Samuel Grandy, California State University Sacramento, Sacramento, CA, for his project: Late Miocene-Pliocene Volcanism in the Sierra San Francisco, Central Baja California Peninsula, Mexico: Implications for Mantle Processes and Regional Tectonic Development

Sam Grandy is a M.S. candidate in the Geology department at Sacramento State University, working under Dr. Brian Hausback. Sam is working in a remote late Miocene-Pliocene-aged volcanic mountain range in northern Baja California Sur, Mexico. His work involves mapping the extent and distribution of lavas and pyroclastic flows and examining the petrography, geochemistry, and age distribution of the volcanic deposits that make up the bulk of the range. He is hoping that these volcanics will help elucidate the physical and chemical changes in the mantle during the transition from subduction off the coast of western Mexico to extension related to the opening of the Gulf of Mexico. Funding from this Lipman Research Grant will support a month-long field trip to Baja Mexico, as well as thin sections and two more $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ dates for key samples of the stratigraphy.

Sam grew up in the Central Valley of California and developed a fascination with the natural world at a young age during backpacking trips in the Sierra Nevada with his dad. When he is not at home daydreaming about days in the field in Baja, he loves to go climbing in the Tahoe and Yosemite area, biking along the American River in Sacramento, and steelhead fishing in Northern California.