

# Cynthia Mendez



Name: Cynthia Mendez

Hometown: El Paso, Texas

School: New Mexico State University

Major: *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Ecology and Range Sciences*

Exp. Graduation Date: December 2021

Email: cynmen@nmsu.edu

## About Yourself:

I have always had a passion for animals and their wellbeing, as well as the natural environment. I have several pets (3 dogs, 2 cats, a bearded dragon, 3 frogs and a few fish). I enjoy being outdoors and working alongside animals. My love and respect of the outdoors has been instilled into my two children, whom I love very much. I hope to set an example, as I am the first generation college student in our family, and that they follow in my steps to pursue an academic career that leads them to make changes in this world.

## Career Experiences:

My career experiences include working with Second Chance Wildlife Rescue that intakes wildlife to rehabilitate them to be released back into the wild. I worked with a graduate student in his research with ant ecology and species considered as pests. I have also worked two summers with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), a government agency under the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). NRCS helps private landowners to properly use and sustain their land while conserving their natural resources. I also work alongside a Pedologists, Dr. Colby Brungard, in digitizing legacy soil data from National Park Services.

## Skills:

Bilingual: English and Spanish

Communication: 10+ years of customer service/relations

Off-road driving: trucks, atv, utv

Firearm certified

Light automotive mechanics

Light Construction work: power and hand tools

Leadership

Computer Efficiency: Microsoft programs, Statistical Programs, GIS programs

## Accomplishments/ Clubs/ other:

Natural Resource Career Tracks (NRCT)

Natural Resource Career Development Program (NRCDP)

Range Club (Secretary, 2020-2021)

Second Chance Wildlife Rescue (Supervisor/Trainer of volunteers)

## Plans after Graduation:

Continue to work for NRCS and help in conservation services to the best of my ability. I want to become confident in my ability to manage rangelands and conservation efforts to hopefully one day do large scale wildlife habitat restoration.