

Sebastian Hoch, PhD

Research Associate Professor,
Atmospheric Sciences, University of Utah

Why did you become a scientist?

I always enjoyed nature. A great chemistry teacher in high school set a hook with a simple experiment.

What do you study for DUST²? Why is this important?

I'm running a research site where I measure the conditions of a drying lake bed, saltation (*when small particles bounce along the surface and break dust particles loose*), and airborne dust concentrations.

This is important to better understand under what meteorological and surface conditions the lakebed surface is prone to emit dust. The parameters measured can be used to guide parameters used in numerical dust emission models.



What do you do day-to-day in your work?

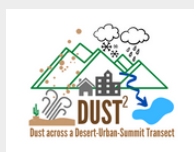
My work is a mixture of field work and work with instrumentation, data analysis and interpretation, and teaching and mentoring.

What is your favorite part of what you do and why?

I love being outside during a field campaign, extending the observations beyond the scientific measurements to all senses.

What advice do you have for students interested in science?

Observe nature and be inquisitive - try to understand what your observations tell you.



Discover more DUST²
Scientist Spotlights here:
<https://criticalzone.org/dust2/scientistspotlights>

