

**Dr. Lynn Sweet** is a Research Ecologist at the University of California, Riverside's (UCR) Center for Conservation Biology. She holds a B.S. in Biology from Dickinson College and a Ph.D. in Plant Biology from UCR. Her research centers on desert plant ecology and communities, and conservation biogeography with an emphasis on global climate change and species modeling. Her recent work examined the distribution of desert plants and long-term changes in plant community composition due to drought and climate change. Much of this work was completed within the Coachella Valley and Joshua Tree National Park. She has received numerous grant awards from organizations like the National Park Service, Mojave National Preserve, Bureau of Land Management, and Coachella Valley Association of Governments, and has co-authored more than 27 articles, including more than 13 peer reviewed journal articles.