

Megan Stovall



Name: Megan Stovall

Hometown: Socorro, NM

School: New Mexico State University

Major: MS in Plant and Environmental Sciences

Exp. Graduation Date: Spring 2019

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About Yourself:

Hi, my name is Megan Stovall and I am a graduate student from New Mexico State University's main campus. My work involves exploring some of the distribution characteristics and ecosystem services provided by biological soil crust in dryland systems. I am native to New Mexico and I have always loved spending time outdoors. I am passionate about the management of dryland soils, the relationships between vascular plants and soil microorganisms, teaching, and learning.

Skills:

- Light microscopy
- Isolation and maintenance of algal cultures
- Monitoring and surveying of vegetation and biological soil crust communities
- PCR and gel electrophoresis
- Basic skills in R statistical software
- Soil physical and chemical analysis and characterization
- Works well in teamwork and leadership scenarios

Career Experiences:

I have been fortunate enough to gain a wide range of experience from agency work through the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and National Park Service as well as a number of different research opportunities. Most recently, I have been working on a number of different projects aiming to characterize biological soil crust communities in different ecosystems and the consequences of leaving out these characterizations from rangeland monitoring.

Accomplishments/ Clubs/ other:

- NRCT member
- Bachelors of Agriculture in Soils Science (2015)
- NMSU Crimson Scholar
- Dean's List (2014-2015)
- Dean's Award of Excellence (2015)
- Psychological Society of American member
- Native Plant Society member

Plans after Graduation:

After finishing my master's degree, I hope to continue my education and work towards a PhD in hopes to be able to continue working as a researcher as well as an instructor.