

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

A new range conservationist trainee began working at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recently. Sara Walker will train for a year in Imperial, and will then be relocated within the NRCS.

The 22-year-old will help ranchers improve their rangeland by creating grazing plans, setting stocking rates and eliminating noxious weeds.

She graduated from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces in May with a Bachelor of Agriculture degree in animal science.

Walker was recruited by the NRCS while in college. She spent summers in Chadron and Lexington with the program in expectation of working for the NRCS following graduation.

Her parents live in Carlsbad, N.M., where she grew up. Her father's family farms and her mother's family ranches.

Walker enjoys fishing, hunting, hiking, camping and music.

She looks forward to attending concerts in the area.