



ANNUAL REPORT

2024



Established in 2019, the **BORDERLANDS RESEARCH FOUNDATION** provides philanthropic support for the ongoing conservation work of the Borderlands Research Institute at Sul Ross State University.

Our mission is to support the Borderlands Research Institute by advancing the understanding, appreciation, and conservation of the Chihuahuan Desert Borderlands through scientific investigations, student training, and sharing information with stakeholders.



Borderlands Research Foundation Leadership

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Letter from Leadership



2024 was a major milestone for the Borderlands Research Foundation (BRF), as we celebrated our 5-year anniversary as the nonprofit arm of the Borderlands Research Institute at Sul Ross State University. Since being chartered in 2019, BRF has proudly supported BRI's conservation mission, which is brought to life through its diverse research, education, and outreach programs.

In addition to celebrating our 5-year anniversary, we also celebrated our dear friend, John B. Poindexter and his beloved Cibolo Creek Ranch as our 2024 West Texas Conservationist of the Year. As a founding member of our Advisory Board for the Borderlands Research Institute, John has demonstrated his tireless commitment to the cultural, historical, and natural resources of West Texas.

The West Texas Conservationist of the Year celebration continues to be a critical fundraising event for the Foundation, generating operational support and scholarship funds for our graduate students at the Borderlands Research Institute. In addition to providing transparent fiscal reporting, our 2024 Annual Report acknowledges our many supporters, donors, and partners who bolster the Borderlands Research Foundation.

On behalf of our Board of Directors of the Borderlands Research Foundation, and the students, staff, faculty and Advisory Board at the Borderlands Research Institute, we would like to thank you for your continued support of the Borderlands Research Foundation!

Charles M. Davidson *L A Harveson*

Charles M. Davidson
President

Louis A. Harveson, Ph.D.
Dan Allen Hughes, Jr., Endowed Director

WORDS of THANKS

*From the next generation
of wildlife conservationists,
biologists and educators*



“ It is truly an honor to work alongside so many talented and dedicated students who are doing incredible projects to further our knowledge in science and conservation. ”

**Emily Blumentritt, graduate student,
grassland birds**

“ I would like to say thank you so much for your support, I appreciate what you are doing for students like me, who have goals to achieve and a passion for the conservation of natural resources. The impact you are having in our lives is more than a payment for a tuition fee; your support is allowing us to continue with our objectives and make a positive difference in our future careers. ”

**Andrés Solorio Pulido, graduate student,
habitat restoration**



“ BRI successfully prepares students for becoming wildlife professionals and conservationists and I am honored to be a part of this team. ”

**Nicole Dickan, graduate student,
black bears**





“As a student passionate about conservation, your contribution has not only eased the financial burden of my education but has also encouraged me to continue striving toward my professional goals. Knowing that there are people who believe in my potential gives me the confidence to pursue my passion.”

Asia Cornelius, graduate student, mycorrhizal dynamics in grazed ecosystems



“The opportunities and experiences I have had at BRI have been invaluable not only to my education but personally as well. My passion for this work is something I hold firmly, and I am indebted to those who have helped turn my dreams into reality.”

Halli Lovell, graduate student, pronghorn



“Receiving this scholarship alleviated some of the burden of paying my graduate school tuition and allowed me more time to focus on my research. Opportunities like this are truly impactful and allow students like me to accomplish their goals.”

Elle Sutherland, graduate student, desert bighorn sheep





WEST TEXAS CONSERVATIONIST ★ OF THE YEAR ★ 2024

The Borderlands Research Foundation was proud to honor Cibolo Creek Ranch and John B. Poindexter as our recipient of the West Texas Conservationist of the Year award for 2024.

This award honors visionary conservationists who are making a positive impact that will be felt for generations.

John B. Poindexter, whose Texas lineage spans three generations, has dedicated much of his later life to the conservation and restoration of the natural and historical tapestry of West Texas. As the steward of Cibolo Creek Ranch, a sprawling 30,000-acre expanse in the Big Bend region, John has not only preserved the land's ecological integrity but also its historical soul. Under his watchful care, the ranch has become a sanctuary for both wildlife and history, meriting three entries in the National Register of Historic Places and receiving five Texas State Historical markers. The ranch's restored adobe forts, dating from the 1850s, have garnered national and state awards for their architecture and stand as testaments to the careful balance between modern oversight and historical authenticity.

His engagement with the natural environment is further demonstrated through the John B. Poindexter Endowed Fund for Desert Quail Research, established with the Borderlands Research Institute, to deepen the understanding and ensure the conservation of this iconic species on the Texas landscape.

As a conservationist, historian, and author, John B. Poindexter stands as a paragon of environmental stewardship and historical preservation. His commitment to safeguarding the scenic beauty and cultural integrity of West Texas rightfully honors him with the distinction of "West Texas Conservationist of the Year." His visionary approach ensures that the natural splendor and storied past of these lands will be treasured forever.

2024 Borderlands Research Foundation Contributors

Borderlands Research Foundation is grateful for the generosity of our donors.

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2024 Financials

Borderlands Research Foundation Statement of Financial Position - December 31, 2024

ASSETS

Cash	360,143
Investments	7,066,178
Accrued Interest	27,535
Fixed Assets	3,701
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 7,457,557

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	-
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restriction	516,323
With Donor Restriction	6,833,384
Scholarship Restricted	107,850
Total Net Assets	7,457,557
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 7,457,557

Statement of Financial Activity - December 31, 2024

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Restricted Scholarship	Total
INCOME				
Contributions	555,200	180,107	117,850	853,157
Investment Earnings (Net)	-	1,028,315		1,028,315
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 555,200	\$ 1,208,422	\$ 117,850	\$ 1,881,472
EXPENSES				
Program	100,000	511,424	10,000	621,424
Support Services				
Management & General	53,664	37,958		91,622
Fundraising	187,663	-		187,663
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 341,327	549,382	10,000	\$ 900,709
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	213,327	659,040	107,850	980,763
BEGINNING NET ASSET BALANCE	302,450	6,174,344	-	6,476,794
ENDING NET ASSET BALANCE	\$ 516,323	\$ 6,833,384	\$ 107,850	\$ 7,457,557

2024 EXPENSES

Program	69%	
Management & General	10%	
Fundraising	21%	

These Financial Statements are unaudited.

Named Gifts and Endowments

Endowments generate income for Borderlands Research Institute in perpetuity. They are managed at no cost to the Institute by Borderlands Research Foundation. The interest from the endowments is invested to bolster the programs and research of the Institute. We are forever grateful for this support that will impact future generations of researchers and students.

Dan Allen Hughes, Jr., Endowed Director of Borderlands Research Institute

Donors: Peggy and Dan Allen Hughes, Jr.

Provides ongoing support for the director of the Borderlands Research Institute.

James A. "Buddy" Davidson Charitable Foundation Endowed Chair for Conservation Biology

Donor: James A. "Buddy" Davidson

Charitable Foundation

Supports a program leader, spokesperson, and chief strategist for the Conservation Biology Program.

Nau Endowed Chair in Habitat Research and Management

Donor: Nau Foundation

Provides operational support for the development and implementation of the Habitat Management Program within Borderlands Research Institute.

Kelly R. Thompson Professor in Quail Research

Donor: Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation

Provides underpinning for the development and support of the Quail Research Program through the establishment of a professorship in quail research.

John B. Poindexter Endowed Fellowship in Quail Research

Donor: John B. Poindexter and friends

Supports the development and growth of the Quail Research Program through the establishment of a graduate student fellowship.

Victoria and Parker Johnson Endowed Fellowship for Big Game Research

Donor: John L. Nau, III

Provides program support for a graduate student focused on Big Game Research.

Wes and Victoria Bannister Operating Endowment for Borderlands Research Institute

Donor: The Bannister Family

Honors the memories of West Texas naturalists Wes and Victoria Bannister and provides critical funding for general operations.

Virginia Matthews Law Endowed Scholarship

Donor: Family of Virginia Matthews Law

Honors the family of the historical West Texas Kincaid Ranch by offering scholarships that expand knowledge for landowners through research, education, and outreach.

Franklin and Virginia Law Endowed Scholarship

Donor: Family of Franklin and Virginia Law

Honors the family legacy of Franklin and Virginia Law by offering scholarships that expand knowledge for landowners through research, education, and outreach.

Wayne and JoAnn Moore Endowed Scholarship

Donor: The Wayne and JoAnn Moore

Charitable Foundation

Recognizes the worthwhile endeavors of the Borderlands Research Institute by offering an annual scholarship.

West Texas Chapter of Safari Club International Endowed Scholarship

Donor: West Texas Chapter of Safari Club International

Supports the scholarship of a student focused on Wildlife Management.

Borderlands Research Foundation Graduate Student Scholarship Fund

Donor: Friends of Borderlands Research Foundation

Provides scholarship funds for graduate students at Borderlands Research Institute.

Borderlands Research Foundation facilitated \$68,500 in scholarships in 2024, assisting over 16 students at Sul Ross State University.



Front left to right: Hayley Shultz, Audrey Taulli, Eliana Dykehouse, Asia Cornelius, Emily Blumentritt, Jesse Ellgren

Back left to right: David Tønnessen, Andres Solorio Pulido, Andrew Dotray, Hailey Barton, Nicole Dickan, Ty Goodwin, Elle Sutherland, Gray Hancock, Eduardo Santoya, Jon Lomas

Wes and Victoria Bannister Scholarship

Hailey Barton
Eliana Dykehouse
Ty Goodwin

**Franklin and Virginia
Law Endowed Scholarship**

Emily Blumentritt
Audrey Taulli

**Linda and Curtis Neeley Scholarship
(through the Permian Basin Area
Foundation)**

Jon Lomas
Eduardo Santoya

**Borderlands Research Foundation
Graduate Student Scholarship**

Hailey Barton
Asia Cornelius
Nicole Dickan
Andrew Dotray
Jesse Ellgren
Gray Hancock
Aaron Ortega Gonzalez
Andres Solorio Pulido
Audrey Taulli
David Tønnessen

**Virginia Matthews
Law Endowed Scholarship**

Emily Blumentritt
Caleb Hughes

**West Texas Chapter of Safari Club
International Endowed Scholarship**

Elle Sutherland

**Wayne and JoAnn Moore
Endowed Scholarship**

Andrew Dotray
Ty Goodwin
Gray Hancock
Hayley Shultz



Join us in supporting the work of the Borderlands Research Institute to advance our understanding, appreciation, and conservation of the vast landscapes and iconic wildlife of the Chihuahuan Desert Borderlands.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the Borderlands Research Foundation through the QR code below or online at BorderlandsResearchFoundation.org.

