

31. Designing new, more effective education materials for Range Management and Soil Health

Mentors: [Annie Overlin](#), [Kevin Jablonski](#)

Location: Fort Collins (with travel to Peaks and Plains Region)

Extension mentor and application contact information

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In what region will the student be working (county/region/state)? Peaks and Plains Region

In less than 150 words, please describe the proposed internship goals, scope, and objectives.

The goal of this internship is to assist in the creation of communication materials to deliver relevant science to ranchers and range managers in the region. This will begin with 2-3 weeks of field work with the Extension Range Specialist to identify needs, followed by campus-based research synthesis and materials design. There is the potential to help design and apply novel and more effective methods of communicating science to practitioners. The intern will be introduced to the job expectations and skills needed to be a successful Extension Specialist in Range Management, Ranch Planning, and Research, and should have a strong background or interest in rangelands, research, and marketing. The intern may also work with Agronomists, Water Specialists, County Agents, and researchers on campus and at USDA-ARS. The intern will create educational materials that will be immediately used by extension agents and ranchers, with the potential for significant impact.

Which PRU activities are included in the scope of this internship?

Livestock and range

What student learning outcomes do you anticipate and are there opportunities for professional development? The intern will gain knowledge in planning, organizing, delivering, and evaluating Extension programs for rangeland managers and producers. They will also gain skills to interact with producers, listen to their research needs and schedules, and design useful materials for their lifestyle and operation. The intern will have the opportunity to participate in field research with research agronomists and range specialists. Depending on when the intern is available, he/she may be involved in program delivery.

How does this internship support identified stakeholder needs in your county/region? We have a need for updated peer reviewed education materials including both video and printed materials.

Are there on-going connections with CSU faculty associated with this project, or is there identified faculty interest? Kevin Jablonski (staff) will lead the on-campus portion of the project, with other faculty engaged from disciplines relevant to the identified needs.

Are travel funds available?

Travel expenses for 2-3 weeks in the field will be covered.

Opportunities to provide student assistance with housing? Housing is available in southern Colorado both at Rocky Ford experimental station and Range Specialists farm. For the majority of the internship, the intern will be based in Fort Collins.