

08-7/2

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Kaibab Mule Deer Winter Range Studies	Project No.
Region/GMU: 12 A/B	HPC: Williams
Project Type: Mule Deer	
Project Description: Estimate changes in winter range extent and plant community composition, and identify areas that may be at risk of invasion by exotic weeds (e.g., cheatgrass). This would be a collaborative effort with Northern Arizona University, leveraging technology recently developed in other ongoing habitat assessment projects. Deploy up to 40 satellite uplinking GPS collars in Fall-Winter 2009. Data from these collars will allow us to validate winter range habitat models developed by remote sensing, obtain current information on patterns of winter range use, and assess preliminary responses to habitat improvement treatments.	
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer	
Possible Funding Partners: AZGFD ADA/MDA	
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: Fall 2009 Completed: Fall 2011	NEPA Compliance: (if applicable) Completed: Yes ___ NA ___ No ___ Projected Completion Date: Fall 2011
PROJECT FUNDING	
SBG Funds Requested: \$230,000	
Cost Share Funds: \$230,00 (vegetation treatment applications and current research activities)	
Total Project Costs: \$460,00	
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION	
Applicant: Requested by: Chasa O'Brien, WMRS Project Lead: Steve Rosenstock, WMRS Telephone:	Address: AZGFD Phoenix
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: ADA/MDA	Date:
Applicant's signature:	Date:

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

Game Branch
2221 W. Greenway Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85023

WAS PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE LOCAL HPC? YES _____ NO _____

HAS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS? IF SO WAS IT FUNDED?

No

This effort falls under 2 ongoing Federal Aid projects (Kaibab Deer and Forest/Woodland Restoration).

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The North Kaibab mule deer herd has been the focus of research and management since the 1930s. It remains one of the most important deer populations in Arizona and the southwestern U.S. with respect to hunter interest and hunting opportunity. Over the last decade, wildfires and associated habitat changes have dramatically altered large portions of winter range used by this herd. In response, the Department has initiated an aggressive treatment program designed to restore browse species, improve forage resources, and increase availability of water.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

We propose a 2-pronged effort designed to quantify habitat changes on deer winter range and monitor responses of deer to habitat improvement treatments.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

The first element will use remote sensing data to estimate changes in winter range extent and plant community composition, and identify areas that may be at risk of invasion by exotic weeds (e.g., cheatgrass). This would be a collaborative effort with Northern Arizona University, leveraging technology recently developed in other ongoing habitat assessment projects. The second element will involve deploying up to 40 satellite uplinking GPS collars in Fall-Winter 2009. Data from these collars will allow us to validate winter range habitat models developed by remote sensing, obtain current information on patterns of winter range use, and assess preliminary responses to habitat improvement treatments.

PROJECT LOCATION: Game Mangement Units 12A/B

LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):

IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

Winter range PJ

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Purchase and deployment of 40 satellite uplinking GPS collars.

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

ADA/MDA/ZGFD

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Annual Federal Aid Reporting and published findings

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

NA

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Steve Rosenstock, WMRS