

11. Holistic Grazing Business Model

Mentors: [Robin Young](#), [Paul Evangelista](#), [Ethan Proud](#)

Location: Archuleta County

Extension Mentor and Application Contact Information

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Internship goals, scope, and objectives. The primary goal is to acquire an understanding of how holistic grazing increases land health while decreasing invasive plants, and create a business model for land managers and entrepreneurs. The scope of the work will include business planning such as market research, creating budgets, and networking; goat management including herding and care; land stewardship including plant identification and inventory, and research seed viability of ruminant digested seed; and facilitate a grazing school to educate land managers and hopeful entrepreneurs. The objective is to gain hands on experience with business, herdsmanship, and land management. This position will require physical labor and the participant will need to feel comfortable working with goats. Student should have an interest in livestock and land improvement practices, and agriculture economics and business.

PRU's include Livestock and Range, Natural Resources, Community Development. It is a common goal within the Natural Resources and Livestock and Range PRU's to find effective ways to manage noxious weeds, reduce fuels for fire mitigation, and steward lands in a resilient way. Community Development activities include building economic health through viable businesses.

Student outcomes and Professional Development Opportunities. The student will learn business skills along with herd and land management. The professional development opportunities will be to work with Extension to facilitate a grazing school, and develop a business model that can be applied to those attending the grazing school. This opportunity will also provide the opportunity to work closely with the Extension agent and community partners. Another internship within Archuleta County is being proposed and if accepted, could provide a cooperative learning experience.

Mentorship. Robin has served as a mentor in CSUE for new hires and students for the last 10 years, sharing knowledge and experience to enrich their professional journey. Robin's mentorship style is to be a resource, a support, a sounding board, and a guide to accomplish goals. Paul has a long history of mentorship that ranges from on-the-ground training of wildlife professionals in East Africa to developing satellite remote sensing skills for natural resource managers for NASA's DEVELOP Program. He works with ranches across Colorado and New Mexico, and leads Colorado State University's new Western Ranch Management and Ecosystem

Stewardship Program. Ethan has mentoring experience ranging from supervising a crew of seasonal technicians and teaching them job related skills that transfer to other aspects of life as well as taking out Navajo State Park interns to collect biological controls.

This student will work in Archuleta County.

Housing will be provided and travel funds can be supplemented.