

**Measuring
plants is an
important task
every summer
in the
Alvord Basin.**

**Miku Gleason,
2005**



Mapping the perennial plants, 2003



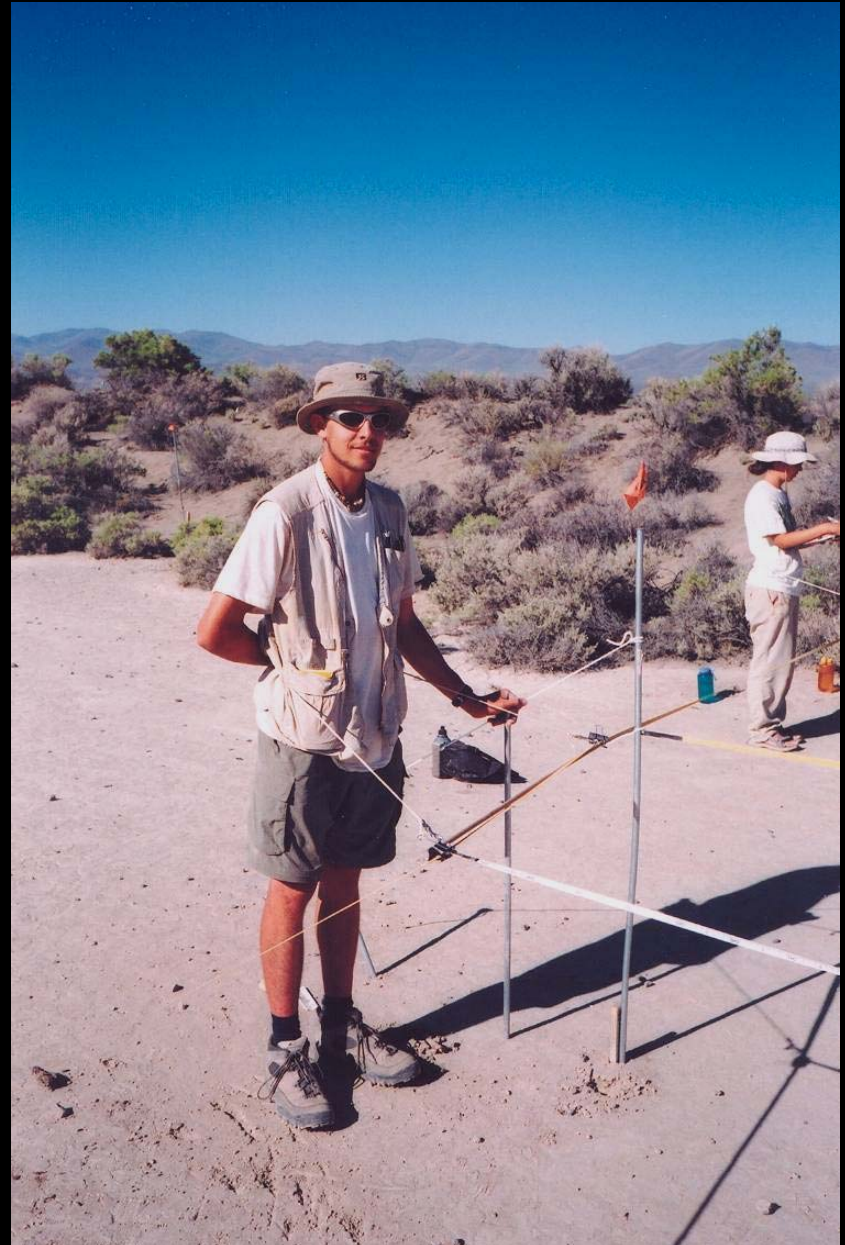
**Nicole Addington, Eric Hoyle, and Jesse Johnson
scribing, mapping, and measuring shrubs on the dune**



Alex Huron & Brian Levenhagen measuring, Maia Schramm mapping, and Erick Kwan & Erin Wigge scribing



Nicole Addington & David Ramseyer holding tapes straight and scribing, 2003



Corner poles and meter tape attachment methods



**Dune x Hardpan
edge, set up for
mapping**



**Last one to
touch the tape
rolls it up.
Frazier Coe,
2004**



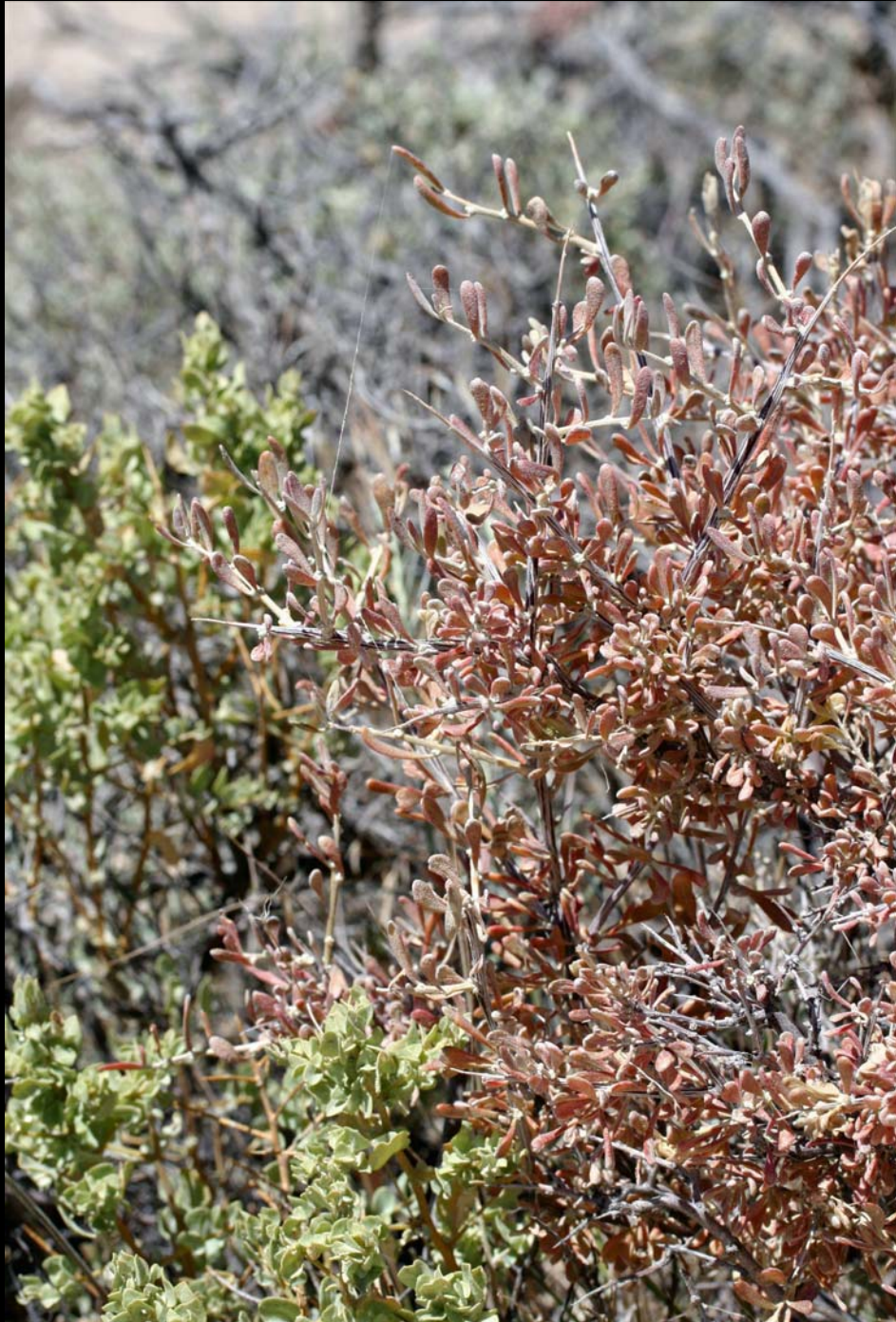
**Dune mapping
is more difficult
than mapping
the other two
mesohabitats**



**Unlike this 4-winged
saltbush,
many perennials
are not in flower when
we are on site.
And in dry years,
some of the shrubs
have lost their leaves,
making identification
more challenging.**



**And sometimes
leaves are red
rather than green,
further confusing
students**



Young shrubs are included in our maps



***Artemisia tridentata* (ARTR), Basin Big Sage,
is abundant on the study site**



Some of the larger ARTR clumps are multi-stemmed and vigorous



ARTR can be long-lived and have a tree-like visage



Some ARTR are mostly deadwood



Younger ARTR typically are more
hemispherically shaped shrubs



Artemisia tridentata
(ARTR)

**Note the
tri-lobed leaf tips,
hence the name,
*A. tridentata***



**ARTR are not
common on
hardpan**

**Note the shadow
pattern**



***Sarcobatus vermiculatus* (SAVE), Greasewood,
at the edge of hardpan, near a dune**



Although most SAVE have many branches near the ground, this one is easy for lizards to walk under



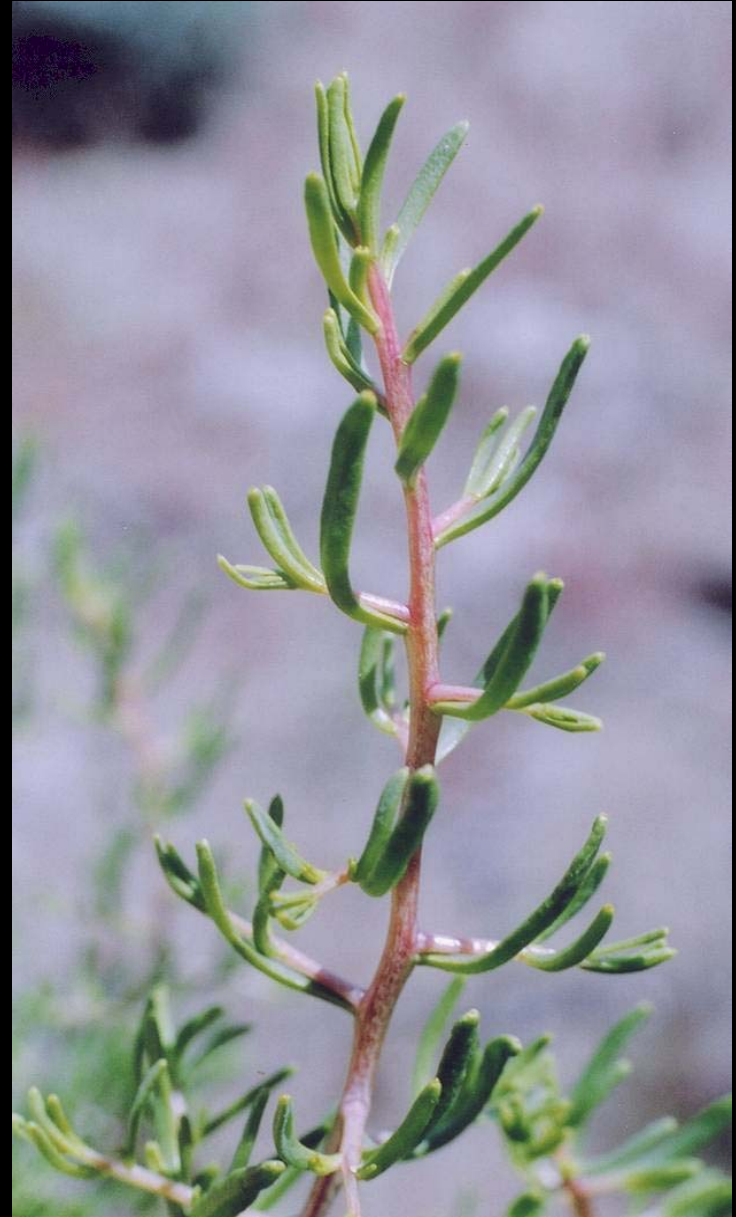
**Even the young SAVE shrubs provide
dense shade for small animals**



Sometimes some leaves of SAVE are reddened



Closer views of SAVE



**Young
ARTR
are not
abundant**



Ericameria viscidiflora
(ERVI)
Green Rabbitbrush

**(you can enlarge this view to
see flowers and leaves better)**



Ericameria nauseous (ERNA), Gray Rabbitbrush



This appears to be an ERNA in flower



***Atriplex canescens* (ATCA), 4-winged saltbush**



***Atriplex confertifolia* (ATCO), Shadscale**



ATCO, Shadscale is profusely spiny



Artemisia spinescens (ARSP)

Bud Sage



Tetradymia spinosa (TESP) Cat Claw Horsebrush



Tetradymia glabrata

(TEGL)

Little Leaf Horsebrush



**Grayia spinosa
(GRSP),
Spiny Hopsage**



Leymus cinereus
(LECI)
Great Basin Wild Rye



**Acantherium hymenoides
(ACHY),
Indian Rice Grass**



**Wildflowers
and
butterflies
are common
in early June,
and they may be
gone from the basin
by late June.**

**But they are
abundant on the
nearby mountains
throughout the
summer**



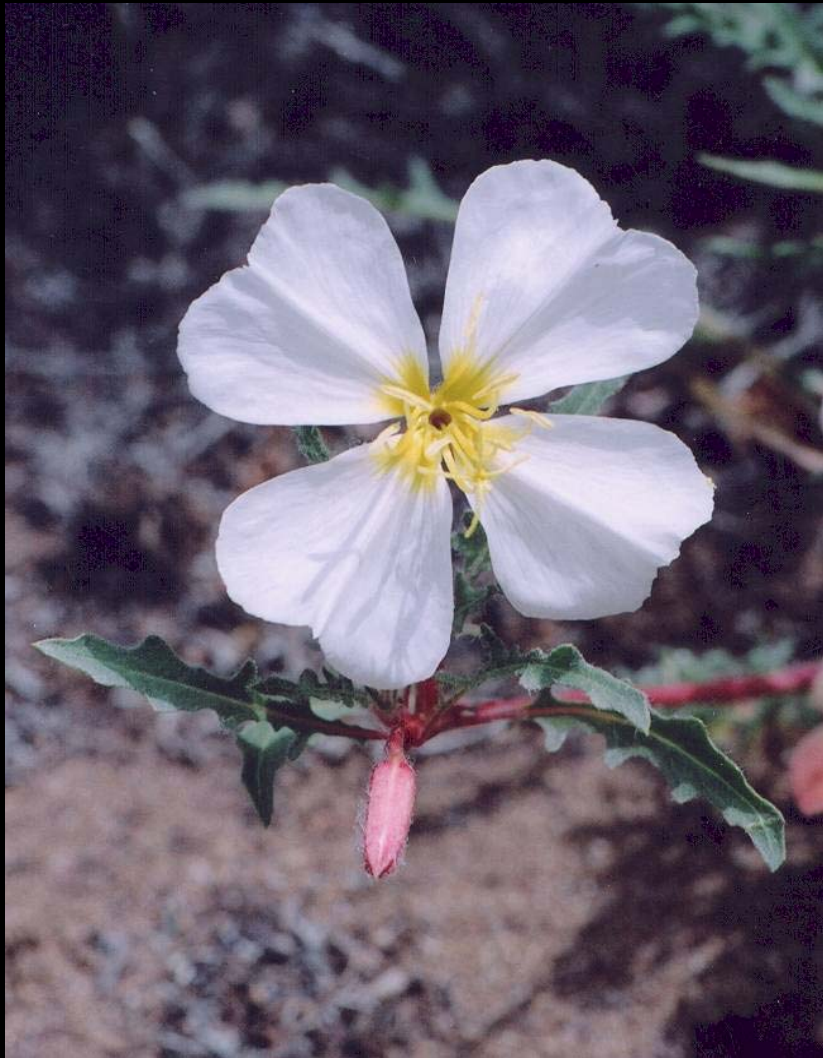
Snowmelt & early spring showers bring late spring flowers



Fungus & Moss in the Alvord Basin



**This is a common herb when we
arrive on site in late June**



A parasitic plant!



**If herbaceous spring plants are abundant,
then the insects thrive,
and so do the lizards.**

