

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

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Project Title: Water Development 636, Thompson Tank	Project No. 10-407
Region/GMU: Region 4 / 40B, Aguila Mtns	HPC:
Project Type: Water Development	
Project Description: Replace the old system (ring tank and trough) with new storage components and a walk-in trough.	
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Desert bighorn sheep and mule deer will benefit from increased water availability. The tank is also accessible to Sonoran pronghorn; however at this time pronghorn have not been documented at this time. The tank is located on the Barry M. Goldwater Range, BMGR, on a tactical range with restricted public access.	
Possible Funding Partners: ADBSS, YVR&GC, & ADA	
Implementation Schedule: January 2011 Beginning: January 2011 Completed: March 2011	NEPA Compliance: (if applicable) Completed: Yes ___ No <u>X</u> (95%) Survey clearances have been completed without any obstacles expected, consultation remains to be completed. Projected Completion Date: March 2011
PROJECT FUNDING	
SBG Funds Requested: \$30,360	
Cost Share Funds: \$7,500	
Total Project Costs: \$37,860	
PARTICIPANT INFORMATION	
Applicant: Dan Urquidez (please print) Telephone: 928-454-2402	Address: 9140 E. 28 th Street, Yuma
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: Joe Currie	Date: 8/27/2010
Applicant's signature:	Date:

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

**Game Branch
AZ Game and Fish Dept.
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086**

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

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

No.

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

The original tank does not support the wildlife demand for water in this area. The tank is in a remote and highly restricted area of the BMGR. In the past years, several water hauling trips have been completed annually. This tank's capacity needs to be increased to avoid continuous water hauling.

Range clearance is limited and usually granted on no-fly weekends and/or after the last mission ending at 2200 to 2300 hrs. The range has been used over the past years by illegal immigrants to gain access to Interstate 8. The increase of violence along the border and in Mexico has made it dangerous to travel at night, when most illegal crossings occur. We have documented illegal immigrants manipulating the float valve mechanism to obtain water. In other parts of the range this practice has led to complete system failure and a dry tank on several occasions. The new system will eliminate the potential system failure by illegal immigrants obtaining water.

I included photos below gathered over the past years of bighorn sheep and deer use. This year I was able to document bighorn sheep use at Thompson Tank and the other ephemeral potholes in the Aguila Mountains in the same timeframe. The estimated count was about thirty bighorn sheep occupying this range. It is important to continue to sustain this viable population of bighorn sheep. There are ongoing efforts to complete an aerial sheep survey with other animals of interest in the Aguila Mountains as well as Crater Range. This sheep population along with the Craters Range's population could be a valuable transplant population in the future. The goal would be to reach a population threshold that would support transplanting sheep from it. The nearby Crater Range has one ephemeral pothole. This pothole is projected to be redeveloped along with one more new water catchment in the future. These accomplishments together will be a part of the bigger plan to sustain a viable sheep population and encouraging population growth and distribution.

Also, many deer use this tank throughout the summer months. The proximity of the tank to pronghorn habitat is close enough and accessible for pronghorn use. At this time, pronghorn use has not been documented.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

Remove existing ring tank and trough. Develop a new permanent water source for bighorn sheep and mule deer by adding an underground storage system, a trough and collecting point. We also expect to reduce emergency water hauling to this catchment.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

Bury two xerxes tanks; install a trough and a collecting point using volunteer labor.

PROJECT LOCATION

UTM NAD83 Elev Feet

12S, 281189, 3609474 820

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

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

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

Sonoran Desert, Lower Colorado Subdivision.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

Purchase (2) xerxes, 5,000 gallon tanks (6' X 26.5')	\$23,000
Walk-in drinker (5.5' depth)	\$ 4,360
Misc materials, concrete, 6 inch pipe lines	\$ 1,000
Arizona State surface water right's application fee	\$ 2,000
SBG funds totaling	\$30,360

Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club will provide two donated backhoes, four trailers to haul materials and supplies to the site, 20 labors for two days, and volunteer mileage = \$7,500.

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Luke A.F.B.: provide on-site archeologist, prepare and submit surface water rights application, and assist in scheduling ground clearance for development crew and volunteers.

Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club (YVR&GC): provide two donated backhoes, four trailers to haul materials and supplies to the site, 20 labors for two days, and volunteer mileage

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

Dan Urquidez (WM, Gila Bend) will maintain the new system according to Region IV maintenance protocol. To be checked monthly during the summer season and at least once during the cool season.

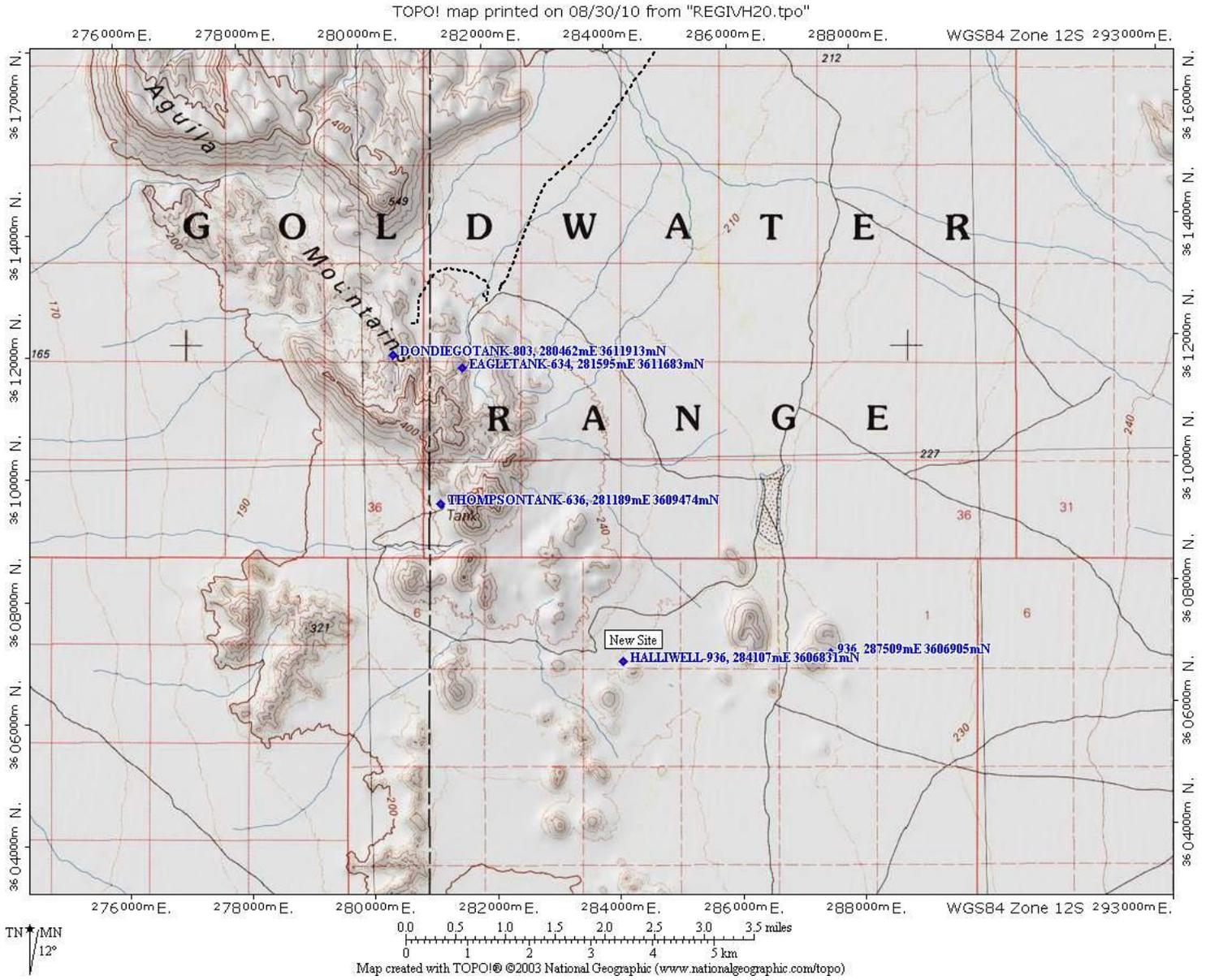
PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

If water hauling is required, Region IV personnel will take the lead and insure it gets done. Minor maintenance such as cleaning the silt trap, removing organic matter and measuring the water level will be accomplished by district wildlife manager.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Dan Urquidez, Wildlife Manager GMUs 39, 40 A & B

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):



Access to #636, Thompson Tank via Range 1 is approximately 31 mi. from SR 85



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7.13.2010 9:02:19



DLCcovert.com

7.19.2010 8:26:32

Photos of bighorn sheep use at #636 looking west



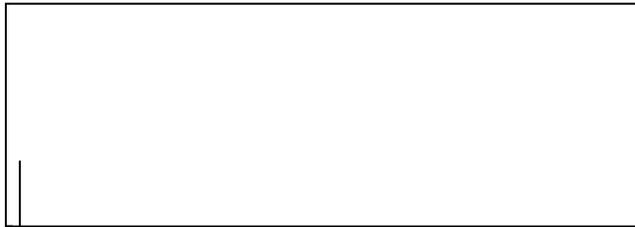
Photos of mule deer bucks at #636 looking north

Catchment 636 (Thompson Tank) schematic.

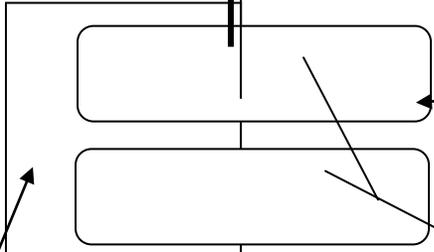
North



Metal apron (remove or leave in place until into longer functions?)

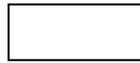
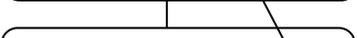


Old trough (remove).



Ring tank and apron (remove).

Two 5,000gallon fiberglass tanks (26.5 feet).



Trough, 5.5 feet deep.



Collection point

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET

PROJECT NAME: 636, Thompson

- 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.
Joe Currie Aug 26 & 30, 2010
- 3) What is the estimated annual inch of precipitation for the area? (Mark one)
 2-4 4-6 6-8 8-10 10-12 12-14 14-16 >16
- 4) Is there a perennial water source available to big game within four miles of this project?
 YES (please complete #5 below) NO (skip #5 below)
- 5) For the accessible, perennial water source nearest this project:
Name of water source:
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank, etc.):
Ownership of water source:
Distance in miles from project:
- 6) Is the target wildlife species a result of transplant efforts? YES 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.
BMGR, an active bombing range administered by Luke A.F.B. The Aguila Mountains are located outside the ground targeting areas.
- 8) Please provide the following information about access to the proposed site:
Type of access (mark one): 2x4 vehicles 4x4 only foot only**
**If foot access only: Distance in miles: Approx. hiking time:

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES NO
- 9) Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.

Purchase (2) 6' X 26.5' xerxes tanks (5,000 gallons)
Walk-in drinker w/ reinforce steel frame (5.5' deep)
Concrete, 6 inch PVC pipe, manifold, and glue

10) Was a site visit completed? Yes No

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Rick Whittle, Luke A.F.B. wildlife biologist; Adrienne Rankin, Luke A.F.B. Archeologist; and Dan Urquidez, AZGFD WM