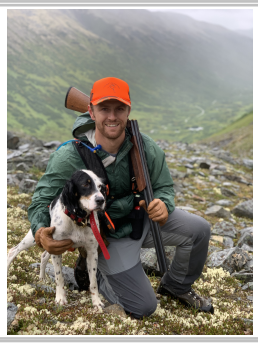
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Davis College
Natural Resources Management™

nrm@ttu.edu
www.depts.ttu.edu/nrm
(806) 742-2841
PO Box 42125
Lubbock, TX 79409-2125



Student Name:

Degree Sought: PhD in Wildlife, Aquatic, and Wildlands Science and Management

Specialty: Upland Game Bird Ecology and Management

Hometown, State/Country: Krum, Texas

Research Interests or Projects:

Growing up in a rural Texas town, Trey was exposed to the outdoors, wildlife, and hunting at a young age. These experiences would eventually direct him to the wildlife management field when he transferred into the Wildlife and Fisheriese Sciences major at Texas A&M University (TAMU) in 2015. For the next 2 years, Trey worked as a research technician where he trapped and tracked northern bobwhite on the gulf coast prairies of Texas. After graduating from TAMU in 2017, Trey worked as a technician on numerous upland game bird research projects across the country; species including greater sage-grouse in Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Utah, and northern bobwhite and scaled quail in Texas. His M.S. thesis research project at Sul Ross State University investigated the parasite communities of scaled, Gambel's, and Montezuma quail in the Trans-Pecos ecoregion of Texas. Trey is 3 three years into his PhD at Texas Tech - the ultimate goal of the project is to restore a wild northern bobwhite population in eastern Texas via translocation following intensive habitat restoration and management.

After earning his PhD, Trey aims to continue upland game bird research as a research scientist; he is interested in research that helps further our knowledge of upland game birds and that has strong management implications towards the conservation of those species. From the perspective of a biologist, he finds it important to conserve game birds simply for their existence value and more complexly, because he understands that bird hunting has cultural and economic significance to many regions of the country. Being an avid upland game bird hunter, Trey finds something especially fulfilling about a long walk through the uplands behind a good bird dog. That feeling, however, would be lost without game birds. As Aldo Leopold stated, “the autumn landscape in the north woods is the land, plus a red maple, plus a ruffed grouse. In terms of conventional physics, the grouse represents only a millionth of either the mass or the energy of an acre. Yet subtract the grouse and the whole thing is dead.”

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
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