

Growing up in Valley Center, I have always had an appreciation for plants and animals. I grew up playing and working on our small family farm, participating in 4H and FFA, and enjoying the outdoors. I am an active member in both 4H and FFA and my passion is showing cattle and helping others with their cattle. I help with grooming, hair care, and showmanship. I not only show livestock but I'm also involved in sports. I play volleyball, and waterpolo. I also have been working at a local feed store, and I share my knowledge of diets and nutrition for livestock there. These experiences have guided me towards the choice of a career in Natural Resource/Conservation Law Enforcement.

After high school I will attend South Dakota State University and will major in Natural Resource Law Enforcement with a minor in Wildlife & Fisheries Science. The reason I want to study these areas is because I would like to serve as a Conservation Officer. This is my dream career because Natural Resource/Conservation Officers get to help both the environment and the people.

I want to be able to make a difference in this world. It is my goal to help protect wildlife and preserve their habitats. I want to be able to restore and protect the land and environment these animals thrive on. Without a good place for animals to live, there would be no wildlife. I really enjoy being out in nature and believe this career path is a way to fuse my interests with my career. I look forward to studying at South Dakota State and to the day when I get to start protecting wildlife, and their habitats. Being awarded the Don Diego/Zable Foundation Scholarship would be a great honor and would help me as I work to further my education and to achieve my goals.