

**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary**

Task Agreement #: L20AC00166

Project Title: WY Swift Fox Investigations

Discipline: Natural

Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Research

Funding Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Wyoming

Student Participation:

Effective Dates: 09/22/2020 - 09/30/2025

Funding Amount: \$522,930.41

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Investigator: Joseph, Holbrook, holbrook@uwo.edu

Project Abstract:

Project goals: Study herein is aimed at advancing the state of understanding associated with swift fox habitat ecology, diet, and reproductive output in Wyoming, while simultaneously generating numerous spatial products to aid in land management decision-making. Main goal is to improve the understanding of swift fox ecology in unconventional habitats. To accomplish this, they are proposing to examine the habitat ecology of swift fox in both unconventional and conventional habitats, with conventional habitats serving as a reference. In the absence of a comparison, it would be difficult to establish the differences and similarities in quality and quantity of swift fox habitat between conventional and recently colonized locations. Our unconventional study area will be in close proximity to Lander, Wyoming, while our conventional study area will likely near Medicine Bow, Wyoming. By coupling habitat ecology and reproductive output, we will be able to evaluate habitat-fitness relationships of swift fox, which is the scientific gold-standard for identifying essential habitat attributes that can be used in land management decision-making.