

# Catie Porro



Name: Catie Porro

Hometown: Richmond, VA

School: New Mexico State University

Major: Wildlife Science

Exp. Graduation Date: December 2017

Email: porrocm@nmsu.edu

## About Yourself:

I received my B.S in Biology from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2013. I am currently pursuing a M.S with my thesis research on burrowing owl nesting phenology in relation to climate patterns. I am passionate about wildlife, conservation, and science. When not occupied by studies I love being outdoors in general by hiking, birding, and biking; or at home doing yoga, reading, playing guitar, and gardening. I am pleased to be a part of the NRCT program!

## Career Experiences:

My previous experiences have taken me to forest, riverine, island, desert and grassland environments where I worked on various bird surveying projects. I have worked for Audubon Society, Institute for Bird Population Studies, and VCU. I began by assisting others, quickly gaining more expertise, and am now excited to be leading my own research and analyses for my master's project. Through this project I am also gaining experience in teaching, proposal and report writing, public presentations, and attending conferences.

## Plans after Graduation:

My career goals are centered on conservation biology and wildlife management, specifically relating to bird species and community ecology. As a wildlife biologist, I plan to lead field research within an organization focused on ecological conservation. This may be in a government or NGO setting. Since arriving in New Mexico, my interests have been heightened in the southwest and I will likely pursue research efforts within this region.

## Skills:

Field: Nest searching, breeding surveys, operating two-door traps, bird banding, morphological measurements, operating nest cameras and peeper probes, mist netting, bird ID, feather extraction, song recording, behavioral observations, habitat assessment, vegetation surveys, arthropod abundance surveys, GPS and map navigation, 4WD, backcountry camping  
Lab: DNA extraction, PCR, PAGE gel electrophoresis  
Computer Software: Microsoft office, R, ArcGIS

## Accomplishments/ Clubs/ other:

### Memberships:

American Ornithologist Union  
The Wildlife Society  
Wilson Ornithological Association

### Awards:

New Mexico Ornithological Society Research Grant, 2015  
T& E Inc., Grant for Conservation Biology Research, 2015 & 2016