

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

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: East Tumacacori Water Development Project
Wise Mesa / Negro Tank Portion

Project No.

Region/GMU: V / 36B

HPC: Tucson Chapter

Project Type: Water Development

Project Description: We would like to request \$10,000 to purchase 1 mile of pipe and 5 troughs.
Background: In 2008 the Nogales RD was awarded \$31,198 for Phase 1 (green lines on the map) of the East Tumacacori Water Development (ETWD) to purchase 2.8 miles of pipe (we'll actually purchase 6 miles of pipe) and 11 troughs. The ETWD relied on being successful with several AZ Dept. of Ag. LCCGP grant applications. Unfortunately we were not successful. So we have had to downsize the ETWD project to Wise Mesa and Negro Tank (yellow lines on the map) as summarized in this table:

Infrastructure	Entire Proposed East Tumacacori Water Development Project	Phase 1 of the ETWD (Green Lines)	Downsized to Wise Mesa & Negro Tank (Yellow Lines)
Wells	10	4	2
Miles of Pipeline	21	5.1	10.3
New Troughs	29	12	20
New Storage Tanks	11	4	4
Water Lots around existing stock tanks.	0	0	4

Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mostly Coues deer but also bear, mountain lion, javelina, and quail.

Possible Funding Partners: David Lowell (Ramanote & Murphy Allotment Permittee); USFS, HDF

Implementation Schedule:

Beginning: August, 2009

Completed: October, 2010

PROJECT FUNDING

SBG Funds Requested: \$ 10,000 (30% counting the \$31,198 HPC funds from 2008)

Cost Share Funds: \$ 98,253 (70%: USFS, Private & Hunter Donations)

Total Project Costs: \$139,451

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant: Kent C. Ellett, District Ranger
(please print)

Telephone: 520-767-6000; 520-975-0902

Address: Nogales Ranger District

303 Old Tucson Road

Nogales, AZ 85621

AGFD Contact and Phone No.

Coordinated with: Brian Dolan (Tucson HPC Chairperson); Mark Frieberg (AZGFD V/36B); Al Eiden (Hunter Donations); Scott Lerich (NWTF); Wayne Lackner (Coues Deer).

Date: August, 2009

Applicant's signature: /s/ Kent C. Ellett

Date: August 25, 2009

MAIL COMPLETED PROJECT COMPLETION FORM TO:

**Game Branch, AZGFD
5000 West Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086 - 5000**

**E-mail to:
rothompson@azgfd.gov**

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Currently the water for the existing pipelines on Wise Mesa and at Negro Tank is municipal water from Rio Rico Utilities. This water is expensive and not always reliable. Also, Rio Rico Utilities would like to sever the connection and not supply municipal water to these pipelines in the future. This would leave these areas with very limited water for wildlife or livestock.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Supply dependable, perennial wildlife water to the southeast side of the Tumacacori Mountains.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

NEPA was completed and well drilling permits were obtained in 2009. The Wise Mesa / Negro Tank project would:

1. Drill 2 new wells to replace water currently supplied by Rio Rico Utilities.
2. Equip the wells with solar panels and pumps.
3. Install four 5,000-gallon water storages.
4. Add 10 miles of additional pipeline
5. Add 20 wildlife-friendly water troughs.
6. Construct water lot fences around 4 stock tanks.



Proposed Trough with Float Cover/Wildlife Ramp.

PROJECT LOCATION:

Location is in Unit 36B, approximately 10 miles northwest of Nogales and west of Interstate 19, on the east side of the Tumacacori Mountains in Townships 22 and 23 South, Range 12 East in Santa Cruz County, Arizona.

LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE: The entire project is located on National Forest System lands.

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

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

The project area provides year-round habitat to the benefited species. Elevations range from approximately 3,400 feet to 6,400 feet. Topography is moderately rough and broken. Lower elevations are semi-desert grasslands with oak woodland at the higher elevations. Vegetation associated with stream courses is a mixture of evergreen oaks, deciduous riparian trees, and mesquite. The Wise Mesa well and pipeline is on the eastern side of the Atascosa Mountains. Negro Tank is on the southern end of the Tumacacori Mountains.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

The following table summarizes the estimated cost for the project and the amount requested from HPC.

Item	#	Per Unit	Cost of Each	Cost for Project	2008 HPC	2009 HPC	AZGFD Hunter Donation	USFS	Private
1 1/4" NuMex pipe 200psi	54,384	ft	\$0.55	\$29,911	\$18,598	\$3,000		\$8,313	
Water Storage Tank 5,000 gal 12ftX8ft diameter.	4	ea	\$2,600	\$10,400				\$10,400	
Drinkers w/wildlife ramp 4'x12'x2'	20	ea	\$1,400	\$28,000	\$12,600	\$7,000		\$8,400	
1" various couplings, Nipples, Elbows etc.	1		\$ 240	\$240					\$240
1" Galvanized pipe	1000	ft	\$2	\$2,000				\$2,000	
Administer Contract	10	days	\$200	\$2,000				\$2,000	
Labor for Storage tanks	8	days	\$200	\$1,600					\$1,600
Labor for pipeline	24	days	\$200	\$4,800					\$4,800
Trough Installation	10	days	\$200	\$2,000					\$2,000
Dozer Rental	20	days	\$800	\$16,000			\$5,000		\$11,000
Dozer Transport	3		\$600	\$1,800					\$1,800
Dozer Fuel	20	days	\$35	\$700					\$700
Drilling Well	2	ea	\$9,000	\$18,000					\$18,000
Pump and Solar Panels Installed	2	ea	\$11,000	\$22,000					\$22,000
				Total	\$139,451	\$31,198	\$ 5,000	\$31,113	\$62,140

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Game & Fish Department: Hunter Donation Funds.

Forest Service: The Forest Service completed NEPA for the Ramanote and Murphy Allotments in 2009 and obtained the required biological, archaeological and hydrological NEPA clearances for the Wise Mesa and Negro Tank projects. The Forest Service will provide project oversight in addition to storage tanks, troughs and pipe and may assist with burying the pipe.

David Lowell - Permittee: Mr. Lowell will pay for drilling both wells and to install the solar systems, troughs, pipe and storage tanks.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Completion of tasks by agreed upon timelines and quality of work will be monitored by Nogales Ranger District Rangeland Management Specialists and administered through Permit Modifications.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

The improvements will be added to Part 3 of the rancher's Term Grazing Permit with the rancher assuming maintenance responsibility with regulatory enforcement and oversight by the Forest Service.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Sean Lockwood, Rangeland Management Specialist, Nogales Ranger District.

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT NAME: East Tumacacori Water Development Project: Wise Mesa/Negro Tank Portion

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent "Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?"** Yes
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**
Mark Frieberg - Aug. 13, 2009; Al Eiden - June, 2009; Jim Heffelfinger - Aug. 21, 2009
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches of precipitation for the area? (mark one)**
 2-4 4-6 6-8 8-10 10-12 X 12-14 X 14-16 >16
- 4) **Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?**
 X YES (please complete #5 below) NO (skip #5 below)
- 5) **For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:**
Name of water source: Various. See project map.
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.): Various springs, stock tanks, ephemeral drainages and wells.
Ownership of water source: Forest Service.
Distance in miles from project: Varies
- 6) **Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts?** YES X NO
- 7) **Please list any special land management status for the project site (i.e. Wilderness, National Park, National Monument, etc). If private land, list landowner.**
- 8) **Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:**
Type of access (mark one): X 2x4 vehicles X 4x4 only X foot only**
**If foot access only: Distance in miles: Approx. hiking time:
The well sites and a few troughs are available by vehicle. The rest is overland travel by foot or horseback.
- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES X NO
- Please describe any restrictions to public access: None
- 9) **Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**
Please refer to the Itemized Funds spreadsheet above.
- 10) **Was a site visit completed?** X Yes No A site visit with AZGFD was held on August 6, 2009. Several site visits by the rancher and Forest Service personnel have also been conducted.

Sean,

As a follow up to our meeting this past Tuesday, August 11, 2009 I am in support of your retooled approach to the Tumacacori Water Project funded last year.

It is understood that the Arizona Department of Agriculture grant that was anticipated for cost sharing did not materialize and as such the project is presently on hold and the allocated HPC funds have been unused. I appreciate your candor that there is little hope of finding a alternate grant source this year for the complete scope of the previous project and the outlook for resubmitting for the original AG grant in 2011 is also not very bright.

I believe your approach to now focus our attention towards constructing an alternate project in the same vicinity of Peck Canyon and Ramanote Canyon has tremendous merit especially since that livestock operator is willing to cover a significant part of the well drilling and construction costs out-of-pocket without the benefit of any other grant. It will be my recommendation that the funds allocated previously be reassigned to this more extensive and more certain project.

I would suggest that you proceed with retooling your water project proposal for Peck Canyon and Ramanote Canyon with the plan we discussed. I also hope that you are able to reach an amicable agreement towards maintaining access to the deer hunting campsites along the Negro Tank road.

Thanks
Brian Dolan
Tucson HPC Chairman

On August 6th I did a site visit with Sean Lockwood and Jim Coleman of the Forest Service on the current Tumacacori water projects proposed by Kent Ellet and Sean Lockwood of the Nogales Ranger District. I am in agreement with their plan and feel the project is very well supported by the Rancher Dave Lowell and his matching funds. Mark Frieberg

Mark Frieberg
Wildlife Manager Units 36B and 36C
520-762-8172