

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

Game Branch / HPC Project Number:	11-102
Possible Funding Partners:	

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Title:** West Pigeon Water Development Project

**Region and Game Management Unit:** Region I / GMU 27

**Local Habitat Partnership Committee (LHPC):**

- Safford HPC

**Was the project presented to the LHPC?**

YES[X] NO[]

**Has this project been submitted in previous years?** YES[] NO[X]

If Yes, was it funded? YES[] NO[] → HPC Project #:

**Project Type:** Water Development – New

**Brief Project Summary:**

The purpose of this water system is primarily to provide perennial water to mule deer and a variety of other native wildlife (game as well as non-game species). The secondary use of this project will be to enhance livestock distribution when these pastures are seasonally occupied by livestock. The drinkers will be filled year round by the permittee, AZGFD, or the USFS. This pipeline will carry water to support 2 storage tanks and 5 drinkers distributed throughout the Pigeon and HL Canyon pastures of the Pigeon allotment on the Clifton Ranger District.

**Big Game Wildlife Species to Benefit:** Mule Deer(40%), Whitetail Deer(35%), Turkey(10%), all other game and nongame species(15%).

**Implementation Schedule (Month/Day/Year):**

Project Start Date: August 2011

Project End Date: November 2013

**Environmental Compliance:**

NEPA Completed: YES[X] No[] N/A[]

Projected Completion Date: Per USFS Categorical Exclusion -  
September 15, 2010

State Historic Preservation Office - Archaeological Clearance:

YES[X] No[] N/A[]

Projected Completion Date: Per USFS Categorical Exclusion -  
September 15, 2010

Arizona Game and Fish Department EA Checklist: N/A[]

To be Completed by: Brendan Witt – Region I

Projected Completion Date: January 2012

**PROJECT FUNDING**

**Special Big Game License Tag Funds Requested:**

\$ 102,289.00

**Cost Share or Matching Funds:**

\$ 165,640.00 total to date

**Total Project Costs:**

\$ 267,929.00

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

**Applicant** (please print):

Steve Najar

Wildlife Manager II, Unit 27 South

**Address:**

2878 E. White Mountain Blvd.

Pinetop, AZ 85935

**E-mail:**

[@azgfd.](mailto:azgfd)

<b>Telephone:</b> 928-965-5066		<b>Date:</b> September 1, 2011
<b>AGFD Contact and Phone No.</b> (If applicant is not AGFD personnel):		
<b>Project has been coordinated with:</b> AZGFD, USFS Clifton Ranger District, Robert L. Fletcher/ T-Link Ranches		

**NEED STATEMENT – PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

This project was designed to augment/add to the Pigeon Restoration Project, which was a combination of mechanical thinning and a landscape scale prescribed burn. Monies for this project have come from AZGFD ACCESS dollars that were given back to the Department by T-Link Ranches, and LIPP dollars that were also employed, along with private funding by T-Link Ranches (total match to date: \$108,545.00). The desired outcome will be to provide yearlong dependable water sources to the west side of the Pigeon Allotment for mule deer, whitetail, turkeys, javelina, quail, and other game and nongame species.

This area has been highly dependent upon summer monsoon moisture and winter moisture contained in dirt tanks in the past. No dependable water sources have historically been available. T-Link Ranches has already done extensive repairs and maintenance of existing range improvements; such as improving fences and cleaning dirt tanks. The Pigeon Restoration Project achieved excellent results for wildlife habitat through the use of prescribed burning. Thus, the last remaining factor to greatly enhance wildlife values in this area is to provide a dependable water system.

The well on private land is complete, and the pump and a diesel generator are already in place. A private company has already donated two (2) storage tanks that will hold approximately 3,500 gallons each to the project. All that is left is to install the pipe and drinkers to finalize the implementation of this project.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

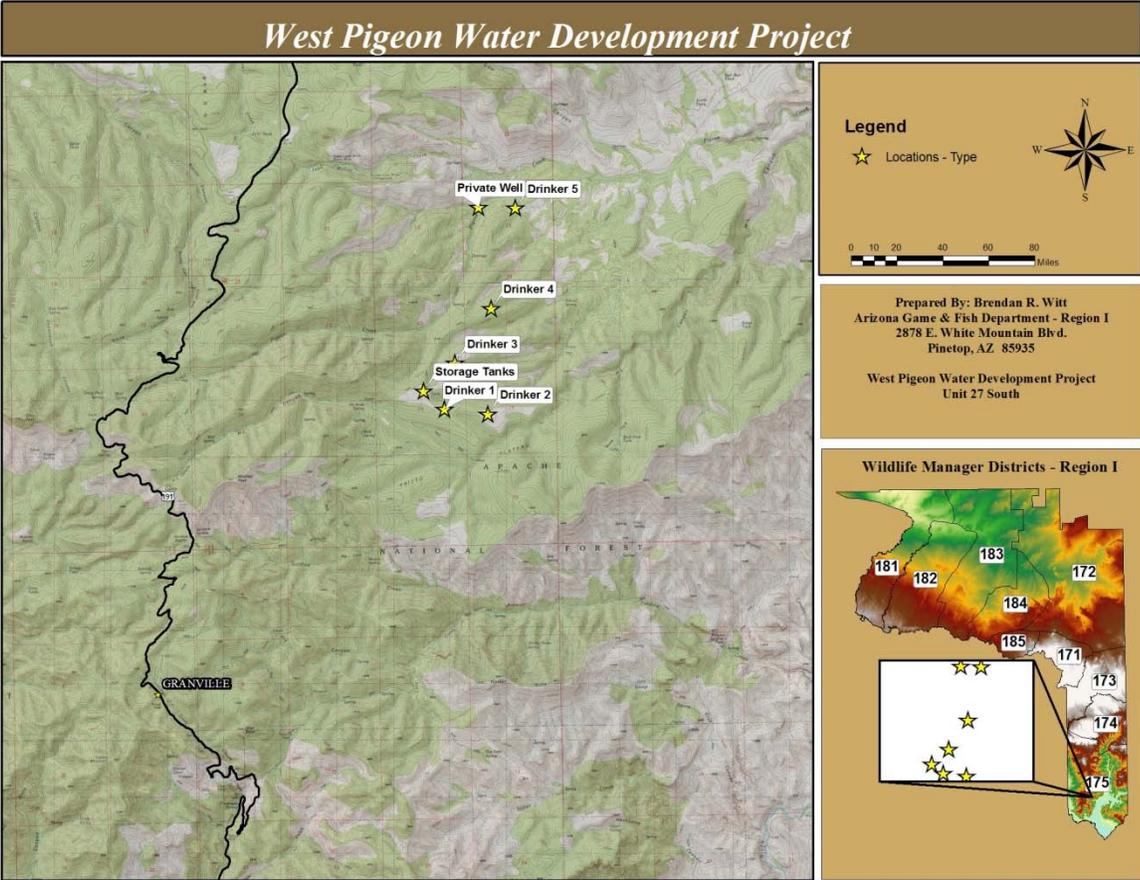
The purpose of this water system is primarily to provide perennial water to mule deer, whitetail deer, turkeys, and a variety of other native wildlife (game as well as non-game species). The secondary use of this project will be to enhance livestock distribution when these pastures are seasonally occupied by livestock.

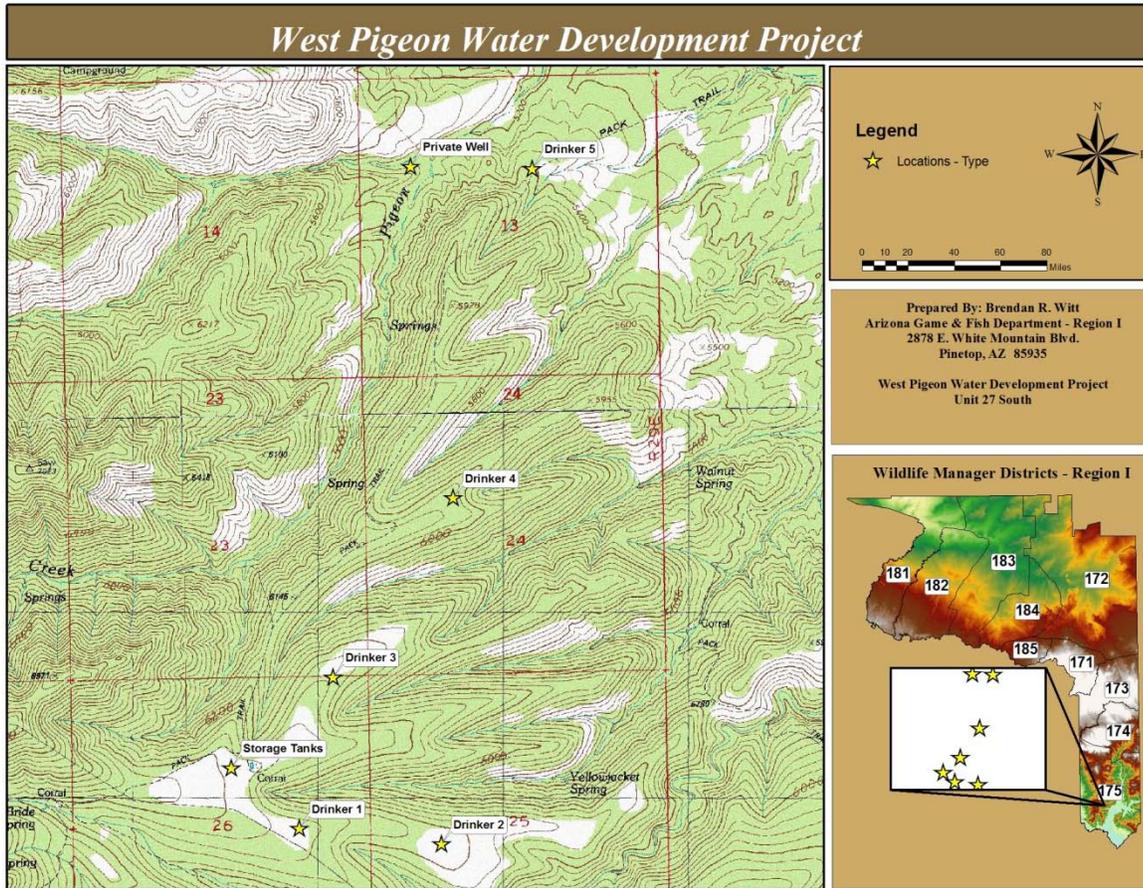
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND STRATEGIES:**

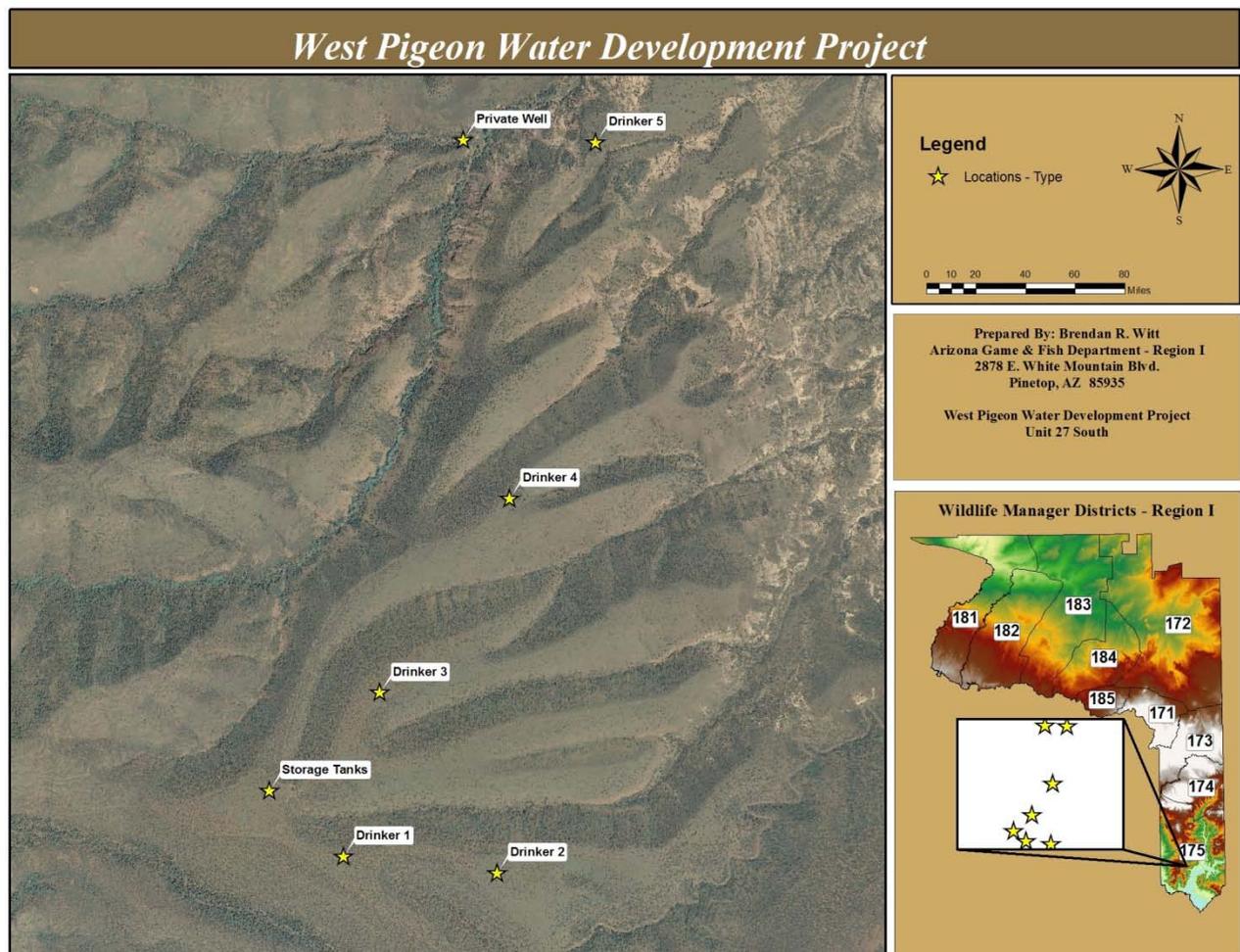
A well that is located on private land will provide water to approximately 6.5 miles of surface pipeline. This pipeline will carry water to support 2 storage tanks (**already donated to this project by a private company, approximately 3,500 gallons each valued @ \$40,000.00**) and 5 drinkers distributed throughout the Pigeon and HL Canyon pastures of the Pigeon allotment on the Clifton Ranger District. The pipeline would follow existing FS road #475C to a spot near Wing Tank where the storage tanks will be placed. The storage tanks will be flown to their location by helicopter, thus saving the expense of making the road into the location accessible to trailers. Improvements to the existing road just to enable placement of the two storage tanks would not be cost effective and would be outside the scope of this project. From the storage tanks the pipeline would then continue along the ridgelines with drinkers spaced approximately every ½ mile to 1 mile apart. The permittee will maintain water in all troughs year round and will be responsible for the maintenance of the system.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION
2S	31E	4,9,16







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

USFS – Clifton Ranger District; T-Link Ranches – USFS Permittee

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

YES[X] NO[]

Permission has been granted by the permittee to access and use the well on private land whenever needed for wildlife purposes (attached).

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

The project area is primarily Madrean pine-oak woodland, with some semi-arid desert grassland associated along the ridge tops.

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

Special Big Game License Tag Funds

5 - Powder River steel livestock trough (10' x 30' wide x 24" deep) (Carter's Powder River Equipment, Camp Verde, AZ)	@ \$537.00 each = \$2,685.00
5- ¾ " bronze float valve assembly (Grainger's, Phoenix, AZ)	@ \$84.00 each = \$ 420.00
5- 1" brass ball valves (Grainger's, Phoenix, AZ)	@ \$30.00 each = \$ 150.00
5,280 ft/mile x 6.5 miles x \$1.95/ft DR5 4000psi pipe 2" (Mt. Graham Supply, Safford, AZ)*	34,320 ft @ \$1.95/ft = \$66,924.00
Recommended pipe fusion kit @ \$300.00	= \$ 300.00
Miscellaneous pipe fittings/ plumbing parts/ supplies	\$ 2,500.00

\*Pipe pricing based on the only estimate (callback) received prior to deadline for submission of project proposal. Previous prices ranged from \$0.86/ foot to \$1.95/ foot. Actual price should be within this range.

**Total - pipeline and drinkers = \$72,979.00**

Helicopter Time

Bell 407, Ferry @ \$950.00/ hour x 6 hours round trip	= \$5,700.00
Work @ \$1,500/ hour x 2 hours	= \$3,000.00
<b>Total helicopter costs</b>	<b>= \$8,700.00</b>

D-4 Dozer\* (cost estimate from B.L.M.; AGFD Development Branch. Based on 10 rolls per day @ 500 feet per roll = 5,000 feet per day)

50 gallons (\$4.85/gallon) = \$242.50 fuel
2 men @ \$30.00/hour (8 hour day) = \$480.00
242.50 + 480.00 / mile [722.50/5280 = \$.137/ linear foot installation cost]
\$.42 / linear foot pipe 5280 feet (.42) = \$2217.60
.42 + .136 = \$.556 / linear foot actual cost

**Total cost per mile = \$2,940.00 x 6.5 miles = \$19,110.00**

\*Estimate based on costs for d-4 Dozer to bury pipe. Costs expected to be similar due to ferry time/miles, terrain, remote location.

Installation of drinkers: transport/leveling/assembly/adjustments approx = \$1,500.00

**Total project costs expected to be approximately: = \$102,289.00**

Cost Share or Matching Funds

Access/donated back to project by T-Link Ranches (\$44,000.00)  
LIPP (51,545)  
Heritage/ IAPM (\$10,000)

Private money from T-Link Ranches (20,095.00)

Donation of the two storage tanks (\$40,000.00), *name withheld by request.*

**Total \$165,640.000 match**

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

Region I personnel, and AZGFD Development Branch, will provide logistical support in the construction and will continue to coordinate with the USFS and the permittee. Construction photo points will be established and a completion report will be on file following construction.

NEPA and Arch surveys have been completed by the US Forest Service – Clifton Ranger District.

Permission has been granted by the permittee to access and use the well on private land whenever needed for wildlife purposes (attached).

March 7, 2011

USDA - Forest Service  
Clifton Arizona District  
Arizona Fish and Game

This letter authorizes the Forest Service Clifton District ("FS") and the Arizona Fish and Game Department ("F&G"), at their expense, to pump and use water from the Fletcher WJ well located on private property, HES-488, located on the Pigeon Allotment, Forest Service Clifton District, Greelee County, Arizona. The well and the private property are owned by T-Link Ranches, Inc. ("T-Link").

This authorization run's concurrently with the ten year Forest Renewal permit issued to T-Link, and will terminate when the current Forest Renewal permit terminates. This authorization can only be renewed by mutual agreement of the FS, F&G and T-Link. This authorization does not transfer or give water rights to any party. T-Link retains all of its existing well and water rights.

This well may be used by FS and F&G only to pump water up to storage tanks at Wing Tank, with drinker lines running away from the tanks to supply water for livestock and wildlife.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Fletcher  
President, T-Link Ranches

\_\_\_\_\_  
Forest Service

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fish & Game Department

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

Construction photo points will be established and a completion report will be on file following construction.

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

The permittee will maintain water in all troughs year round and will be responsible for the maintenance of the system.

**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**

Steve Najar - Wildlife Manager II, Unit 27 South  
928-965-5066

**WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS** (*see attached worksheet*):

**TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS** (*see attached worksheet*):

N/A

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT**  
**WATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET**

**PROJECT NAME:** West Pigeon Water Development Project

- 1) **Is the water development listed as a priority in the most recent “Wildlife Water Development Annual Implementation Schedule?”**  
No.
  
- 2) **Please list the Development Branch personnel and date coordinated with for this project.**  
Planning assistance provided by Ed Jahrke, Joe Currie, Mark, Davis. August 2011
  
- 3) **What is the estimated annual inches 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: Turkey Creek  
Type of water source (catchment, spring, dirt tank): Perennial stream  
Ownership of water source: USFS  
Distance in miles from project: 3.5 miles
  
- 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). If private land, list landowner.**

Permission has been granted by the permittee (Robert L. Fletcher, T-Link Ranches) to access and use the well on private land whenever needed for wildlife purposes (attached).

- 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate hiking time: \_\_\_\_\_

-- Does access to this site require crossing private or tribal lands? YES[X] NO[]

-- Please describe any restrictions to public access:

General public is not allowed on the private property. Permission has been granted to AGFD and USFS by the permittee to access use the well on private land whenever needed for wildlife purposes (attached).

**9) Please list below (or on a separate sheet) the material type and dimensions of each component proposed to be added, modified, or repaired.**

5 - Powder River steel livestock trough (10' x 30' wide x 24" deep) (Carter's Powder River Equipment, Camp Verde, AZ)	@ \$537.00 each = \$2,685.00
5- ¾ " bronze float valve assembly (Grainger's, Phoenix , AZ)	@ \$84.00 each = \$ 420.00
5- 1" brass ball valves (Grainger's, Phoenix, AZ)	@ \$30.00 each = \$ 150.00
5,280 ft/mile x 6.5 miles x \$0.86/ft hdpe numex pipe2" (Peoria Winnelson, Peoria, AZ)	34,320 ft@ \$0.86/ft = \$29,515.20
Recommended pipe fusion kit @ \$300.00	= \$ 300.00
Miscellaneous pipe fittings/ plumbing parts/ supplies	\$ 2,500.00
<b>Total - pipeline and drinkers</b>	<b>= \$35,570.00</b>

**10) Was a site visit completed? Yes[X] No[]**

If Yes, please list personnel that attended and date.

Steve Najar, AZGFD and Donna Reed USFS, Clifton Ranger District; April 2010