews Law Scholarship A. J. Bierschwale Memorial Scholarship

FIELDWORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Mar 2025	Mule Deer and Aoudad Capture and Collaring – MAM Project Justin French, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Presidio County
Mar 2023	Mule Deer and Aoudad Capture and Collaring – MAM Project Justin French, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Presidio County
June 2022	Texas horned lizard Roadside Surveys Rachael Connally, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Natural Resource Specialist – Presidio County, Marfa, TX
Jun	Urban Dove Surveys

2022	Rachael Connally, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Natural Resource Specialist – Presidio County, Marfa, TX
Jun 2022	Black Bear Exclusion Fence Project Austin Bohannon, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Natural Resource Specialist – Brewster County, Alpine, TX
May 2022	Bighorn Sheep and Aoudad GPS Collar and Game Camera Retrieval Jason Crosby & Olivia Gray, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Lado Ranch, Van Horn, TX
Feb 2022	Mule Deer Capture – Annual Antler Development Project Carlos Gonzales, Ph.D., Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Alpine, TX
Jan 2022	Mule Deer Spotlight Surveys – Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area Cody McEntire, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Sierra Diablo WMA, Van Horn, TX
Dec 2021	Rio Grande Turkey Translocation Project Ryan Luna, Ph.D., Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Quail, TX
Dec 2021	Mule Deer Spotlight Surveys – Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area Josh Cross, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Sierra Diablo WMA, Van Horn, TX
Sept 2021	Vegetation Surveys – Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area Josh Cross, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Sierra Diablo WMA, Van Horn, TX
Jun 2021	Summer Bird Surveys – Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area Josh Cross, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Sierra Diablo WMA, Van Horn, TX
(Various) 2021–2022	Scaled Quail Night Captures Brooke Bowman, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Crane, TX
Jun 2021	Bighorn Sheep and Aoudad GPS Collar Retrieval Olivia Gray, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Lado Ranch, Van Horn, TX
Feb 2021	Desert Bighorn Sheep, Mule Deer, and Aoudad Fecal and Diet Sample Collection Olivia Gray, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Lado Ranch, Van Horn, TX
Mar 2020	Texas Bighorn Society Work Project Texas Bighorn Society & Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Black Gap WMA, Alpine, TX
Mar 2020	Trans-Pecos Grassland Bird Capture Alejandro Chávez Treviño, Borderlands Research Institute, Sul Ross University, Marfa, TX
Dec	Desert Bighorn Capture 2019

2019	Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., Elephant Mountain WMA, Alpine, TX
Dec 2019	Kerr Wildlife Management Area White-tailed Deer Culling and Data Collection Butch Weckerly, Ph.D., Texas State University, Kerr WMA, Kerr County, TX
Nov 2016 – 2019	Annual White-tailed Deer Capture Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute & Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Apr 2019	Spotted Skunk Surveys Sarah Fritts, Ph.D., Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
Spring 2018 – 2020	Cornell Nest Watch Surveys Rebekah Rylander, Ph.D., Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
Spring 2018	Native Mussel sampling and PITT tagging Timothy Bonner, Ph.D., Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

RELEVANT SKILLS

TECHNICAL SKILLS & PROGRAMS: R, LaTeX, Markdown, ArcGIS Pro, PostgreSQL, Microsoft and Adobe software packages

FIELD SKILLS: UTV operation, Heavy machinery operation, 4x4 operation, general ranch work and fencing, Mist-net operation, Sherman® trapping, Tomahawk® trapping; Competence in using topographic maps, compass, and GPS units; Skilled and experienced in hiking and backpacking over rough terrain in Chihuahuan desert region