

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

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Lake Flat Fence Modification for Wildlife Access		Project No. 11-217
Region/GMU: Region 2/GMU 13B	HPC:	
Project Type: Fence Modification		
<p>Project Description: Lake Flat is a large dirt tank located near Mt. Dellenbaugh in southern 13B. The tank is located in ponderosa pine habitat and the surrounding areas are true summer range for the mule deer in 13B. The area is also important for wild turkeys. The current fence structure around much of Lake Flat is “net wire” commonly used for sheep herders to eliminate loss of sheep during round up. However, sheep are no longer used as livestock on the Arizona Strip, and this type of fence is not compatible with many species of wildlife particularly mule deer and wild turkey.</p> <p>This project will involve modifying the existing fence to be wildlife passable while maintaining the integrity of the historical structure at Lake Flat. Welded pipe-rail is proposed to replace the net wire and dilapidated barbed wire.</p>		
Wildlife Species to Benefit: Mule Deer and Wild Turkey		
Possible Funding Partners: ADBSS		
Implementation Schedule: Beginning: Spring 2012 Completed: Spring 2013		NEPA Compliance: (if applicable) Completed: Yes ___ No ___ Not Applicable. Considered Maintenance by BLM.

PROJECT FUNDING

SBG Funds Requested: \$ 10020.00
Cost Share Funds:
Total Project Costs: \$ 10020.00

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Applicant: Luke Thompson (please print) Telephone: 435-574-2978	Address: 3500 S lake Mary Road Flagstaff, AZ 86001
AGFD Contact and Phone No. (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
Coordinated with: Arizona Strip BLM – Grand Canyon Parashant National Monument – Whit Bunting	Date: Ongoing 2010-11
Applicant's signature:	Date: August 20, 2011

**SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:
AZ Game and Fish Department
Attn: Game Branch**

5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086
[@azgfd.](mailto:azgfd)

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

The Fredonia HPC has not met in recent years.

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

N/A

NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:

Lake Flat is a large dirt tank commonly referred to as a “cattle pond” or “waterlot” located in southern 13B. It is located in ponderosa pine habitat and is one of the most reliable tanks in the area. It is critical to water availability during summer months for mule deer, wild turkey and a variety of waterfowl and nongame wildlife.

The current fence structure around much of the cattle pond, while adequate for historic sheep herding and livestock operations, is not-wildlife friendly. Much of the fence is 40” “net wire” with 2 strands of barbed wire strung above the net wire (please see photos). This configuration is not wildlife friendly. The net wire completely precludes most animals from going through the fence requiring them to jump or attempt to jump the fence. The top 2 strands of barbed wire then make the fence over 50” high and it becomes death traps in for species such as deer (see photo).

Deer dying in fences has been documented on the Arizona Strip. It is a central focus of the Arizona Strip Mule Deer Plan and the BLM’s RMP to modify fences around waterlots.

Lake flat is used periodically by livestock operators who use the pasture as a grass bank. This is very intermittent use and the fence modifications are intended to continue to serve the livestock operator while allowing safe wildlife passing.



Lake Flat Fence Aug 2011



Lake Flat Fence Aug 2011



Lake Flat Fence Height Aug 2011



**Dead Buck in Similar Fence Configuration(36'' wide) – 13B 2006
Photo: Luke Thompson**

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

1. Eliminate the “death trap” feature of the fence and make the fence wildlife friendly and passable. This objective will improve access to the dirt tank and make it a safe source of water for mule deer and wild turkeys.
2. Remove net wire fencing and dilapidated barbed wire with welded fence materials. This will improve the longevity and integrity of the fence.
3. Make progress in meeting objective outlined in the Arizona Strip Mule Deer Plan 2010 and the Arizona Strip RMP 2008. Those management objectives are referenced below:

- **From AZ Strip Mule Deer Plan (2010-2014):**

Ensure that fences across the Arizona Strip, particularly at cattle ponds and water sources, are wildlife friendly, and provide safe ingress and egress.

Strategy 1: Incorporate existing cattle pond/waterlot fence inventory data into a prioritized plan to modify 8 waterlot fences by 2014.

Strategy 2: Remove fences that have no purpose for livestock management.

Strategy 3: Coordinate closely with range staff and livestock permittee to ensure that modification efforts meet the needs of both wildlife and the livestock operator. It is recognized that only portions of the entire perimeter fence of a cattle pond may need modification for wildlife access.

Strategy 4: Secure funding through the HPC and NGO partnerships, and with challenge cost-share agreements through the BLM budgeting process.

- **From BLM RMP (2008)**

DFC-WF-05 Fences will be the minimum necessary for effective livestock control or administrative purposes. Fences will be wildlife passable, consistent with the species found in the area.

DFC –WF-17 Water sources within mule deer habitat would be safely accessible to deer and other wildlife.

DFC-WF-19 All fences in mule deer habitat would be deer passable.

PROJECT STRATEGIES:

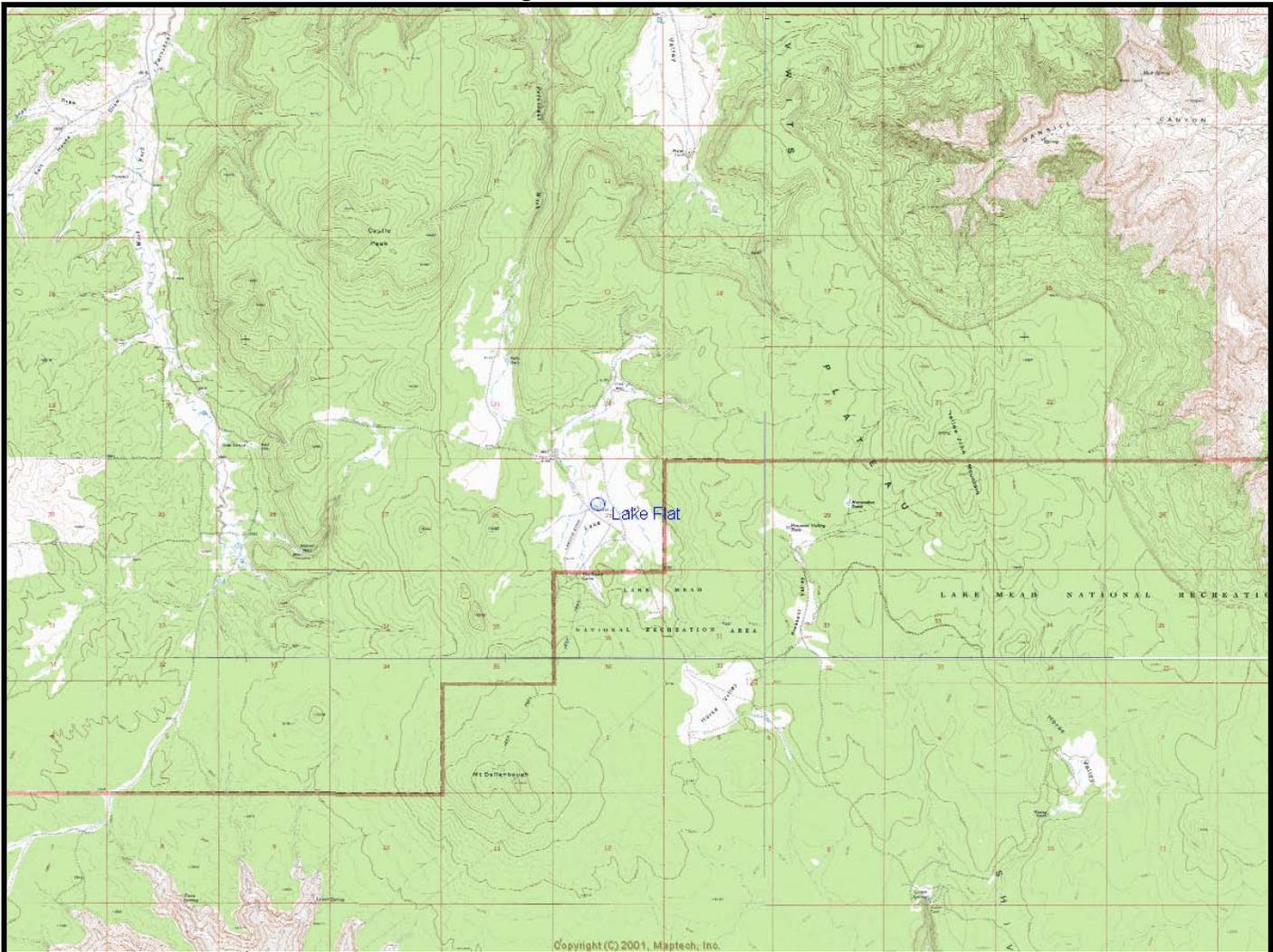
1. Remove existing net wire and barbed wire fencing along ~ 800 feet of the perimeter fence.
2. Construct a 42” metal piperail fence, welded with 4 rungs. The fence will be built to standards for mule deer and wild turkey with spacing defined by existing Department guidelines.
3. The piperail fence will be welded and secured with concrete footings. The strength is necessary to maintain the function of the facility for intermittent livestock use.
4. The existing corral structure will be left unmodified as per agreements with BLM.

**Photo of Similar Piperail fencing to replace the net wire fence:
(A fourth rung may be added for structural integrity
While livestock are intermittently present)**



PROJECT LOCATION:

Southern Portion of 13B Near Mt. Dellenbaugh



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

100% Federal managed by the Arizona Strip District Office of the Bureau of Land Management

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

N/A

HABITAT DESCRIPTION:

Plant communities representative of Ponderosa Pine habitats.

ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:

ESTIMATED PROJECT COST SHEET

2012 – Lake Flat Fence Modification for Wildlife Access

Costs Category- Equipment, Labor, Administrative, Material	Grant Dollars Requested – Special Tag
800 feet of Pipersail fence includes concrete for footers and associated welding hardware	\$4520.00
Contract Labor to install Fencing	\$5500.00
Totals	\$10020.00

LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:

Arizona Deer Association: Provide project funding as well as on the ground help during redevelopment activities.

Arizona Strip BLM: NEPA compliance and coordination.

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:

After completion of this project, this dirt tank will continue to be monitored as part of wildlife monitoring for 13B as well as for tracking in the AZ Strip Mule Deer Plan.

PROJECT MAINTENANCE:

This project will be maintained by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Arizona Strip BLM.

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:

Luke Thompson – Wildlife Manager GMU 13B.

WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):

N/A